COMMUNITY LED DEVELOPMENT

10 tips to help Funders

Inspiring Communities
Local wisdom²

These tips were produced in collaboration with the Todd Foundation for a Philanthropy New Zealand Summit. It provides ideas and ways to support working with communities, increasing trust, learning together, and adapting as you go.

TODD
FOUNDATION

TOP TEN TIPS FOR FUNDERS FROM THE TODD FOUNDATION.

1. LEVERAGE RISK AND LEARN TOGETHER.

Consider partnering with others if you're new to CLD.

2. PROGRESS OVER PERFECTION.

Contribute resources towards enabling healthier 'systems' instead of an unrealistic end state.

3. GIVE COMMUNITIES SPACE.

Allow time for communities to tell you their priorities and timelines.

4.

INCREASE TRUST, DECREASE BUREAUCRACY.

As you decide to trust and partner with a community, reduce application processes at every step along the way.

5.

INCREASE YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

Find out what the community see as important assets, and who they perceive as key local leaders. Find out what the community is already doing well.

6.

ADAPT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Ask the community when it's best to visit and learn from their project's impact. Try not to hold onto pre-determined reporting times which is often out of whack with milestones.

7.

MORE THAN MONEY.

Be aware of all the other things you can provide to local initiatives where required/ requested (i.e. time, networking, input/feedback.)

8.

EVIDENCE IS IMPORTANT.

It's also important to acknowledge that evidence only provides part of the answers.

9.

STAY CALM AND CARRY ON.

Be ok about messy projects, some things may not work along the way. This is quite normal when exploring new ideas aiming to fix old and reoccurring problems.

10.

STICK WITH THEM.

It's often not until the 4th or 5th iteration of a project that clarity and impact starts to emerge and learnings turn into wisdom. Interestingly, by then our funding relationships have often moved on to something else......

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10 tips to inspire your community

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TOP TEN TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED IN THE COMMUNITY .

1. START FROM WHERE YOU ARE.

Be clear on your "why".

2. TALK.

Have lots of conversations, ask powerful questions, and actively build trust and relationships.

3. FOCUS.

Work with others to map out community priorities and timeline.

4.
IDENTIFY

assets, strengths and what the community does well already.

5.
LOOK FOR BRIGHT SPOTS.

Go where the energy is and invest in people and their passions.

6.
START SMALL AND ACHIEVABLE.

Aspire to build community through all that you do, know that one thing frequently leads to another.

7.
DO THINGS WITH OTHERS.

Collaboration brings new ideas, resources, and energy for possibilities.

8.
CREATE SOMETHING VISIBLE

- seeing is believing and generates momentum.

9.
ANTICIPATE 'MESS'.

Paradoxes and uncertainty – this is normal!

10.
BE CREATIVE.

Have fun and strive for results. Help grow a local culture of learning, reflection and celebration.

ABOUT INSPIRING COMMUNITIES

Inspiring Communities
Local wisdom²

Inspiring Communities weave connections and collaborations across sectors and communities.

We help make things easier for communities to work in locally-led ways – together.

We believe that communities know best about what works for them and what they need to thrive.We share local wisdom and practice-based evidence to inform public policy and systems change.

We focus our mahi around ako (learning), tautoko (supporting), tuhono (connecting) and whakaaweawe (influencing) to grow a rich kete of practices, tools and support for communities to flourish.

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi: With your basket and my basket, we will sustain the people.

Talk to us about your CLD training, workshop needs, coaching, support and opportunities in your community or region.

⊙ Email us exchange@inspiringcommunities.org.nz

Our Getting Started kete will help you apply each of our 5 CLD principles to your role using:

- practical tools, skills and resources, building on the starter kete foundations
- actions, stories and examples of people across different roles and environments, and how they applied them.

Link to: Inspiring Communities Resources

Great resource links

⊙ **Community-Led Development Principles**

⊙ **The Quadrants of Change**

⊙ **CLD Theory of Change**

inspiringcommunities.org.nz