WHO WE ARE

Bamyan Foundation is a non-partisan and volunteer-run section 501(c)(3) charity in Washington DC area. We are dedicated to promoting and providing support to at-risk populations in Afghanistan in the following key areas: education, healthcare, gender equity, community development and youth empowerment. We believe improvements in these areas will yield sustainable and equitable development in Afghanistan which, in turn, is key to the country’s stability.

Our approach is to work with reliable community-organized and community-sustained organizations with a proven record of impactful service, and low overhead costs (in 2016, our overhead cost was about 5%). We do not create grassroots organizations, we support those that have already proven their value to—and that they’re valued by—the community. We believe empowering institutions with histories of service is the path to mobility, growth, and stability in Afghanistan.
The Foundation’s biggest project to date is the construction of a library at Haidar Abad School in Bamyan, Afghanistan. There has been extensive research indicating that exposing children at early stages in their development to the written word increases exponentially their vocabulary, reading speed, and comprehension. Thus, development of a project for a library in Bamyan meets a crucial need for the young students and the community. We signed a contract earlier this year with the Administrative Council of Haidar Abad School in Bamyan to construct and fund a library that will provide access to books for primary and secondary students at the school. This project will reach 1352 female and male students from grades 1 to 12. The construction cost amounted to $14310. Learn more about this ongoing project here: bamyanfoundation.org/library-project/
TUITION COVERAGE: MAREFAT HIGH SCHOOL (KABUL)

Financial aid is the most effective method in helping students of lower socioeconomic status avoid pressures to leave school and contribute to family income. In 2016 The Bamyan Foundation provided 24 merit and need-based scholarships – 20 of them to girls-to students at Marefat High School. Marefat is one of the highest performing private schools in the country, and one of the most effective at preparing students for university. In 2017 so far, we’ve expanded the number of students we support to 28 full and partial scholarships. These scholarship costs amounted to $4896 in 2016 and $5000 in 2017. More information is available at http://bamyanfoundation.org/tuition-coverage-with-marefat-high-school/

TUITION COVERAGE: BABA HIGH SCHOOL (BAMYAN)

In 2010 Amina Hassanpur a local leader, formed Baba School with an initial student body of 26 children. In 2015 the students moved into a large new building funded by Mary Jae Abbit, an American who had worked in Bamyan. Today Baba School has grown to 274 students in grades K-10, and girls and boys attend class together. An engaged Parent Teacher Association meets quarterly, and all teachers are certified. The school provides children with access to a computer lab, library, and outdoor playground. We covered full tuition for 3 girls and 3 boys at Baba School at a total cost of $1,110. You can find the student biographies on our website at http://bamyanfoundation.org/bamyan-baba-high-school/
The ROYA Mentorship Program was started in June 2016 by ROYA – Resources of Young Afghans, a U.S. nonprofit organization. Currently, the program operates in Kabul, Bamyan and Ghor Provinces serving approximately 170 needy Afghan youth. The program was developed to provide needy students with free private English classes, computer training and weekly internet access. A second model was developed when it began to provide child laborers with monthly wage replacement stipends so they could stop working and focus on their studies. A third model was developed in collaboration with the Bamyan Foundation to cover costs for needy children to attend local private schools. The Bamyan Foundation has committed to help eight former child laborers to attend the Pegah Private High School in Kabul, three girls and five boys. The Foundation covers the costs of uniforms, books, transportation and tuition fees. Roya academic year cost amounted to $1410 and the winter session costs were $198.

Learn more about Roya at http://bamyanfoundation.org/tuition-coverage-through-roya/