Let your work be identified and driven by the community partner, responding to the needs and assets that are most salient for the community rather than imposed externally. Work to create inclusive environments in which all voices are heard and valued. Reflect on and try to understand the unique power dynamics that may be at play and work to distribute power equitably in this partnership.

Questions to Ask Yourself

- Who identified the need for the project or partnership and who participated in how it was shaped?
- How is power distributed in this endeavor? Which way does money flow in this project and how might that limit equity or partnership?
- What expectations, distrust or hesitations might a community partner have about your project?

Want to learn more? Email doce@duke.edu