

IN-SIGHT COLLABORATIVE ANNUAL REPORT 2022



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear supporters of In-Sight Collaborative

This year, we were forced to take a huge step back from frontline work and regular operations as members of our leadership team grappled with personal and professional adversity. Following nearly two years of full-time work as healthcare professionals, NGO actors, students, and just human beings adjusting to a rapidly changing world, we were forced to take an intentional pause to protect the wellbeing of the In-Sight family.

The return to operations has been slow, but it has been intentional. We welcomed a new Chair of our Board, new board members, and new executive leadership to oversee a transition into a healthier organizational structure. Thanks to their hard work, professional experience, and dedication to In-Sight Collaborative and our mission, we are very excited to introduce In-Sight 2.0 through this summary of our year.

Education and advocacy will still be at the forefront of our work, and as we promote the model of accompaniment, we will continue to establish and cultivate close relationships with affected communities around the globe. Thank you for joining us on this journey!



Madi Williamson, RN
Executive Director



OUR MISSION REVISED

As part of a restructuring at In-Sight Collaborative this year, the executive team and board have been exploring a new mission, vision, theory of change, and logic framework. In-Sight Collaborative positions itself as a facilitator and contributor to those in the humanitarian sector who are recognizing that "aid" work starts with oneself – recognizing the relationship that humanitarians have with themselves, their community, and their work, which translates to larger systemic issues we are seeing.

Mission: Uniting humans in adaptive and intentional humanitarian work

Vision: A world where interactions with migration systems go beyond doing no harm to improve the lives of those who come in contact with it



Our mission is rooted in the idea that anyone can be a humanitarian with the right resources and platform. Being a humanitarian is a mindset, a way of grounding yourself in kindness and empathy in all you do to improve the lives of all humankind. As humanitarian needs and situations change, and as our understanding of complex problems evolves, we must be able to create more flexible human-centric solutions.

THEORY OF CHANGE

As we grow as an organization, our work and evolution must continue to be intentional and meaningful. Many humanitarian organizations are focused on direct aid delivery, which entails sending humanitarian workers to the communities of affected populations, and research is centered around the experiences and insights of administering aid to them. **But what about the humanitarians?** In-Sight Collaborative positions itself as a facilitator and contributor to those in the humanitarian sector who are recognizing that aid work starts with oneself – recognizing the relationship that humanitarians have with themselves, their community, and their work, which translates to larger systemic issues we are seeing.

IF WE...



THEN...

Our interactions with the larger migration, international development, and aid system will go beyond do no harm to improving the lives of those who come in contact with it

Objective 1: Meaningful opportunities for learning, mutual aid, and organizing are accessible to aspiring and seasoned humanitarian professionals to create a more equitable aid system

Objective 2: Donors and aid-giving organizations adopt norms and culture of aid delivery that respects the dignity and agency of the affected population along the migratory pathway

Objective 3: Values of humanitarianism and accompaniment are mainstreamed and implemented beyond the aid sector

LESSONS LEARNED

Big trends that have shaped the educational and advocacy work that In-Sight has undertaken this year include the criminalization of humanitarians and the violent pushbacks on Europe's borders. These incidents have pushed our team to take a step back, reexamine the humanitarian system, and reconcile with where we are looking at our system wrong. As the criminalization of humanitarians by authorities within the European Union is becoming a new security crisis, one wonders: **Who will protect humanitarians?**

The criminalization and securitization of humanitarians have contributed to immense fear for the safety of both refugees and humanitarian actors. Humanitarian work has become a dangerous social cause as authorities in Greece and Turkey have shifted from commitment to helping asylum seekers in tandem with humanitarian organizations to criminalizing humanitarians. The withdrawal of Greek and Turkish authorities from their humanitarian commitment left a gap that humanitarian organizations and civilians filled.

Our team's experience and advocacy has helped inform the establishment and maintenance of online programs and training modules to help keep field teams active in the EU safe and up-to-date on current practices and legal advocacy strategies. Thanks to lots of volunteer hours from our executive team and partners, **we have kept these relevant and important learning resources 100% free to participants from any background.**

Module Five

5.2: Criminalization of Humanitarian Action
10 minutes (no activity)

"If helping others is a
crime, we are all criminal"

- Sara Mardini

[Download Workbook](#)



“

"Accessible and informative,
with a range of resources to
keep learning experience
engaged."

