

THE AFGHANISTAN BLIND WOMEN AND CHILDREN FOUNDATION

## The Afghanistan Blind Women and Children Foundation

The ABWC Newsletter

Issue 2

April—June 2015



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### Message from the President

Despite all the difficulties the ABWC Foundation faced, we are delighted to inform you that the Foundation was able to sponsor five college students in continuing their education. We sent Perkins braille machines, stylus and slates, tactile systems, braille

paper, and money for transportation. Please click [here](#) to hear from one of the students, Ghulam Abbas Allah Nazar.

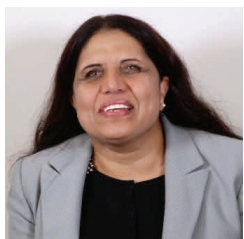
Farzana Fayaz, an English Literature Major, was given \$400 to have her learning materials translated from Persian to English in order to accommodate her professor's request at school. To hear about her accomplishment and the work of the ABWC, please click [here](#).

We also purchased educational toys and other necessary supplies, such as slate and stylus, for blind children from 1st to 4th grade, to assist them with their studies.

Exciting news! We have a contract with the Noor Hospital and the Kabul Blind High School in Afghanistan to provide medical surgical equipment and to improve the quality of publishing services for the blind in Kabul by providing braille embossers, computers, monitors, etc. By having these braille embossers, the publishing service will be able to print material in braille in quickly (16 pages in one minute). This will accelerate the work of the publishing service to publish books in the future.

Again, I would like to extend a very big THANK YOU to all those who have supported the ABWC in the past. Without your generosity, we could not have made it this far.

Elizabeth Periman



### Message from the Founder and Chairperson

Dear Friends, Colleagues and Family Members,

I am honored to have the chance to release my message through the ABWC

newsletter. As most of you know, I am planning to participate in the San Francisco marathon to help and assist 12 young blind students for their higher education.

My message to you all is that one penny will make a difference. We don't have to be in a high authority of the society or government to make a difference. We just need to be an ordinary individual with a passion to help people who are needy. With your contribution, these 12 students will have their dreams come true. It is so amazing and extraordinary to be part of their dreams and see the bright future for them.

The material that these students need is very simple in US, but is very essential to blind students in Afghanistan, since they do not have this material available in the country: Braille paper, Slate and stylus, Perkins Braille Writer, Recorder and Tactile System. These supplies will help these students to shape their future.

Respectfully yours,

Nooria Nodrat

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/nooria-runs-san-francisco-marathon-for-abwc#/story>

### Message from the Country Representative



I would like to inform you of our recent activities for the Visually Impaired and Vocational High School of Kabul. The individual that are struggling more in the country due to their disabilities.

We motivated students with our several programs, provided sport materials like badminton with tens of shuttlecock, sport grass seeds and water hose for the green field of School. We

also provided personal necessities like walking canes as well as educational supplies such as Perkins Braille machines, Stylus and slates, and Thermaform sheets.

These supplies were also given to the Education University of Kabul.

Most of our Visually Impaired and Vocational High School of Kabul employees are low vision or blind women. We provide fees for their necessary medical treatment to help improve their quality of life.

In addition to working with the above schools, we also worked and cooperated with DAF School of Kabul. We repaired the school kitchen and provided food for several months in the year 2014 and 2015 for all 315 students.

We're optimistic for the new generation of Afghanistan and we believe that disability is not inability! Please continue to help us change lives!

Best Wishes,

Mandozai Badr



Children playing on swings at the school

### Help Nooria raise funds for blind Afghan women and children

Nooria Nodrat, ABWC's Founder and Chairperson, will be running her 11th marathon in San Francisco on July 26th, 2015. Nooria is a blind athlete and has participated in marathons in New York and Chicago to raise funds for various causes and non-profits including the ABWC Foundation. For more information, [click on this video](#).

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### Aisha's Story of Survival



On September 7, 2013, little Aisha's life was changed forever. She was riding in her family's truck on the way back home from a day of shopping and doctor's appointments, when 5 drones hit the vehicle she was in.

Being severely injured (she lost both eyes, her nose and her hand), little Aisha was unable to be treated in Afghanistan and the decision was made to send her to the US—without the consent of her family.

Her uncle, Myajan Safi, decided to find her. First he had to sell 3 of his 4 cows in order to fund his search. This was an extreme financial burden as Myajan is the sole breadwinner for his family.

After going to many different organizations for more than 6 months, he still had no luck. It was only through a television interview that he was able to learn about Aisha's fate.

An Afghan American woman had taken Aisha in and was taking care of her using her own money. Myajan was able to speak with Aisha via Skype and phone.

Myajan is now working to get Aisha back home to Afghanistan. ABWC is glad to support Aisha's education when she gets back home to Afghanistan.

If you would like to donate:

Please send checks to:  
Aisha Safi c/o Ghotai Ghazialam  
8604 Farrell Court  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Or you can send your contribution to the below bank account  
Citibank

Account number: [9109108139](#)  
Routing number: 052002166  
Swift Code: CITIUS33