



# Springs of Water To Afghanistan

A Global Catalyst for Sustainable Economic and Community Development



### Mission & Method

Morning Star Development is a non-profit community and economic development organization committed to help the people of Afghanistan rebuild their country and their lives by offering both resources and practical hope. We focus on bringing transformational change through sustainable economic and community development initiatives in health care, education, agriculture and small

business development. We work through strategic partnerships to advance initiatives that improve the quality of life for Afghan people and provide opportunities for local capacity building. Morning Star staff work as volunteers or raise their own support so that all funds given to Morning Star go directly to aid Afghans.



1. Community Development Initiator creating business and capacity building projects. Morning Star hires Afghans to spearhead our programs and these leaders in turn employ other Afghans.



- 2. Advisor to the Government of Afghanistan, NGOs, corporations and individuals, providing guidance, resources and technical expertise in sustainable development initiatives in health care, education, agriculture and small business development. Morning Star Development works closely with local village elders as well as high ranking government officials. Our access to the nation's leadership allows abundant opportunities to share counsel and wisdom with key decision makers
- **3. Global Catalyst** that creates and brokers opportunities for others to gain access and opportunity to assist the nation of Afghanistan in its reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.
- **4. Strategic Partner** using an innovative entrepreneurial approach. Our synergistic partnerships allow us to accomplish what no single organization can do on its own. We mobilize people, material and financial resources to assist the Afghan people in rebuilding their country. Since the needs are so great and our resources limited, we work as a catalyst whenever possible, growing and gaining strength by helping others. Morning Star Development (MSDEV) has demonstrated itself to be a highly effective, cutting edge NGO building institutional, governmental and economic and leadership capacity in post-Taliban Afghanistan. MSDEV has proven relationships with key Afghan officials that have been tempered by the adversity common in a recovering state. These relationships enable MSDEV to conceptualize, strategize, communicate and implement initiatives with favor, impact and sustainable success.



Established in 2002, MSDEV is a United States based 501 (c) (3) corporation registered as an NGO in Afghanistan. Founder and President Daniel Batchelder uses his background in business and natural resource management, and his fourteen years of Afghan cultural experience to provide the expertise and cross-cultural skill needed for development progress. Morning Star's goal is a civil society and government that rules justly, promotes economic freedom and invests in people.

Working through strategic partnerships, MSDEV's successful initiatives include (1) Community Centers for rural Afghanistan, (2) the Institute for Leadership Development in Herat, (3) medical clinics and (4) Educational Initiatives in literacy, English, computers, and Community Health Education.

(1) The Community Center concept employs a MSDEV strategy which is endorsed by the Afghan



government. The Tangi Saidan Village Community Center (One of four) located 20 miles south of Kabul (serving Afghan families from 39 villages) is a reproducible template for rural Afghanistan where 85% of the populace resides. Each Community Center includes:

- An Education Facility that provides a culturallyappropriate setting for women to gather, supplemental and vocational education, community health education, literacy training, computer skills, a large meeting room and library.
- A Communications Facility that includes: a private community radio station to serve the 39 surrounding villages, a business center equipped with a copy machine, printer, desk-top publishing service, internet café and SAT telephone.
- The Medical Clinic is a key component of each Community Center. Disease prevention, inoculations, health check-ups, prenatal care, traditional birthing

center and tuberculosis treatment and prevention are a few of the basic services provided. MSDEV, in partnership with the *Afghan Ministry of Health*, assures that each Clinic is in compliance with the *Basic Package of Health Services for Afghanistan* document.

- Additionally each Community Center includes a staff house, recreational facilities, land for agriculture demonstration projects, and a shop used for vocational education and training.
- (2) The **Institute for Leadership Development** (ILD), located in Herat and Kabul, Afghanistan is equipping the men and women who will lead with the ideas, skill sets, and a new mindset that is crucial for success. The political, social, economic, and educational challenges of a recovering state require competent leadership.

MSDEV is using a proven leadership development curriculum targeted at Afghans currently positioned in key public and private sector roles. The curriculum, combined with the influential status of the selected "A Global Catalyst for Sustainable Economic and Community Development"

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students, makes the ILD a rich environment for leadership transformation that will impact the institutional, governmental and, economic realms of Afghanistan. These Afghan leaders will increase Afghanistan's absorptive capacity and facilitate a timely graduation from development aid toward sustainable success.