”

“

"Exceptional and timely."

”

LESSONS LEARNED

Other attempts to deter asylum seekers from reaching places where they can apply for protection include the practice of illegal pushbacks.

Thoroughly covered in our 2020-2021 assessment in Istanbul as part of The Brothers Campaign, the practice of pushbacks not only endangers the physical wellbeing of the victim, but also causes extensive psychological damage.

In 2022, we continued to witness the widespread use of this tactic at Europe's borders. As pushbacks became a normalized part of securitization strategies for Fortress Europe, our field team and communities began hearing reports of the same techniques being used to deter forced migrants at Turkish and Iranian borders. In tandem with the criminalization of humanitarian workers, civilian search and rescuers, and human rights defenders along migration routes globally, pushbacks have become commonplace with police forces and agencies like Frontex committing violent crime with impunity.

“

Then they pushed us back to the border, then at the border they took everything. They took our pocket money, they took our shoes, jacket, phone, the phone that we were using for the location. They took everything. You can say we were naked. I don't know what they were looking for, they touched even private places. Our boobs, everything. We said “no you can't”, he has no rights to do this, right?

”

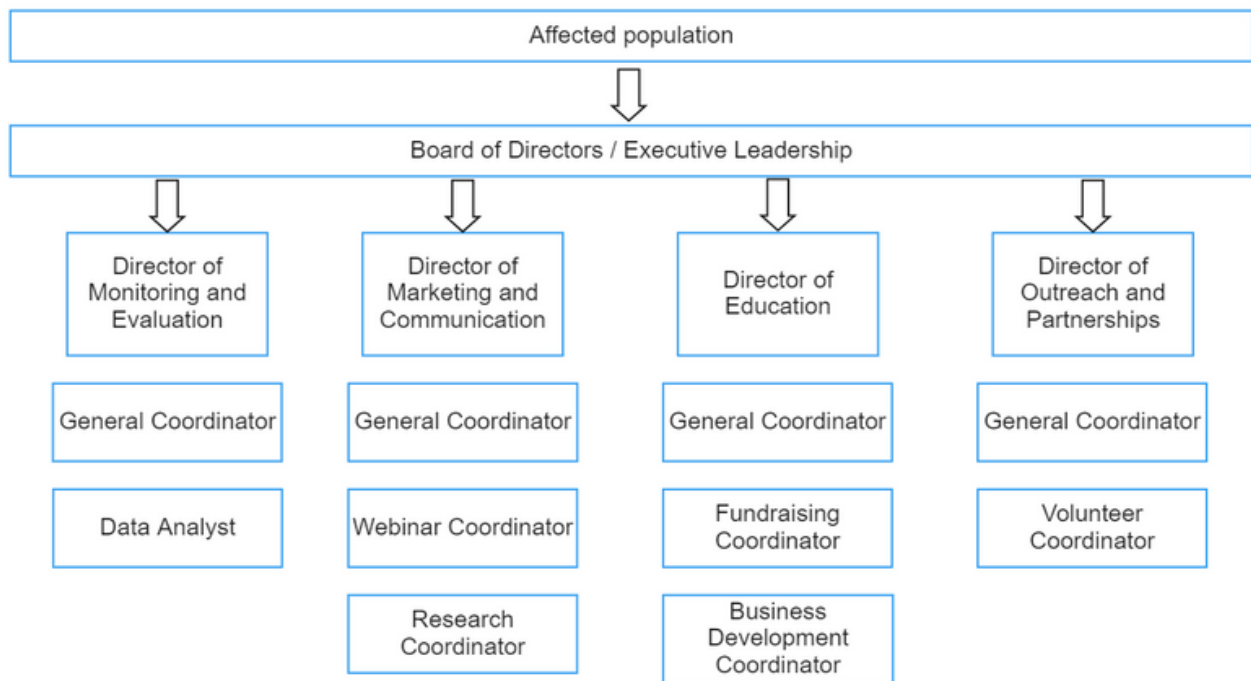
Throughout 2022, In-Sight Collaborative team members participated in the collection of testimonies from victims of illegal pushbacks in collaboration with Greek Helsinki Monitor and independent advocates in the European Union.

