The Maria-Helena Foundation

(Registered Charity Number 89250 2725 RR0001)

# 919 – 4438 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6R 4R8

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**www.mariahelenafoundation.org**

**Annual Newsletter** November, 2018

Dear Family & Friends:

Please note that we now have a P.O. Box address. Kindly use this address instead of our home address. This new address will allow other members of the Board to pick up our mail when we are away.

This year we did not sponsor any new projects but used funds for the completion of one large project:

1. The Human Development Foundation (HDF) Lieba-Helena School for Girls in the village of Mirwas, which is close to the city of Mardan, has been completed. It was an existing school that needed a large expansion. We paid for the purchase of extra land and construction of additional classroom, costing MHF a total of $77,099. About 360 students are currently registered – all girls.

As you know, our mandate is to provide educational and medical aid to poor families in South Asia, and to offer bursaries to qualified university students in financial need in Canada. We are concentrating mainly on providing **educational aid** to the poor in Pakistan. All our projects are in Pakistan and are in partnership with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Bursary Fund at the University of British Columbia is continuing. Below we present a brief description of our programs.

**IN PAKISTAN: EDUCATION**

**A.** **Permanent Primary Schools:** (Program started in 2000). Typically, the local community provides the land. We pay for construction of the school building, consisting of six classrooms, as well as for furniture and equipment. Due to huge inflation in construction costs, these schools now cost us somewhere between $100,000 and $120,000. Our Pakistani partners manage the schools, charging low fees and covering the operating losses by donations collected locally. In these schools, which are self-sustaining after building has been completed, tuition fees are generally about $4 per month, and a teacher’s salary is between $60 and $100 a month. All schools are co-educational and non-sectarian, and the teachers are almost exclusively women. We have helped establish 21 such schools; some large and some small. On page 3 is a table of all schools completed.

**B. Temporary One-Room Primary Schools** (Program started in 2001). These are one-room, one-teacher schools meant for the poorest children and for working children. Classes are held at the teacher’s home or in a community building. Students do not pay any fees. We provide them with books, notebooks, and mats or benches to sit on, and also pay the teacher's salary. All schools are co-educational and non-sectarian. In the Pakistani school system, the primary school academic program is five years (60 months). In the home-school system, due to fewer holidays, the same curriculum is covered in 36-40 months. Typically, the cost of supporting one such school of 25 to 35 students is about $1,550 per year. For several years we have been sponsoring 15 such schools, with an enrollment of about 500 students, in partnership with Kawish Welfare Trust. These schools are in several villages in the district of Bahawalnagar. Sorry to say this year we missed renewing this program due to some missed communications. We will be restarting support of this program from next spring.

**C. Nobel Laureate Dr. Abdus Salam Science Scholarships for High School Girls:** (Program started in 2014). We have at present16girls in Grades 9 and 10 receiving these scholarships valued at $12 per month.

**D. Fee Concessions:** (Program started in 2009). This is an ongoing program for primary school children, which offers fee-concessions, formerly called Scholarships, valued at $4 per month per student. Currently, 200 such fee-concessions are being offered in three schools, all in Karachi.

**IN PAKISTAN: SKILLS TRAINING**

We have helped establish two small vocational schools in which young girls and women learn traditional needlecraft and sewing. This training helps the invisible household economy of poor families, and can potentially generate income from outside work.

**1. Nani Maria Vocational School, Lahore** (2000).In this two-room school, situated in Kot Lakhpat, Lahore, the enrollment has varied from 20 to 40 students. Al-Khidmat Foundation manages this school.

**2. Dr. Marilyn Mohan Vocational School, Pind Dadan Khan** (2007). This one-room vocational school is

located in Khewra, district Jhelum, situated within a girls high school.

**IN PAKISTAN: HEALTH**

**1. Amina Jabbar Trust Hospital, Lahore** (1998).This, our first project, is an outpatient hospital, the size of a single-family detached bungalow in Vancouver. It is managed by Al-Khidmat Foundation. About 80 patients per day receive a medical examination and 3 days of medication at a nominal cost of 25 cents per patient, about one-sixth the cost of private care.

