

GRANTEE PERCEPTION REPORT

2021 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



BACKGROUND

In 2021 the Foundation for Community Health (FCH) partnered with Karen Horsch, an external evaluator, to gather feedback from the foundation's grantee partners. The purpose of the survey was to understand the experiences of our grantee partners and to learn in what ways we could improve our practices, processes, and ways of working with the organizations we fund. We were also keenly interested in learning how responses differed from grantees based on funding characteristics, as well as the quality of relationships the foundation holds with its grantee partners. Overall, thirty-eight individuals completed the online survey, for an 86% response rate overall.

A full report of the survey findings, as prepared by Karen Horsch, can be accessed [here](#).

KEY FINDINGS

Overwhelming our grantee partners reported a positive view of FCH, results indicate that FCH is perceived as an excellent partner, with respective and supportive processes, helpful non-grant support, and valuable communication.

WHAT WE HEARD

- About half of FCH's grantee partners find the proposal and report development process to be 'very easy' and most think the information shared in proposals (85%) and reports (88%) was relevant to the request or funded work
- FCH's grantees expressed more interest in the foundation taking a state level advocacy approach
- Just over half of the survey respondents reported that they were unclear about how FCH weighs its grant decisions less than half were unclear how we will apply an equity lens to this process, a priority of our [strategic plan](#)

OUR NEXT STEPS

EXPLORE A ROLE FOR FCH IN STATEWIDE ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Our grantee partners were clear that they would like to see FCH have a bigger role in statewide advocacy efforts. We're excited by this opportunity and have begun this planning process. In early 2022, we have plans to engage a consultant to develop our advocacy strategy and create processes for us to account for this work.

INCREASE TRANSPARENCY WITH OUR GRANTEE PARTNERS

Our grantees are seeking more transparency related to the foundation's grantmaking decisions and how the foundation will apply an equity lens to its work. We're continually working on this, with plans to expand published individual grant information to include why we funded a specific project and sharing more regularly the results of our investments.

UNDERSTAND NONPROFITS' DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION (DEI) NEEDS

Only a handful of grantee partners seeking support related to their organization's DEI competency, we see this as an opportunity to learn where organizations are and what work is underway. We're especially interested in learning how our grantees solicit and integrate feedback from their constituents and community representation within their staff and board.