

Forcibly Displaced Populations and Barriers to Access

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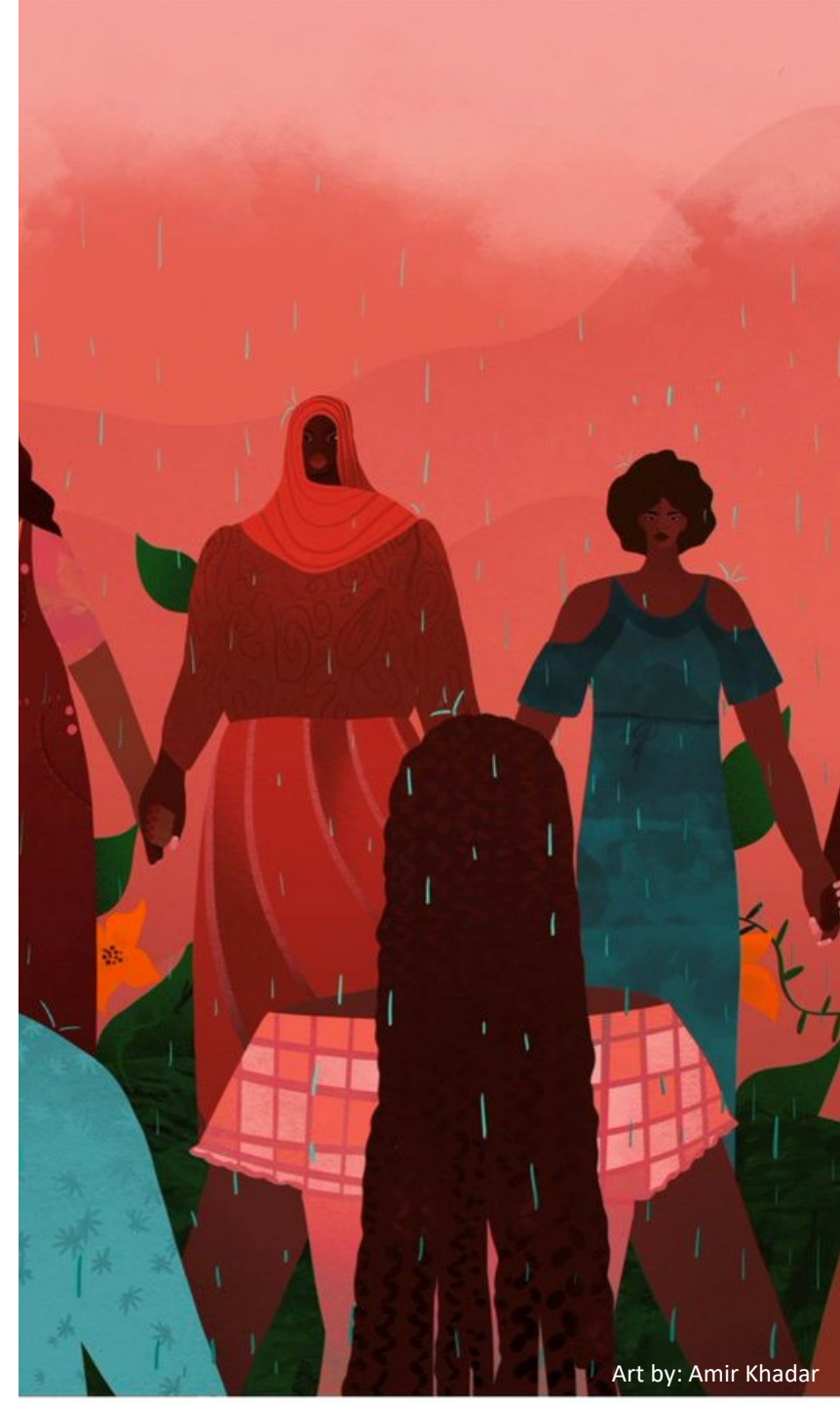
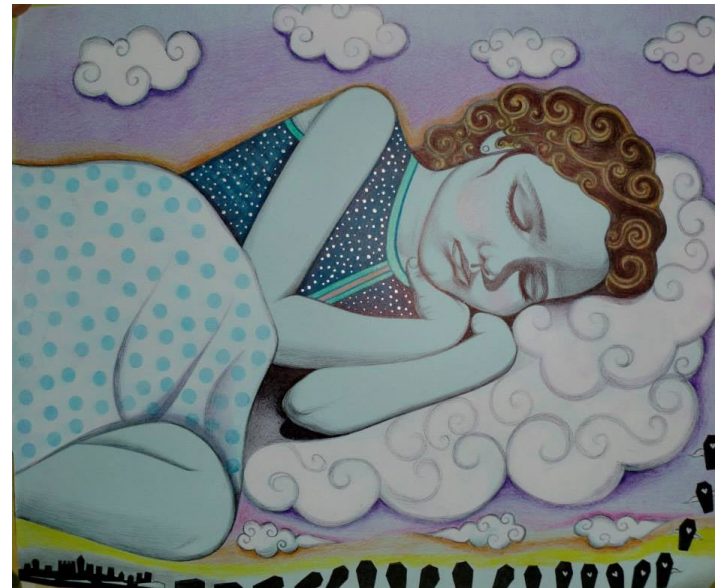
Massachusetts General Hospital,
Harvard Medical School

