

# DIGITAL CULTURE BOX: DIGNITY IN DISPLACEMENT

What is fiscal accompaniment and why is it important?



**Traditional fundraising strategies rely on imagery and language that appeal to the emotions of those giving money but can be exploitative of the situation the affected individual is experiencing.**

In-Sight Collaborative and our partners promote the model of accompaniment to help address some of these issues by confronting traditional power dynamics and coming alongside the community to work in a space of mutual **empowerment** rather than **charity**. Rather than asking our community to engage in **donorship**, we ask them to engage in **fiscal accompaniment**.

**Accompaniment** utilizes the strengths, knowledge, and expertise of the individual or community that is being accompanied. It involves them as active parts of the solution rather than passive beneficiaries of aid.

**Fiscal accompaniment** asks the supporter to engage with the cause, not just give their money. It asks them to come alongside the population affected by forced displacement and make the journey towards a safe and prosperous future together, helping meet their dynamic and unique set of needs in a respectful and dignified way.

## Why is this important?

The Non-Profit Industry forces organizations to compete for funds, which perpetuates a dangerous practice of using exploitative marketing strategies to try to promote donorship. This harmful cycle must end to protect those experiencing forced displacement and relying on support from NGOs and other agencies.

A more dignified and informed narrative in humanitarian aid starts with you!

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Why is flexible funding important?



Consistent amounts of funds coming in can allow us to strategically plan and to prioritize the needs of the affected population and humanitarian actors, not the desires of the donors or grantmakers.

Strategic planning can include setting aside some of the consistent funds for emergency needs and to cover inevitable unanticipated costs which are common in humanitarian interventions.

Tying rigid terms and conditions to the allocation of funding can degrade the trust between the fiscal sponsors, the humanitarian actors, and the communities affected by displacement. Ingenuity and adaptation are limited when budgets restrict spending on interventions and programs to specific items and can hinder the overall impact and effectiveness of the work.

## **Examples of Unanticipated Costs:**

- Need for professional services like translation services, content creation, or consulting
- Emergencies related to individuals or cases
- Emergencies impacting the entire population like fires, natural disasters, or large-scale policy changes that we saw with COVID in the form of lockdown restrictions
- Price changes on food items or other things that need to be purchased and distributed
- Logistical complexities like changes in travel costs or the need to hire professional transport services

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## Closing Gaps



Stigmatization is a huge problem facing forcibly displaced people, especially the men. These boxes not only help generate funds in a way that does not exploit the tragedy of their circumstances, but it highlights their strengths and abilities as well as the parts of their cultures and heritage that they want to preserve and share with you!



We firmly believe that there are common threads that connect all of us as human beings. Many of these threads can be found in food, music, and dance.

Digital Culture Box is first and foremost a tool of resilience within the diaspora and we are proud to bring these flavors, sounds and experiences to your inbox!