



CREATING HOPE INTERNATIONAL



Annual Newsletter 2017

*You were born with potential.
You were born with goodness and trust
You were both with ideals and dreams.
You were born with greatness.
You were born with wings.
You are not meant for crawling, so don't.
You have wings.
Learn to use them and fly.*

-Rumi

For the Afghans, this was a year to fly. The intention of those that indiscriminately attacked others was to instill fear and terror in the population. However, in Herat, the result was not what was intended. Instead, the people in the communities where AIL works, have learned to fly. They are following what they have been learning from the AIL Love and Forgiveness workshops. They are keeping their women and children safe and uniting with one another, putting aside their differences and joining together to celebrate. They are saying NO to violence and YES to unity, peace and love.

Dr. Yacoobi had just returned to Herat, Afghanistan following a deadly attack on a Herat mosque in which hundreds were killed or injured. She arrived on the day of celebration of a religious holiday. You can see what she found in the picture below. "Yes, the people were mourning", she wrote, "but they were also uniting, giving blood for whoever needed it, sitting next to those that they had felt separate from only a few weeks ago, vowing to join together to bring peace to the city that they all loved. The attacks made them stronger, not weaker."

"I want to thank all of you who have supported us for all of these years. It takes a long time for people to change, to accept education for all, to think of peace, not war.....to trust. Afghans ARE changing. They want peace.....they want ALL to be educated.....they want a sustainable life.....they want to put an end to divisions in their society....they want to come together and find a way to have peace!"

"And, I am sure that we will be able to have peace.....soon."

Fatima learns to fly



When I returned to Afghanistan after being a refugee in Iran, I was very discouraged. I took a leadership workshop from AIL and learned I could be a leader. I returned to my village in the mountains and opened a center for women and children. I asked for support from AIL and they came, surveyed and agreed to pay the salaries of our teachers. Now we have 202 students and classes in literacy, sewing and Arabic...and, after being trained by AIL, I teach our students to be leaders!!!



AIL Accomplishments 2017



TEACHING YOUTH to be PUBLIC SPEAKERS

For the first time, AIL and NAB TV in Herat cooperated to hold a televised public speaking workshop for 50 youth to empower them to be better leaders.

MIRA-ZMQ Health Project

ZMQ Development Organization chose AIL for a grant to implement the Mira Project in Afghanistan, focusing on reducing maternal and infant mortality rates using mobile technology.



Dr. Sakena Yacoobi Awards 2017

- ◆ Sunhak Peace Prize Laureate
- ◆ Honored as a top civilian & cultural women on citizenship wall in the Afghan Presidential Palace
- ◆ BBC top 100 inspirational and innovation women
- ◆ Sri Sathya Sai Award for Human Excellence in Education



Highlights through October

- ◆ 23,054 students in Learning Centers
- ◆ 15 Mobile literacy classes for 519 females, 82.2% tested at 4th grade level
- ◆ Supported 43 Learning Centers- 2 new Centers
- ◆ 192,207 patients served
- ◆ 145,251 patients received health education
- ◆ 570 Teachers trained
- ◆ 818,610 students benefited from Teacher Training
- ◆ 628 Capacity Trained
- ◆ 1,218 Leadership & Human Rights trained
- ◆ 962 health workshop trained
- ◆ Opened a research center in Herat
- ◆ **Total lives affected since 1996- 15,851,304**

Your Donations at Work

Supporting private schools giving Afghan children quality education.



Training high school students to be future leaders of Afghanistan.



Supporting *Radio Meraj* with 2 million listeners and 3 top awards.



Technovation Challenge Winners

In May, Prof. Sakena Yacoobi (PSY) High School students, with advisory support from AIL, won first place in the 2017 Technovation challenge in Afghanistan. PSY High School's winning team, which was competing for the first time, created an education app called *Amozgar*, a literacy mobile phone application that teaches individuals how to read and write in a user-friendly and effective manner.



Supporting the education of Tibetan Bon children in India.



Help us to continue to empower Afghans and Tibetans



I learned to be a tailor at the AIL Learning Center and wanted to open a shop but didn't have time to work all day. I rented space and bought the sewing machines and other things we needed, and two poor women from my AIL tailoring class joined me. We are the first women with a shop in our village and are very successful!



Donate today!

There are two easy ways to give:

Mail your check made payable to Creating Hope International to:

Creating Hope International
P.O. Box 1058
Dearborn, MI 48121 USA

Donate online by credit card at www.creatinghope.org or www.afghaninstitutelearning.org

In 2018, AIL wants to

- ◆ *Open three new rural Learning Centers*
- ◆ *Hold 20 Mobile Literacy Classes*
- ◆ *Educate 25,000 women and children*
- ◆ *Hold 36 workshops*
- ◆ *Continue to support the orphan, street children and disabled*
- ◆ *Open an educational TV station*
- ◆ *Provide health services to 230,000*
- ◆ *Continue to empower Afghans to unite together for peace*

In 2018, the Tibetans want to educate 400 orphan boys and girls in Northern India

You can help AIL and the Tibetan Bon to meet their goals by donating generously.