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CNS Disorders**

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Art by: Rasha Adnan



Art by: Amir Khadar



Asylum seeker

Someone who is seeking protection but has not yet had their refugee claim determined by an official



Refugee

Someone who cannot return home because doing so would expose them to a risk of persecution.



Migrant.

Someone who chooses to move to another country, usually for work, education or family reasons.



Art by: Yocelyn Riojas

Social-structural determinants of health

INTERCEPT 1
Migration to US

Pre-migration

US foreign policies that inhibit countries' economic and social development

Experiences of violence from war or political conflict, and physical or sexual trauma that precipitate migration

Migration journey

Physical, sexual, and psychological trauma in migration and at border

US immigration policies that prevent receipt of relief (e.g., laws preventing asylum seeking) or exacerbate trauma (e.g., family separation)

INTERCEPT 2
In the community

Community conditions that confer health risks. For example:

- Poverty
- Racism
- Stigma
- Unstable housing
- Restricted employment opportunities
- Lack of educational opportunities
- Language barriers

Community conditions that increase risk of involvement with law enforcement. For example:

- Racial profiling
- Over-policing in Black and Latino/a communities

INTERCEPT 3
Detention

Exposure to new health risks (e.g., overcrowding; physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and mistreatment by guards; solitary confinement)

Inadequate acute and chronic health care services (e.g., understaffing, delays in diagnosis and care)

Economic and social stressors (e.g., costs, disrupted social networks)

Profit motive of private prison companies

Nonbinding and inconsistently applied detention standards

Absence of independent oversight

INTERCEPT 4
Deportation and removal

Potentially fatal consequences of deportation

Disruption of medical care

Symptom burden increased

Readjustment period similar to re-entry

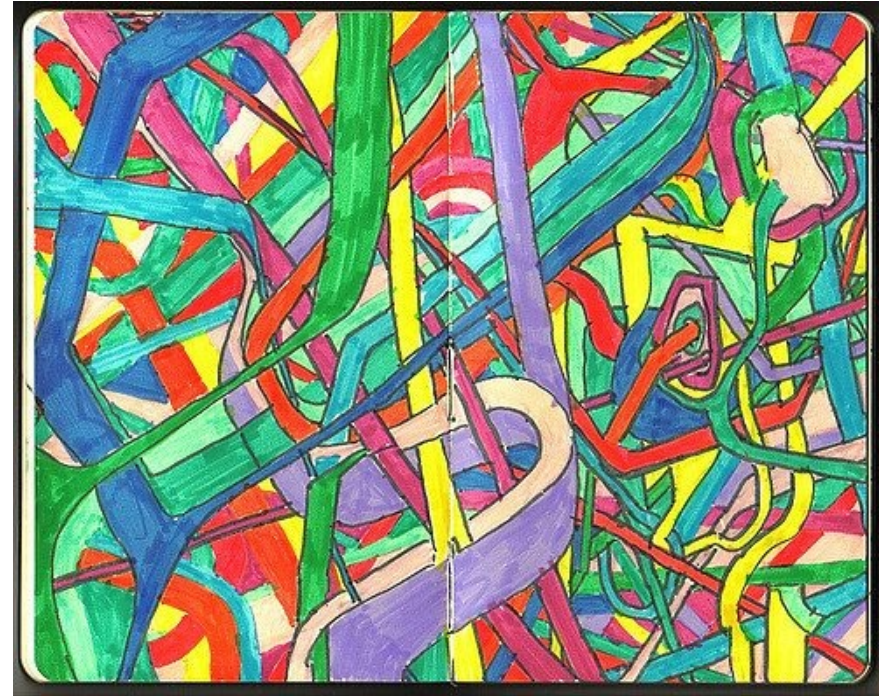
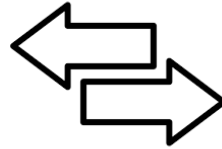
Returning to impoverished communities in US or in home countries

