

Values of the PPF Accompaniment Working Group

Draft — September 2019

Working together, the people assembled in the Accompaniment Working Group at the Fall 2019 Activist Council meeting identified the following values for our work together as a group.

These are elements that, together, describe the culture we are striving to live into internally and the world we want to build together. These are aspirational values, and we offer them as goals for accompaniers as well.

- We love the people we accompany.
- We are not results driven.
- We work collaboratively.
- We accept complexity and ambiguity.
- Our accompaniment work is reciprocal and mutual (we are not accompanying in order to do *for* our partners).
- We are intentional about gathering and build rituals around meeting
- We are always striving to be anti-racist, anti-imperialist, and decolonizing.
- We are comfortable with being uncomfortable.
- We name power dynamics out loud with each other.
- We are genuine, authentic, and forgiving.
- We are Christ-centered and Christ-following, remembering that we are not Jesus.
- We are humble.
- We live into abundance – when it comes to money, we'll make it work!
- We hold space for celebrations and light-heartedness in the midst of this heavy work.

Key Principles of Accompaniment with PPF

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The long-term, Kingdom-vision goal of accompaniment with PPF is that no one feels alone in their peace and justice work, and that our partners feel safe. The strategies that help us work toward that goal, are doing what our partners say, storytelling, creating community, and advocacy in the U.S. In the short term, our goal is to be **consistently present in the places where we're invited so that our partners, through proximity to the power we represent, feel and are safer.**

The key principles of accompaniment (as practiced by PPF) are:

- Nonviolence
- Ongoing evaluation with partners
- Primacy of local partners:
 - We only go where we're invited.
 - We respect the culture and values of the host church/community, even if we disagree.
 - Our partners set the program for our accompaniers.
 - We are accountable to our local partners.

- PPF training is required before service.
- Economic need is not a barrier to participation.
- We go ready to learn.
- Focus is on presence, not “doing”
- The stories accompaniers hear are a responsibility - we are called to action by the stories we hear.
- We ask for ongoing commitment to local partners after accompaniment:
 - Accompaniers serve as advocates for local partners within the U.S. after their return from accompaniment service
 - Accompaniers tell stories responsibly
- Accompaniment is open to anyone who commits to these principles.
- If PPF discerns that a potential accompanier is not a good fit, we have the right to decline an accompanier’s service.