**2. Medical Examination of Primary School Children** (Program started in 2005).At a cost of only $1 per child per year, about 1,000 children in primary schools in Bahawalnagar are examined and their health reports sent to their parents.

**IN CANADA: BURSARY**

**The Maria-Helena Bursary Fund, University of British Columbia (2000). The bursaries are awarded annually from the income generated from the capital of this fund. The university selects the recipients.**

*Thank you all for your continued support and prayers. Let us know if you have any questions.*

Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Dr. Diane Fast

President Vice-President

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#919 - 4438 West 10th Ave Vancouver, B.C. V6R 4R8

Amount of Donation: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Make cheques payable to The Maria-Helena Foundation)

Please indicate: For projects in Pakistan\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or for bursary at UBC\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or for both\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Family Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_First Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please print legibly, thank you)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ e-mail\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PERMANENT PRIMARY/MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOLS\***

\*A primary school will have 100-300 students, a middle school 60-90 students, and a high school up to 500 students.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of School | Year Established | District (Village) Province | Pakistani Partner |
| 1. Fazal Noor Primary School | 2000 | Lahore (Kot Lakhpat)  Punjab | Al-Khidmat |
| 2. Haji Bostan Primary School | 2001 | Lahore (Ghaziabad)  Punjab | Anjuman  Ghaziabad |
| 3. Dadi Helena Primary School | 2004 | Lahore (Dina Nath) Punjab | Care Foundation |
| 4. Maria-Helena Primary School | 2006 | Jhelum (Daryala Jalip) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 5. Hazara TM Public High School  *(combined primary and high school rebuilt after the 2005 earthquake)* | 2007 | Shinkiari  Khyber Pakhtoon Kh.  Province | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 6. Ratwal Residential Primary School  *(For orphans of the 2005 earthquake. We provided six classrooms)* | 2008 | Islamabad  (Ratwal) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 7. Maria-Helena Primary School | 2008 | Khanewal  (Wajhianwala) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 8. Maria-Helena Primary School | 2008 | Jhelum  (Pind Dadan Khan)  Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 9. Maria-Helena Primary School | 2008 | Jhelum  (Lilla village) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 10. Maria-Helena Primary School | 2009 | Jhelum  (Jethal village) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 11. Maria-Helena Primary School | 2009 | Jhelum  (Wara Buland) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 12. Lieba-Helena Primary School | 2011 | Jhelum  (Sugail village) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 13. Talis Primary School *( rebuilt after the 2010 floods)* | 2012 | Talis  (Talis village) Skardu | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 14. Maria-Helena Primary School | 2014 | Mandi Bahauddin  (Dandka Village) Punjab | Tameer-e-Millat |
| 15. HDF Maria-Helena Primary School, extended to a high school for girls in 2016 | 2014 | Islamabad  (Kalya village) Punjab | Human Development  Foundation |
| 16. Maryam-Halima Middle School for Girls | 2015 | Mansehra (Shangri) PK | Friends Welfare Assn. |
| 17. Maryam-Halima Middle School for Girls | 2015 | Mansehra (Raiter) PK | Friends Welfare Assn. |
| 18. HDF Maria-Helena Primary School | 2016 | District Zhob  Zhob Town, Balochistan | Human DevelopmentFoundation |
| 19. HDF Maria-Helena Primary School | 2017 | Rahim Yar Khan (Village 99-IL) Punjab | Human Development Foundation |
| 20. Lieba-Helena Primary School | 2017 | Mansehra (Banda Jalgali) PK | Friends Welfare Assn. |
| 21. HDF Lieba-Helena High School for Girls | 2018 | Mardan (Mirwas) PK | Human Development Foundation |

**A Glimpse at Our Projects in Pakistan**

(Pictures removed to reduce size of newsletter)