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“Caring for Medicaid: Public Ethics as Methodology in Motion”

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During a seven-year community-university partnership, we have “done ethics” in diverse publics by centering community as the experts. Living in relationship with one another not only practices a Christian ethics of love in motion, but also creates spaces for community direction, critique, and creativity in co-producing innovative methodologies for collecting the most incisive, genuine, and usable data and for articulating community-driven values and relationships for public policy change. Through an interdisciplinary, mixed-methods health equity study, we challenge the presuppositions of an ideology of “aid” that imposes administrative burdens on Medicaid recipients in the name of “personal responsibility.”