Build trusting, reciprocal and sustainable relationships by taking the time to get to know the community and the people who are a part of it. Be open, responsive, communicative and focused on mutual benefits. Work together to set clear expectations and establish a realistic timetable for communication and evaluation.

Questions to Ask Yourself

- Who benefits from the partnership and how?
- How can you use your strengths and unique position to best serve in this relationship?
- In what ways do your timeframe and expectations align or conflict with those of the community partner? How will you practice flexibility and open-mindedness when expectations differ?

Want to learn more? Email doce@duke.edu