

Introduction to WFF's New Approach to Grant Evaluation

What to Expect When You're Expecting a Grant Evaluation

In 2023, the Walton Family Foundation refreshed its approach to how we assess and capture insights from our grantmaking. The new approach is focused on two different types of conversations we have with grantees as grants close:

APPLE: Assessment of Past Performance and Learning Report

A conversation with your Program Officer about:

- What did we hope to accomplish through this grant?
- What went well and why?
- What about any unanticipated outcomes that you saw as a result of your work?
- What, if any, external factors affected performance toward goals? e.g., economic disruption, political change, other funder engagement, etc.
- What can be improved and how?

SEAL: SLED Evaluation and Learning Report

A conversation with your Program Officer and SLED Officer that builds on the questions in the APPLE, and also explores:

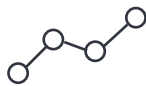
- Were there any course corrections from your original plans that you made and if so, why?
- Are there any significant changes that you plan to make moving forward?
- What feedback do you have on the Foundation's relevant learning questions?

Why is WFF making this change?

The Walton Family Foundation is committed to ongoing learning and improvement, and being guided by the people and communities where we work. This refresh is guided by a set of principles:



Be
Operationally
Useful



Use
Meaningful
Metrics



Help
Build
Capacity



Create
Accountability
to Learn



Be
Collaborative



Strengthen
Trust &
Relationships

What changes should I expect?

Around the time when your grant is closing, you may be invited to participate in a 60-minute APPLE or SEAL conversation. We look forward to hearing your reflections and insights about our work together — especially what you have learned.

Following the conversation, our program officers or Strategy, Learning, and Evaluation Department officers may reach out to you for clarifying questions, if needed.

We appreciate your time, candor, and ongoing partnership.

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