Barriers to Access



Art by: Daniel Gyekyi Gyan

INTERNAL BARRIERS



Art by: Danny Glix

STRUCTURAL BARRIERS

Internal Barriers



Mental illness
and associated
stigma



Mistrust and
perceived
discrimination



Fear of
deportation



Lack of awareness
amid navigating a
new system

Structural Barriers



Resettlement
stressors and
prioritization



Limited
eligibility,
availability,
and
affordability

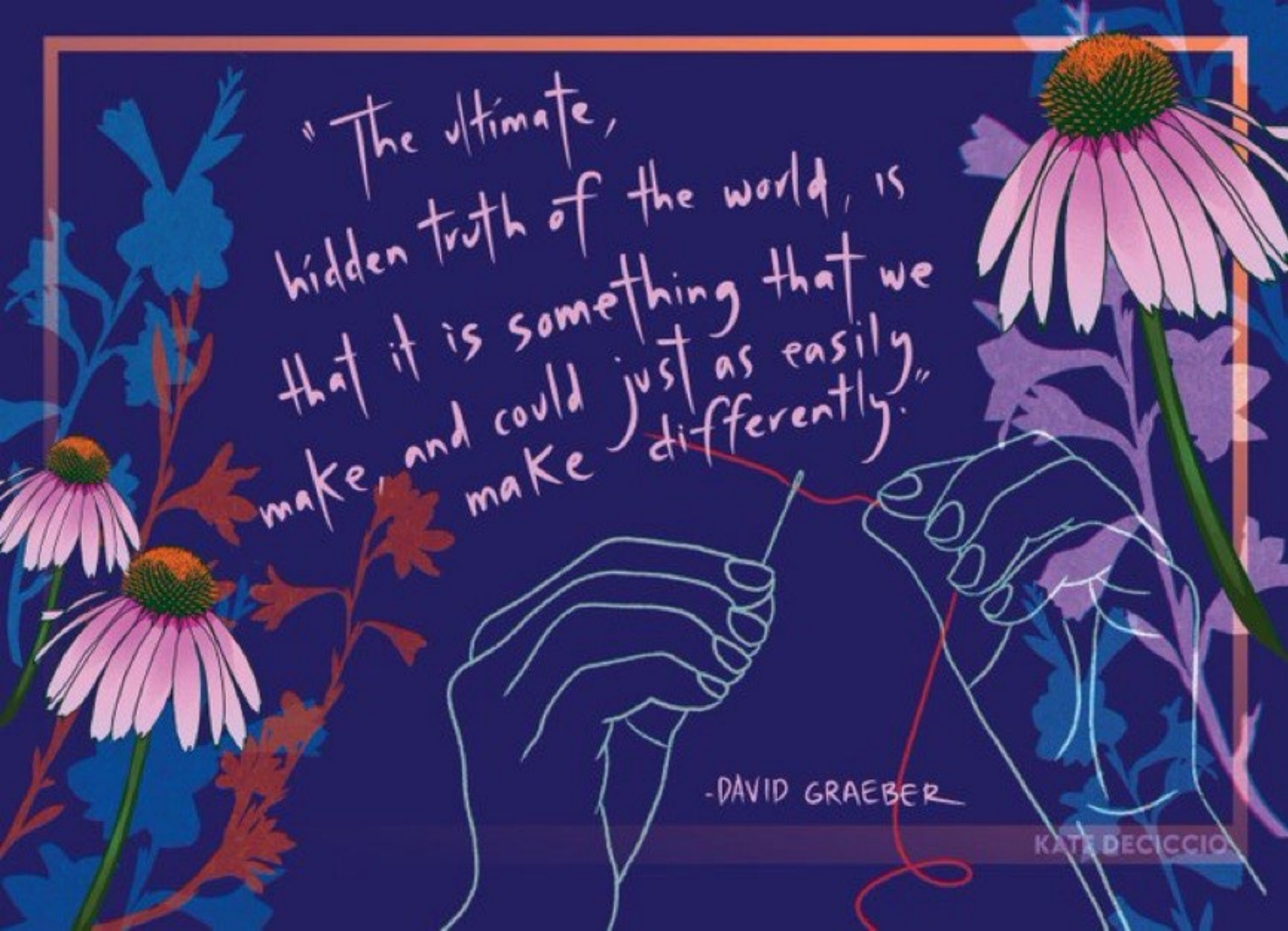


Lack of
cultural
competency



Lack of adequate
interpretation
services





"The ultimate,
hidden truth of the world, is
that it is something that we
make, and could just as easily
make differently."

-DAVID GRAEBER

KATE DECICCIO

Thank you!

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