

TC Tips for Funding **Community Power** Building to advance social change.

Get close to the work

When funding community power building, you have to be in relationship with those in the work. Take time to have 1-1 conversations with leaders across the ecosystem at funded and unfunded organizations. Go beyond your usual suspects.

Prioritize Community Organizing

If you really want to build community power you have to prioritize funding community organizing. Organizing is the only form of advocacy with the explicit goal of building power.

Understand what you're funding

Are you most interested in funding direct service, policy advocacy, community organizing, coalition building? Be clear and create RFP's that focus on what you actually want to do. Don't be evasive about your goals. Clarity is kindness.

Support Radical Rest

Consider creating a rest fund that allows individual activists to apply for a small wellness grant to cover retreats, intentional pauses and other restorative activities. This is a high burnout field.

Long term funding is needed

Groups need sustainable funding to support long-term visioning and infrastructure building. Think 3-5 year grants. Think strategic "big bet" investments. Think discretionary funding. It's not possible to do much more than track inputs and outputs in a 9-18 month grant cycle.