

For Private Circulation Only

July 31, 2023 Newsletter

### From the Executive Director

Dear All,

Last month we have crossed the half way mark of our work in this year. You might have heard in the news about the law being enacted to suspend the women staff from working with NGOs except in education and health sector. This is apart from not allowing girl children to attend schools above class 6, has affected our work. However, we could continue to serve the people of Afghanistan in different ways through our work.

We have received the protocol approved for our livelihood programme from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) and for the Community Health Programme from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH). We have continued to implement our Inclusive Education programme for children with disability. However, recently, the government had asked all INGOs to handover the education programmes to local NGOs. We have presented our case before the Ministry of Education (MoEd) and they understood that our programmes are more technical in nature and they may allow us to function. We are waiting for the protocol to be approved.

Even though we are delayed to implement most of our livelihood and health programmes, we have made plans to complete the task by the end of December 2023. I have met the Directors of Economy, Directors of MoLSA and Directors of Public Health in Nangarhar, Laghman and Kandahar respectively, and sought their support for our work. They have assured their support to us.

I have given below the details of the work being carried out from January – July 2023. This was made possible because of the supporting friends and partners like you. Your generous donation is helping us to reach out and meet the needs of the people in Afghanistan.

I recognize that it was His grace, your prayers and financial support that has helped us to come thus far. I request you all to continue to uphold us in your prayers, be the ambassador of Serve Afghanistan and promote our work among your families, friends and other donors, so that we can continue to transform the lives of the people with whom we intervene in Afghanistan.

Regards,

Kennedy Dhanabalan Executive Director

### 1. Relief Operations

In 2023, Serve Afghanistan has provided relief items to 2140 families with food items, hygiene materials and blankets in Kandahar, Nangarhar, Laghman and Parwan Provinces.

### The relief package consists of -

Food Items	Wheat flour – 50 kgs, Local Rice – 25 kgs, Cooking oil – 10 litres, Red beans – 7 kgs, Salt – 2 kgs.
	4 Hand washing soap cakes (200g), 5 Laundry soap (200g), 2 Toothpaste- 125 g, 8 Tooth brush – big 4 pieces (adults) and small 4 pieces (children), Masks 8 pieces
Winterization Kit	2 Blankets

### Case study

Salim (name changed) son of Mohammad Jan Khan from Pachir Agam district of Nangarhar Province. He is disabled. He was working with a tailor to sew children's clothes but in rural area people are poor and there are not enough customers. His two small sons have thalassemia and require blood transfusion. His small daughter has heart problem and needs intensive care.

He was running out of ration and that's the time Serve Afghanistan staff surveyed his village and provided the needed food and other support. He was so happy and thanked God and Serve staff for the timely help provided.



# 2. Inclusive Education for Children with Hearing and Visual impairment

We are continuing with the Inclusive Education for Children with Hearing and Visual Impairment Projects in all three regions, Central Region (Kabul & Parwan Provinces), Eastern Region (Nangarhar & Laghman Provinces) and Kandahar Region. During this year, we are providing education support to 861 Children with Disabilities (399 Hearing Impaired, 269 Visually Impaired, 95 low vision, 78 physically impaired and 20 intellectually disabled). Among them there are 344 girls and 517 boys. The children in pre-school are 204, in school are 616 and in University are 41. We also provide assistive devices and referral services for children with disabilities.

# Case study

I am Rahim (name changed), son of Gulzaman. I am living in Khoshgonbat village of Bahsood district, Nangarhar province. I am 10 years old and I am hearing impaired. I used to feel very low as people used to make fun of me and teased me, calling disgraceful names. I had deep desire to learn and get education. But my father was not interested as we were poor and could not afford education.



One day Serve Afghanistan's field staff discussed about their programs with my father and my father allowed me to join the programme.

I am currently studying in KG1 class with other children with hearing impairment. The school is near our house in Khoshgonbat village. I am learning Afghan Sign Language. Now I am learning many things and I can do so many things independently like buying food and other material from shop and bring it to our house. Also my teacher had a meeting with my family members, neighbours and requested them to support and motivate me. This helped me to gain acceptance in my locality.

### 3. Income Generation Programmes

As mentioned above, we have received the protocol approved by the government only in the month of July 2023. We will be supporting the poor and needy and specially people with disability and women headed households through Income Generation Activities for 1728 families and extend support to care for livestocks for around 2200 families in





the targeted areas to increase the income of the people. Through this programme we will be supporting people who have been rehabilitated from de-addiction centres in Kabul and Kandahar. The level of our intervention has increased with the generous donation given by individuals like you and other organizations. We are also providing care for cattles in 20 villages through animal husbandry programme.

# **4. Mother Tongue Literacy (Pashai) Programme**As you might know that in 2009, we received UNESCO

Award for the work we did in developing the Pashai (a

minority language in Afghanistan) Mother Tongue literacy Programme. We continue to provide quality education for Pashai speaking children to excel in their education. This year 540 children are provided education, 220 children through preschool programme and 320 in after-school programme. There are 320 boys and 220 girls supported through this programme.

# **Case Study**

Razia (name changed) is D/o Qadar Khan. She is eight years old. She belongs to a poor family. She is living in Ghonday village, in Shewa district of Nangarhar Province. She is a student of after-school class.

The Government education system was not in their mother language (Pashai). Pashto language is spoken in school. Since she did not know Pashto language, she was not able to join school to continue her education.

The project provides the Pashai children with preschool classes where they learn the script using

Pashai language and then taught Pashto language in after-school classes for boys and girls.



Now Razia is studying in after-school programme. This helps her to understand her lessons in Pashai. She is also beginning to understand the Pashto language. She is doing well in her study and she enjoys reading.

# 5. Community Health Programme

We have started our Community Health programme in Kakor (Dasht-e-Barchi area) in Kabul. We are in the process of recruiting staff for two other Community health programmes with a Basic Health Centre in Alishang district in Laghman and Panjwayee district in Kandahar.

# Our need for 2023/2024:

- Funds to support 3000 poor and needy families with food, hygiene kit and blankets which can help them to sustain the two months of winter period in 2023. The total cost is \$690,000. The cost per beneficiary family is \$240.
- New Income Generation Programmes in Wardak Province \$200,000 (2024).
- Income Generation Programme for 200 widows in support with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) \$100,000 (2024).
- New Inclusive Education Programme in Wardak, Logar, Kapisa and Parwan Provinces \$200,000 (2024).
- Urgently need a couple or experienced person who have lived in Afghanistan to coordinate expats and to provide care for them.
- Professionals Doctors, nurses, midwives, agriculturist and entrepruner
- Experts in Public Health, Monitoring & Evaluation person, Finance strategist, Braille and Sign languages.

### **BANK DETAILS**

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