

# How Funders Can Become More Community Led



Photo: **Help Women & Girls Escape Domestic Abuse and SGBV** by Unsilenced Voices

## >> PROVIDE MORE FLEXIBLE FUNDING

Make unrestricted general operating support grants.

## >> SUPPORT MORE LOCAL, COMMUNITY-LED ORGANIZATIONS

Give to organizations that are deeply rooted in the communities they serve.

## >> SEEK AND RESPOND TO FEEDBACK

Invite input from grantees to inform our future giving processes.

## >> BUILD LONGER-TERM RELATIONSHIPS WITH ORGANIZATIONS

Focus on multi-year funding.

## >> REDUCE BURDENSOME APPLICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Accept information in formats and styles already available from grantees.

## >> SHARE DECISION-MAKING POWER

Invite others, such as your employees or customers, to participate in funding allocation processes.

## GlobalGiving's Commitment to Becoming More Community Led:

### >> WE WILL SHARE POWER AND CO-CREATE SOLUTIONS.

We will build mutual trust and respect in a way that both acknowledges and seeks to diminish power imbalances. We'll honor existing knowledge, assets, expertise, and traditions in the communities where we work. We'll cultivate community ownership and trust, and co-create products, services, and experiences to address all stakeholder needs.

### >> WE WILL LISTEN AND BE RESPONSIVE.

We will develop a more robust practice of listening to all stakeholders, especially the people most affected by our work. We'll be curious and willing to learn. We'll be flexible and proactive in tailoring activities in order to meet diverse and evolving needs.

### >> WE WILL FOSTER DEEPER RELATIONSHIPS AND INVITE OUR PARTNERSHIPS TO TRANSFORM US.

We will build and strengthen relationships based on humility, mutual accountability, care, trust, and solidarity. We'll promote healing, not judgment. Our engagement will expose each of us to different ideas, choices, resources, and experiences. We'll invite shifts in mindsets, power, capacity, and confidence. We'll grow together, recognizing our interdependence.

### >> WE WILL BE TRANSPARENT, RELIABLE, AND ACCOUNTABLE PARTNERS.

We will follow through on our commitments, and be accountable when we mess up. We'll offer clear communication with regular and easy access to relevant, timely information about the what, when, why, and how of our work.

### >> WE WILL IDENTIFY AND ELIMINATE BARRIERS.

We will identify and eliminate barriers that have prevented the full participation of historically marginalized groups and strive to provide fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement. We'll work to transform inequitable systems in philanthropy, and, when facing unjust systems that we alone can't change, we'll use our power, access, and funding to help achieve more equitable outcomes for all communities.