

Shuhada Organization Annual Report 2001



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I. Health

Shuhada Organization implements projects to provide curative and preventive health-care services with the long term goal of expansion towards the establishment of an extensive, efficient, cost effective and self-sustainable health network. Community involvement in the projects is encouraged through small monetary donations and the income thus generated is used to cover some of the basic expenditures of the health centers. A summary description of the currently active health centers is provided as follows.

1. Shuhada Hospital, Jaghori:

This hospital was established in Jaghori district of Ghazni province in 1993. This is a fully equipped hospital with facilities such as an IPD section with 50-bed capacity, an OPD section, vaccination, laboratory, dressing room, X-ray, operating theater and delivery room.

The hospital also offers nurse, mid-wife and health worker training courses from time to time depending on the availability of funds. It also serves as the focal or administrative point for the management of an outreach health service network that comprises of six basic health centers located in different villages. A daily average of 50 to 60 OPD patients visits the hospital.

A district wide vaccination campaign was also launched and coordinated from the Shuhada Hospital.

2. Shuhada Hospital, Behsood:

This hospital was established in Behsood district of Wardak province in 1997. Services and facilities offered include an operating theater, X-ray, laboratory, delivery room, an OPD section and an IPD section with a 12-bed capacity. A daily average of 40 to 60 OPD patients visits the hospital. The hospital was also used as a base for carrying out a district wide vaccination campaign.

3. Shuhada Hospital, Yakawlang:

Activated in 1998 at the Yakawlang district of Bamyan province, this hospital offered the facilities of an operation theater, laboratory, delivery room, an OPD section and 10 bed IPD section. Being the only health facility in the area, the hospital had daily visitation by 40 to 60 patients. A district wide vaccination campaign was also carried out with this hospital, as its focal point.

The hospital remained closed during the year 2001 due to clashes in the area. The Taliban forces bombarded the hospital and three staff members were executed in the massacre that was carried out by the Taliban forces in the area. The hospital operated as a mobile unit through schools and mosques. Currently, the hospital is active and the damaged part of the building is under construction. Shuhada Hospital, Bamyan:

Established in the Bamyan City, the hospital remained closed for an extended period of time due to conflicts in the region. It was re-activated in November. Services and facilities offered include a delivery room, a laboratory, an OPD section and an IPD section with 5 beds. A daily average of 40 to 50 patients visits the hospital.

4. Shuhada Clinics, Lal and Sar-e-Jangal:

These two health clinics in Lal and Sar-e-Jangal villages of the Ghore province were established in 1997 as the first institutions of their kind in the area. A medical doctor and a female nurse staff provide OPD services in each of these clinics. They are also used as centers for providing family planning and personal hygiene information to villages that remain isolated and largely illiterate. Minor health complications are treated at the centers while major cases are diagnosed and referred to the Shuhada Hospital, Yakawlang for advanced medical care.

5. Shuhada Clinic, Kabul:

This MCH clinic was established in the poorest area of Kabul City in 1993 and remained active throughout the period despite heavy fighting. Due to drought in the central part of the country, hundreds of families have rushed to Kabul City where most of them have migrated in the vicinity of the clinic. As a result, the number of patients has increased considerably. Two medical doctors and three nurses staff the clinic. A daily average of 60 to 70 patients visits the clinic for treatment.

6. Shuhada Clinic, Nahoor:

Two health clinics were established in the villages of Nahoor district of Ghazni province in March 2000. These clinics offer OPD, laboratory and delivery room facilities. A medical doctor, two female nurses, one male nurse and one laboratory assistant each staff these clinics. A daily average of 30 to 40 patients visits the clinics. These clinics are also used as centers for providing family planning and personal hygiene information to villagers who remain isolated and largely illiterate.

7. Shuhada Clinic, Quetta:

Also serving as the head office of the Shuhada Organization, the Shuhada Clinic was established at the Quetta City of Pakistan in 1989. Currently, the Clinic operates on a self-sufficient basis rendering such services OPD, immunization, 17 bed IPD section, delivery room, laboratory and X-ray facilities, and an operating theater. The patients are expected to pay a small fee for the services rendered.

During the reporting year, Dr. Mujaddadi visited the clinic. Besides donating medicines and medical equipment, he also trained the hospital staff and also treated patients.

In addition, a group of surgeons from Germany visited the clinic to perform some special plastic surgery operations. This group treated many Afghan refugees and local inhabitants of the area.

8. Shuhada Clinic, Ali Abad - Quetta:

This health clinic was established in the Ali Abad Kirani area in May 2001. A large community of Afghan refugees dominates the area. Although small and limited to offering only the most basic services, the clinic handles an average of 30 to 40 patients daily.

