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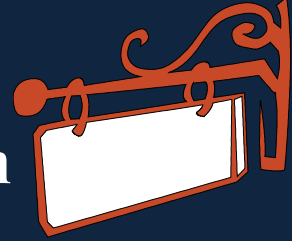
WAYS TO MAKE YOUR MONITORING MORE MEANINGFUL

Monitor what matters.

When you're developing your monitoring tools, choose indicators that measure whether the goals of the grant program are being achieved. Fiscal compliance is important, but ultimately, grant programs exist to support the public good. Focusing on **goals and outcomes** is a key difference between monitoring and traditional auditing, so measure what's important!



Make communication a two-way street.



Grantees are your best source of information about what's working (and what isn't). Ask them about their obstacles and challenges, successes, and support needs. This intelligence from the front lines provides critical information for fueling systemic reforms that remove barriers to excellence.

Document and share successes.

Meaningful Monitoring™ doesn't only "ding" a grantee for unintended missteps, but highlights accomplishments and best practices. This increases grantee morale, documents successes for stakeholders, and shares creative problem-solving among like-minded leaders.



Create a resource library.

Sharing a repository of best practices and legal guidance sets grantees up for success. Build monitoring checklists and share templates for legally required policies addressing topics such as human resources, privacy, inventory, IT, and purchasing.

Adopt tiered reviews.

A risk-based monitoring system focuses resources on struggling grantees and relieves regulatory burden on successful ones. It's also legally required! Defining and applying methodologies for limited scope reviews vs. intensive reviews conserves oversight resources while doubling down on troubled parts of the grants program.



Broaden your technical assistance.

Poor management practices create risk—not only of non-compliance, but of non-performance. Because leaders are often trained in specific disciplines other than management, they may not have the tools to address issues in recruiting, onboarding, fiscal management, or technology. The Uniform Guidance emphasizes the importance of technical assistance; don't limit this valuable resource solely to legal compliance! Provide links to resources in leadership/management.

WHAT IS MEANINGFUL MONITORING™?

Simply put, it's a mindset, a skill set, and a strategic approach to grants monitoring that asks not only if programs are compliant and meeting objectives, but whether they are meeting them *well*. **It's possible for a program to meet all its legal obligations and still fail to achieve its mission.** At the Vander Weele Group, Meaningful Monitoring is our guiding philosophy.