Information from these pushbacks and, occasionally, continued cooperation with victims of pushbacks has helped inform our advocacy tools such as webinar topics and social media posts as well as educational tools like our migratory pathway simulation, content for our humanitarian leadership program, modules on criminalization, and volunteer/staff trainings and orientations.

Upcoming modules on migratory health and accompaniment in migration will draw lots of information from testimonies and ongoing research on pushbacks and border violence.

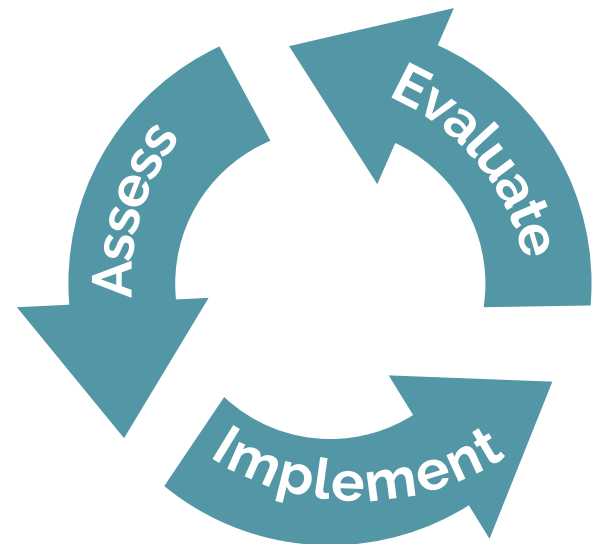
RESTRUCTURING

Throughout our restructuring process, In-Sight Collaborative remained committed to centering the voices of the affected population, continuing to work alongside those our team had committed to accompanying through earlier projects in Greece and Turkey. The affected population works directly with the Board of Directors and executive team to inform current programs and advocacy initiatives.



RESTRUCTURING

In 2022 we welcomed new Board leadership and amended the orientation process for all participants at our organization, especially those new to a structure where the affected population's feedback, ideas, and experience are prioritized. Team members are taught collaborative models like accompaniment to guide their assessment, implementation, and evaluation of projects and ensure they are receptive to feedback and guidance from those most affected.



The restructuring of In-Sight Collaborative is an ongoing process undertaken by the team and its board to reflect on priorities, gaps, and opportunities identified in the humanitarian sector. With renewed commitment and an action plan, **In-Sight Collaborative continues to do its internal work and remains ready as ever to tackle the root causes of systemic challenges against building a more equitable aid system.**

The financial situation of the organization has seen a reduction in both income and expenses over the past 12 months. This is mainly due to the restructuring process that we have been going through, which has put most of our main projects to a halt and diminished the expenses required to fund them but also the potential new sources of donation that we get from them. Aside from that, no new grants have been obtained during the 2021 or 2022 period.

However, we maintain a reliable source of income that comes from long-time donors who were given the option to opt-out of their monthly donations while the restructuring process was ongoing but decided to stay and continue supporting In-Sight Collaborative.

As part of the restructuring process, we have reviewed and updated our financial reports to align them more with the new structure of the organization and increase our understanding of both our current and future financial situation. This new report will allow us to improve our planning process by providing us with a better tool to make financial projections for the upcoming months.

ABOUT US

Thank you to our Board of Directors

Farrah Shemisa - Chairperson of the Board

Juanjo Ladines - Board Member

Aws Jubair - Board Member

Kirstyn Campbell - Board Member

Mohammad Atrash - Board Member

Leena Zahra - Board Member



And to our Executive Team

Madi Williamson - Executive Director

Daniel Eichner - Director of Outreach

Jesse Nathanson - Director of Education

Stevie Kennedy - Volunteer Coordinator

Rina Sarfraz - Director of The Brothers Campaign

Nadira Saraswati - Director of Networking