What does it mean to cultivate a culture of trust?
“We are committed to reducing barriers, advancing opportunity, and building a healthy, thriving community.”
“Please provide research-backed evidence and attach three academic references that prove your project is viable.”

“You are not permitted to use the funds on office rent, books, or computers. And staff time cannot be more than 1/3 of the budget.”

“We may consider funding your project if you can find another funder to provide a matching grant.”

“How will you achieve measurable impact on this deeply rooted systemic issue in the next 12 months? BE SPECIFIC.”
Six Ways Funders Can Cultivate Trust In Grantmaking

- Give Multi-Year Unrestricted Funding
- Do the Homework
- Simplify & Streamline Paperwork
- Be Transparent & Responsive
- Solicit & Act on Feedback
- Offer Support Beyond the Check
WORK FOR SYSTEMIC EQUITY

REDISTRIBUTE POWER

CENTER RELATIONSHIPS

PARTNER IN A SPIRIT OF SERVICE

BE ACCOUNTABLE

EMBRACE LEARNING
VALUES

CULTURE
Your organization's general way of being

STRUCTURES
Hierarchies, systems, protocols, policies, & technologies

PRACTICES
What you do & how you show up as a grantmaker

LEADERSHIP
The ability to aspire and align around shared values