



Creating Hope International Annual Newsletter 2018

A Message from Dr. Sakena Yacoobi

The Afghan people have faced great tests and trials this year with increased insecurity and bombings. Despite these difficulties, the work of AIL and my private programs has continued without interruption. I am so proud of my staff and what is being achieved in our community-based projects. We have not had security problems because our partners, the people of the communities where we work, make sure that their projects and their women and children are safe. Not only are our programs thriving but we have been able to expand what we are doing, bringing more awareness to our “new” leaders who are learning the skills that are needed to ultimately bring peace to Afghanistan.

You are also our partners as your support makes it possible for us to do our work. So I would like to tell you a little about the impact AIL is having in Afghanistan. I also want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support and the encouragement it gives me personally. We could not do this work without you. This work does not cost much, only \$2.50 per beneficiary, but the results are amazing and are transforming the lives of people and our nation.

AIL was one of only 13 organizations chosen last year by the Ministry of Education to hold teacher trainings over the next 5 years. In 2018, we held 10 seminars for 407 female and male teachers who live in rural areas and have never had any teacher training before. The training was eye-opening to them as they learned about such basic matters as: how to write lesson plans and the benefits of treating their students kindly and with compassion. They also learned valuable and modern interactive teaching techniques which will inspire and engage their students.



*The human spirit is awareness
that has been tested by tests and trials.
Those who have greater awareness
have greater spirits.*

Rumi



In January this year, I began working with 70 young female leaders (aged 21-30) in Herat on a new Women's Empowerment Program. All the women are university graduates and many have masters and doctorate degrees. All of them hold leadership positions at the local, provincial or national level. They came to me wanting to learn more about being effective leaders and so we formulated this program. AIL Senior training staff help to develop topics the women are interested in and they use Telegraph daily to write their ideas and questions. The group meets twice a month to discuss the topics. These capable women are learning to work together and support each other. Amazingly, every woman in the group felt empowered to run for some sort of office in recent elections! You will be able to read more about this program in our annual report which is due out in the spring of 2019.

This year we also added new topics to our Leadership Program for youth and young potential leaders. We held conferences on good governance, good citizenship and democracy and some of the speakers at these events were from the Women's Empowerment Group.

Radio Meraj has been particularly important this year for those who cannot travel because of insecurity. Meraj provides them with news, education and health programs and election information. Next year, TV Meraj will be able to provide even more educational programs. We have purchased most of the equipment that we need and the TV staff are busy preparing programs in the new office space which was added to our Herat office building. English classes have begun which are preparing students for the opening of our women's university. The government is busy updating rules and regulations related to TV and universities and we expect to receive permission to proceed with both programs as soon as this updating is complete.

Thank you again for all that you are doing to support AIL and please consider continuing to support our programs in 2019.

Sakena



Education changed my life. It empowered me and gave me confidence. I want to give all Afghan women this power.





I was embarrassed about being illiterate before this Mobile Literacy Class. Now, I am so proud of myself because I can read and write!

An Internally Displaced Person in a remote rural district of Herat Province : *"Radio Meraj is our main source of news and information. We listen to the radio every day & night. Before Meraj we were not aware of what was going on. Thanks to Meraj and the team at the station, they keep us up to date and our knowledge of social, economic and political issues has much improved."*



Leadership Class demonstrates good citizenship



Hygiene learned in Bon Health Education Class

From a woman visiting the AIL Legal Clinic:

I learned about my rights listening to the Women's Rights under Islam and other programs about the law on Radio Meraj.



From teachers at a seminar:

I learned how to write a lesson plan...

*to be softer and kinder with my students-
they are small....*

*to use new techniques to keep
my students interested.*



AIL January to October

Education

46 Learning Centers

27,727 students

3 new centers opened

11 Mobile Literacy classes

385 females, 93% test out at 4th grade

Health

204,412 patients served

1 new outreach clinic

147,392 health education participants

Training

407 teachers trained

12,210 students who benefit from those teachers

937 trained in leadership, human rights

198 attended health workshops

Lives Impacted Since 1996

16.4 million

Your support
for
the Afghan
and Tibetan
projects means:
expanding education,
health and training programs,
increasing people's awareness of
leadership capacity, personal capability
the importance of good citizenship and core values

To Donate

By credit card: www.afghaninstituteoflearning.org, www.creatinghope.org

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