- (3) Medical Clinics: MSDEV is currently involved in four medical clinics in varying levels of self-sustainability. MSDEV has initiated each clinic as a startup and progressively withdrawn as the clinics have grown toward independent Afghan operation.
  - The two most recent clinics are in rural Kabul Province, a region assigned to MSDEV by the *Afghan Ministry of Health* in recognition for MSDEV's success. The Lalander and Jegdalek areas experienced heavy property damage and casualties over the past three decades. The Lalander clinic serves 3,200 people living in twenty villages and the Jegdalek clinic serves 25,000 people from fifty-seven villages. *The District Governor enthusiastically stated, "Our people are completely with Morning Star. We want you to come. We welcome you to this district. ...we will cooperate in every way."*
  - The most established clinic is part of the **Community Center** at Tangi Saidan, which is now seeing 1,200 patients a month.
  - The fourth clinic is campus based through a cooperative effort with *Kabul University*. With 15,000 university students, 600 teaching staff, 518 administrative staff and 100 kindergarten students (the children of female University staff), the *Kabul University Medical Clinic* (KUMC) offers the opportunity to introduce a fee-for-service medical delivery model in an environment where nearly everything is provided at no charge. Both delivery systems will be needed in an Afghanistan independent of development aid.



MSDEV has a proven track record of bringing hope and opportunity to people in fragile / recovering states through sustainable economic and community development initiatives designed to empower individuals and transform communities. MSDEV's strategic objectives are to 1) assist the peoples of Afghanistan to rebuild their communities and lives through economic and community development initiatives. 2) Establish and implement a model of sustainable

development that is readily transferable to other fragile / recovering states. 3) Serve as a global catalyst to mobilize a broad spectrum of resources to achieve transformational development in fragile / recovering states. 4) Develop the institutional capacity necessary to accomplish our strategic objectives in pursuit of MSDEV's broader vision and mission.



## 2009 Major Activities



**Delivered** 267 babies with over 1,000 women receiving maternal medical care in our three rural Medical Clinics. These clinics logged 38,027 patient visits with 19,000 children less than 5 years of age. Caring for one baby and one mother at a time, we are changing the dismal statistics on infant and maternal mortality in Afghanistan. Our birthing centers provide an alternative for young Afghan women who have traditionally given birth at home, in challenging and unsanitary conditions.



**Established** 33 literacy classes for women in Dari, each taught by a teacher trained in our program. This year alone nearly 500 women have learned to read and write in their own language through these classes. Many of these women, now in their late teens and early 20's, missed an opportunity to study during the Taliban time and have been reluctant to join in classes with younger girls. Morning Star is assisting these young women in their quest to make up for lost time.



**Graduated** 25 new students from our Institute for Leadership Development (ILD) in the western city of Herat. This training consists of a one year program teaching the "best practices" of Leadership Development from around the world. Fully 10% of all our graduates have received a Fulbright or other international scholarship to study abroad for a Masters Degree. All our graduates are now connected via an online forum where they continue to network and share their experiences and opportunities with each other. The Institute for

Leadership Development provides graduate level training in leadership for university graduates already working in key leadership positions in Afghanistan.





Conducted 11 Medical training seminars offered by Dilip Joseph, Morning Star's Medical Advisor. These seminars focused on the spread of communicable diseases including Hepatitis, Malaria, Influenza as well as diarrhea and dehydration. This training is part of our ongoing efforts to upgrade the skills of our 20 medical staff members who operate Morning Star's four Medical Clinics.



**Hosted** nearly 3000 guest nights in our Team House, including more than 25 short term teams and families. These teams volunteered in Morning Star's projects as teachers of English, literacy, computers and leadership; as health care professionals, counselors and mentors. Short term teams are provided with airport pick-up and drop-off, comfortable rooms, three meals per day, internet access, cell phones, laundry, vehicles, and translators.



**Expanded** our Community Centers to Badakshan province. The Morning Star Community Center in Faizabad Afghanistan offers literacy training, English classes, sports and recreation programs and computer training. Close to 400 students come to this Center every day to access this training.



**Provided** over 30,000 packets of garden vegetable seeds to Afghan families throughout rural Afghanistan. In this largely agrarian society, most families grow their own food so these seeds are planted in vegetable gardens, harvested and consumed by the families receiving them. This project has done more to win hearts and minds than most initiatives twice its size.



## **Child Survival Initiative**

A project of Morning Star Development January 2010



Afghanistan has the second highest infant mortality rate and third highest child mortality rate in the world. One of every four children born in Afghanistan dies before they reach age 5. An effective medical sector is a necessary key to a stable society, and it is one of the most basic ways to build successful relationships with rural Afghans. To make a positive impact in changing these significant problems, Morning Star Development operates four clinics in rural Afghanistan where much of our medical effort is focused on improving the health of women and children.

