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| Name of your organisation | Mazí Housing |
| Date of TFN event which you pitched at | 08/02/2024 |
| Name of the project TFN funded | House Have Impact |
| Were you able to undertake your project as you outlined in the application? | Yes |
| Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives? | <p>TFN funding had a profound impact on Mazí, with the money unlocked by TFN members supporting the running costs for an apartment in Athens housing 20 residents over the year.</p> <p>Our homes are the foundations of our lives. This apartment created the baseline safety and stability for each of these residents to gather what they needed to move on permanently from Mazí's support.</p> <p>TFN funding also had an organisational impact on Mazí in three powerful ways. It has directly enabled us to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evolve our model of housing support 2. Grow the team 3. Pioneer a new Recipes for Life project <p>We have deepened our 'Safety is Clarity' approach and pivoted our housing model to a baseline 1-year contract for each resident, around which each resident's person-centred social work programme takes place. This timeline is reviewed as the year progresses, and responds to those who need more or less time to move on from our housing.</p> <p>We have increased our team size by 25% (one more person!), recruiting a dedicated Project Development Lead to bridge the core housing and casework programmes that we run. In particular, responding to needs amongst our residents for (1) better nutrition and (2) cooking skills (!), this meant we could implement a Recipes for Life project teaching good nutrition for young asylum seekers evicted from minors' shelters.</p> <p>An unexpected positive outcome has been an increase in visibility which has led to an increase in both volunteers (e.g. for energy-efficiency-in-housing projects, or to support social work) and partnerships with other organisations.</p> |
| What portion of the project did TFN fund? | 15% |
| How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach? | 20 |
| How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach? | 54 – existing and former residents accessing our support |
| Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support? | Yes |

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| <p>If yes, how much were you able to raise and from whom?</p> | <p>We raised a 150k in 2024 from yourselves, from Choose Love, from the Network for Social Change, from recurring donors (increased memberships) and from our annual Athens Marathon. We have recently secured funding from Oxfam.</p> |
| <p>Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?</p> | <p>Yes</p> |
| <p>If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?</p> | <p>Fundraising support to better-access UK charitable trusts which operate in and fund European organisations. This didn't lead directly to funding but definitely increased confidence in seeking it.</p> |
| <p>How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?</p> | <p>We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding</p> |
| <p>Has the training you received from TFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?</p> | <p>Yes</p> |
| <p>Has TFN increased your capacity to raise further funds?</p> | <p>Yes</p> |
| <p>Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?</p> | <p>We believe the story of most of Mazí's residents shows the value of the work.</p> <p>For example the young man, K, who arrived in Greece by himself as a child. When he turned 18, but before he had stable legal status, he was evicted from his minors' shelter. When we met, K was working night shifts before he went to a full day at school and sometimes sleeping briefly on a friends' sofa in the afternoon. K was worried he'd fail at school with no sleep; he was worried he'd lose his job with no sleep; and he was constantly unsettled by the instability of where he'd be able to lie down that day.</p> <p>This is when he found Mazí. Our safe, stable housing allowed him to focus on school and find more manageable work. Last summer, K graduated high school and he has become fluent in Greek. Now he has choices. Keen to become an electrician, he's begun an electrician training course and is looking ahead to the future.</p> <p>For example, G, who was sleeping rough when he met a Mazí resident at the asylum service one morning who referred him to the team. G took quickly to life at Mazí, becoming an engaged member of the community, making new friends, cooking dinners and finding work. But a little after this he began a long, terrifying health nightmare with a small pain in his neck. G had had tuberculosis in his spine which created an abscess in one of his vertebrae. His body was crushing itself. While G was in hospital, recovering from spinal operation (metal implants), his initial asylum claim was rejected and his access to healthcare rescinded. Only after urgent intervention from Mazí staff was he not kicked out of his bed the day after surgery. We persuaded the healthcare professionals to keep him in place which gave him time to begin to recover.</p> |

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| | <p>We also saw the impact of our community-based housing model. Fellow residents from his apartment came to visit G every day while he was in hospital. Reading to him the news, parts of the Bible, and bringing him sweets. He hadn't known any of these people six months earlier.</p> <p>Eventually, G was discharged with six months worth of TB medication and a number of braces. Now, a year on, he has slowly been building his body back up and is looking ahead to being able to work again.</p> |
| <p>Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?</p> | <p>Mazí is now *finally* developing two longer term projects:</p> <p>One. Renovations of derelict buildings in Athens into housing (not hotels!).</p> <p>Two. Responding to the evident need for a better asylum housing strategy in the UK, one of our directors has returned to the UK where he is working with local authority workers and charities to develop a UK model for Mazí.</p> |
| <p>Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?</p> | <p>https://youtu.be/hWz821DaC_Y?si=S1UqxuPyDOSNALQE</p> <p>Film clip of a video we produce late last year (instead of attachment) which we believe shows quite succinctly what we do and why.</p> |