

WHY CORE FUNDING SHOULDN'T BE A DEBATE

**4 insights by OAK Foundation on how
core funding + capacity support drive
lasting nonprofit impact.**

Core funding enables sustainability

Core funding gives nonprofits the room to invest beyond projects, into people, systems, and long-term strategy.

Without this flexibility, organisations are pushed toward short-term wins instead of lasting change.

Treating core support as foundational, not optional, unlocks healthier and more resilient organisations.



Challenge the default: instead of asking why include core funding, ask why not.

The real barrier is mindset, not impact

Concerns around core grants often stem from donor fears about dependency or difficulty measuring results.

These barriers are solvable through better monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems, not by limiting funding flexibility.

When the mindset shifts, core funding is seen as a strategic investment rather than a risk.



Strengthen MEL systems to build confidence, not restrictions.

Core support works best with capacity strengthening

Multi-year core commitments reduce uncertainty and make long-term planning possible.

Stronger trust between grantees and funders leads to better decisions, stronger reserves, and more ambitious goals.

The full value of core support often emerges over years, not months.



Capacity strengthening + core funding = the strongest route to sustainable impact.

Core support works best with capacity strengthening

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Five-year+ commitments deepen trust and multiply results.



We are proud to work alongside partners like OAK Foundation.

Read the full article via the link in the post.

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