9. Shuhada Health Posts, Jaghori:

Six health posts were established in various villages of Jaghori district in Ghazni province. A qualified female nurse treats the patients with minor ailments at the clinic and refers the complicated cases to the Shuhada Hospital, Jaghori. These health posts are used as centers for providing family planning and personal hygiene information to illiterate and isolated communities.

II. Education

Shuhada Organization lays particular emphasis on the expansion and maintenance of the educational network. It recognizes the primacy of education at all levels as fundamental to individual and community empowerment in general and the empowerment of women in particular. Furthermore, the "brain drain" of professional and intellectual manpower from the country over the past two decades of conflict underscores the essential nature of an education network in Afghanistan.

The numbers of schools currently being administered by the Shuhada Organization in different areas of Hazarajat and Quetta City are as follows:

District	Province	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Staff
Jaghori	Ghazni	21	10,192	438
Malistan	Ghazni	5	1,548	89
Qarabagh	Ghazni	4	1,124	59
Behsood	Wardak	5	1,983	78
Shahristan	Oruzgan	6	1,624	57
Quetta	Balochistan (Pakistan)	3	1,741	67
Yakawlang	Bamyan	5	966	34
Quetta (Shuhada Science Institute)	Balochistan, Pakistan	1	80	18
Total		50	19,258	840

A further four classes of home schools are operating in Kabul city. Two classes of night schools are operating in Araya Girls High School, Quetta and three classes are operating in Rabia Balkhi Girls School, Quetta.

Problems Encountered:

One of the major problems experienced in this sector is the lack of accommodation for schools. The number of new enrollments far exceeds the capacity of the schools, and in addition, the trend over the past few years is of increase in the ratio of new enrollments especially at primary level. Therefore, the sustaining costs for the schools have increased and the accommodation offered by the present buildings has been rendered inadequate.

The community provides 40 % of the staff salaries while the remaining 60 % are provided by the Shuhada Organization with the assistance of various donor agencies. Some donor agencies provide teaching materials and stationary for use in schools. The area faced a major drought throughout the year that has resulted in the weakening of the regional economy. Consequently, the poor

families can no longer afford to contribute the staff salaries. This shortfall in budget was met through fund raising activities by the Shuhada Organization. In the absence of standardized textbooks and the shortage of experienced and trained teachers, a coherent curriculum could not be implemented for all the schools.

A science institute has been established in Quetta City to provide higher education to the students that graduate from the Shuhada administered schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. This institute has two departments of Paramedic and Computer Sciences. The institute has a current enrollment of 80 students and is operated by 18 staff members.

A hostel was also established to provide lodging facilities for the students that arrive from Afghanistan. The hostel currently accommodates 30 students.

III. Income Generation

Shuhada Organization implements programs in this sector to promote self-reliance amongst families that live in and out of Afghanistan. These projects not only provide a mechanism for the revival and promotion of the local cottage industries but are also tools in the economic empowerment of women enabling them to participate in the decision making processes of their families in particular and the society in general. Depending upon the availability of funds, projects implemented in this sector include quilt making, blanket weaving, rug and carpet weaving.

A quilt-making project was started in the Quetta City of Pakistan. The aim of this project was to provide income opportunities to Afghan refugee women. A total of 400 families were involved in the project. Though first phase of the project, a number of 25,000 quilts were produced which were distributed among the refugees, internally displaced, poor and needy Afghan's outside and inside Afghanistan.

IV. Other Projects

1. Training:

The implementation and success of projects in various areas is dependent upon the availability of trained staff. In this respect, Shuhada Organization has associated itself with a variety of projects in health and education sectors since its initial inception. Some of the major programs currently active or completed during the year 2001 are enlisted below:

- **Community Health Worker Training, Nahoor:** This project has been implemented in Nahoor district of Ghazni province. The Project was started in October 2000 and its first phase was completed in October 2001. Through this project a total of 52 trainees have been trained as community health workers. The second phase of the project was started in November 2001 and 48 trainees are currently undergoing training.
- **English Language and Computer Training Courses:** Shuhada Organization offers high level courses in English language and computer training to the female students that graduate from Shuhada administered schools. The training project was started in August 1999. The first and the second phases of the project have been completed. In each phase of the project, 20 students were trained. Currently, a course with an expected duration of one year is operational in Quetta City with an enrollment of twenty trainees. The course was started in August 2001 and will be completed in August 2002.

2. Construction:

This sector covers the construction or the repair of many of the buildings currently accommodating the health and education institutions. During the year 2001, Shuhada Organization implemented projects for the construction of various schools and hospitals in Afghanistan. Furthermore, Shuhada has also implemented projects for the construction of protection walls and check dams.

3. Relief Distribution:

During 2001, Shuhada Organization provided assistance to more than 29,000 refugee, internally displaced and poor families. An additional 27,000 families received relief packages of shelter kits, quilts and food items. Another 1,200 refugee families in Pakistan received similar shelter packages.