The majority of these childhood deaths are related to three causes: 1) a lack of availability to clean water, 2) little access to trained medical staff or midwives, and 3) a general lack of health knowledge on maternal health issues.

At our medical clinics, trained staff are familiar with the causes and solutions to these problems. In addition to providing important primary care, medical staff and Community Health Workers train rural Afghans on the importance of hygiene and clean water. The staff

2009 Child Survival Profile:	
Girls < 5 treated: Boys <5 treated: Pregnancy/Birth Care:	9,836 9,786 2,396
Total	22,018

monitors growth rates of children, provides immunization against potential common diseases, and offers supplemental nutrition to children suffering from malnutrition. Also, trained midwives work in MSDEV birth clinics, where they are equipped with the knowledge and tools to help mothers give birth in a healthy, sterile environment to give their baby a good chance for survival.

For more information contact Brian Anderson <u>brian@msdev.org</u> 719-266-8900. You may donate online at <u>www.msdev.org</u>. Your gifts are tax deductible.



## **Elevating Women Initiative**

A Project of Morning Star Development January 2010

Much has been written about the plight of women in Afghanistan. From being restricted in their movement outside the home, to having traditional limits on their education, to not having access to medical staff for pregnancies and births, women have a difficult life in most regions of Afghanistan. However, throughout the developing world, empowering women and girls has been shown to be a vital step in promoting stability, increasing economic growth and improving standards of life for whole communities. Morning Star Development is seeking partners to help us increase our capacity to empower women and girls throughout Afghanistan.





Currently, we operate a number of projects focused specifically on women and girls such as leadership training, literacy, teacher training courses and English lessons. Much of the medical effort in our rural clinics is directed toward the health of women and children. MSDEV medical staff trains local women on the importance of hygiene, clean water, and potential medical problems for their children. Midwives also

help women give birth in safe and sterile clinics.

Morning Star is doing all it can to support momentum toward a New Afghanistan where

women regain a respected position in society, and where women's contributions are valued. Please consider helping us expand opportunities for Afghan women.

2009 Elevation Women Profile:	
Women's leadership training students:	7
Girls computer training:	542
Girls English training:	10,759
Women and girls Dari literacy:	1,611
Girls Only Schools:	250
Birth and Prenatal Care	2,396
Girls <5 treated at clinics:	9,836
Females >5 treated at clinics:	13,295

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## Institute for Leadership Development

A Project of Morning Star Development

January 2009

Morning Star Development seeks funding partners to support the operation of our Institute for Leadership Development. Located in the city of Herat, Afghanistan, the ILD offers 21<sup>st</sup> century leadership training to emerging Afghan leaders.

The core training program for both men and women is delivered by highly qualified professionals, and offers best-practices in leadership training from a global perspective. This private, one-year program is offered in association with the University of Herat.

The ILD has a selective application process and accepts only a limited number of highly qualified students each year. Contrary to the culture in Afghanistan, the ILD welcomes women into the program.



#### 2009 Profile:

Location: Herat, Afghanistan

Program Length: 1 year # of Students: 25
Tuition: \$1500/Student

In a country where 60% of the population is under the age of 20 and life expectancy is in the mid 40's, the ILD is strategically engaging the future leaders of the "New Afghanistan".

A testimony to the effectiveness of the school can be seen in the selection of Fulbright Scholarships to study in the US, which were awarded by the US Embassy in Herat. In 2007,

over three hundred students applied for just four scholarships – all four scholarships went to ILD students.

The ILD also offers training seminars in leadership for government officials and University professors. The school also hosts specialized training opportunities available through partner organizations.

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Below are highlights of activities Morning Star has undertaken over the past several years

#### • 2009 Medical Highlights:

- 38,027 Total medical patients
- 19,000 Patients under 5 years old
- Over 1000 women received maternal medical care
- 11 medical training seminars
- 54 Community Health Workers

#### • Education Highlights:

- 1,844 Literacy and English Students
- 514 Female literacy students
- 324 Computer training students
- 33 literacy classes for women in Dari, each taught by a teacher trained in our program.
- 250 Girls educated in home-based schools in Wardak

#### • Agriculture Highlights:

- Distributed \$70,000 worth of garden seeds throughout Afghanistan
- Agricultural training and demonstration site for modern agricultural practices

#### • Institute for Leadership Development:

- Graduated 106 students, many of whom were leaders of NGOs in Herat. Some received prestigious international scholarships

