

The need for Human Security

Poverty and human security are the major issues facing Afghans. Eighty percent live in rural areas that have received little aid compared to cities. Mir Taqi Shah, Musayee District, Logar Province is a very poor village south of Kabul. There are 120 families of 30 to 50 people per family living with no clean water, health clinic or school for their children. Without clean water the most vulnerable village members— children and women— suffer greatly. Twenty-five percent of children die of preventable diseases such as dysentery from unsafe water before they turn five.



Afghan Well Project

We need your support :

Help Mir Taqi Shah, an Afghan village south of Kabul, build a well for clean drinking water.



Sponsored by:
Women Against War
Global Village Photographer/ Connie
Frisbee Houde
Women for Afghan Women/ Afghan
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Send Tax Deductible Donations to:
Afghan Women's Fund
22 Elm Street
Albany, New York 12202

For more information:
lilyconnie@verizon.net 518-465-0582

Afghan Well Project

A real friend is one who takes the hand of his friend in times of distress and helplessness.

— Afghan Proverb

Goals

The goal of the Afghan Water Project is to support Afghans through local development. The village of Mir Tagi Shah had been controlled by a warlord and was completely demolished during the factional fighting. This left the village members in devastating poverty.

Confronting the underlying causes of humanitarian crises rather than relying on a military solution is a more effective way to address the deep rooted and multi-faceted problems inherent in these crises. It offers a more long-term resolution for the security of individuals. “Freedom from want” and “freedom from fear” are phrases often associated with human security and include economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security.

The most important step in development aid is to ask the elders what *they want and need* to rebuild their community to give the villagers human security and long-term sustainable stability. From her own knowledge as an Afghan American, and from meetings with village elders, Fahima Vorgetts, project advisor, has



Village affected by war and drought.

learned that clean drinking water and irrigation are the beginnings of rebuilding a village. Construction and development of a health clinic, a women’s *shora* (cooperative), and a school for both boys and girls can follow helping the people gain human security. The villagers take a major role in the ownership of each



project by providing expertise and labor and ultimately protecting their investment.

The first step of a multi-phased project is to raise \$10,000 to build a well in Mir Tagi Shah in 2010.

Women Against War advocates for replacing the US military occupation of Afghanistan with development and diplomacy. WAW members work to educate themselves and others in the Capital District about Afghanistan, Pakistan & the need for a negotiated, regional peace settlement.

Global Village Photographer/ Connie Frisbee Houde:

Connie feels compelled to tell the Afghan story through the images she takes. Seeing the humanness of the Afghan people helps us understand that war is not the answer. Particularly important are the voices of Afghan women and innocent children. Connie will document the building of the well and the effect it has on the villagers. She will share her experiences including voices of the villagers as the project progresses.



Afghan Women’s Fund/ Fahima Vorgetts:

Fahima directs the AWF which operates under the auspices of Women for Afghan Women, a 501 c(3) not-for-profit organization headquartered in New York City. As part of her long-term commitment to the women and children of Afghanistan, Fahima raises funds to support projects in Afghanistan where she has helped villages build wells, clinics, open new schools for girls and literacy classes for women. She will be negotiating and overseeing the construction of The Afghan Well Project in collaboration with the capital region Women Against War.

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Make checks payable to:
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