

Report Shines Light on Relationships Between Grant Makers and Seekers

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Foundations publicly portray their work with grant recipients as one of mutual respect and partnership. But behind the scenes, the relationships are often less wine and roses and more Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Even common courtesies like returning phone calls go ignored, and grant seekers are sometimes left feeling like beggars expected to be grateful for even crumbs of attention.

"You can't get any information, you can't have any dialogue, you have no idea what's going on," says Aaron Dorfman, executive director of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy. "Some foundation program officers go weeks and weeks and never return calls or e-mails."

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