

# Partnership for Education of Children in Afghanistan (P.E.C.A.)

## **Our Mission**

**To actively assist, support and participate in  
helping the children in Afghanistan  
by addressing their educational and public health needs.**

## **2004 Annual Report**

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## **2004 Board of Directors**

Mary Jane Anderson  
Regional Director for Women's Federation for World Peace

Patrick Fischer  
American Express Financial Advisors

Barbara Gerten, Chair  
Board member of Minnesota Restorative Services Coalition

Borhanuddin Hassas  
Past Professor of history

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Assistant Headmaster of Leysin American School

Ghafar Lakanwal, Founder  
Executive Director of MultiCultural Development Center (MCDC)

Glenda Marsh, Secretary  
Steering Committee of Peace in the Precincts

Lynn Olson  
Owner of Roots of Success, LLC

Larry Pattee  
Retired educator; Previously Headmaster of a school in Egypt

Laurie Willard (through mid-August)

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## **2004 Report**

by

## **Chair of the Board**

Two achievements of 2004 that will serve Partnership for Education of Children in Afghanistan (P.E.C.A.) well in the future are the Core Value Statements and the impressive, memorable, elegant and educational event at Landmark Center.

Two graduate students working on their capstone project at Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, facilitated an Appreciative Inquiry process which helped us voice the pride we had in developing the organization to that point. Projecting the positive past experiences forward, four Core Value Statements to guide the future work of P.E.C.A. were developed. They have been placed on our redesigned website.

The planning for Extrava'ghanistan began early and tapped into the wonderful and varied skills of board members. The expected outcomes of this event were several: to share Afghan culture, to raise funds, to expand awareness and to actively engage others in the work of P.E.C.A. Thanks to dedicated board members and a group of volunteers the success we dreamed of was truly achieved. After the event, several people expressed their hope that we hold such an event again. The bazaar helped create the cultural atmosphere. People enjoyed the music and dance, the dinner buffet and the chaikhana. They learned about the event in a large number of ways; some through news articles, others personal contact. The result was attendance by over 200 people, 14 sponsorships and just over \$11,000 in net proceeds.

P.E.C.A. is in a great position to launch a new school project. As we place ourselves in the shoes of those who generously gave to this organization, we will make decisions that inspire increased support and involvement. Together building peace one school at a time will gain momentum.

The budget to build a security wall around the 2 acre school, install toilets and dig a well is \$35,000 for the Da Doornamio School. With \$11,000 from Extrava'ghanistan we hope to double the support in 2005 so that this school can be completed by time school begins in March of 2006.

Donors and volunteers, I thank you for choosing P.E.C.A. and the children of Afghanistan as recipients of your gifts. While others may have forgotten the plight of people in that country, you have not. The board members of Afghan heritage and their families often express their immense appreciation for efforts to help children of their homeland. So in Pashtu I say "Tashakur".

Barbara Gerten

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# Program Reports

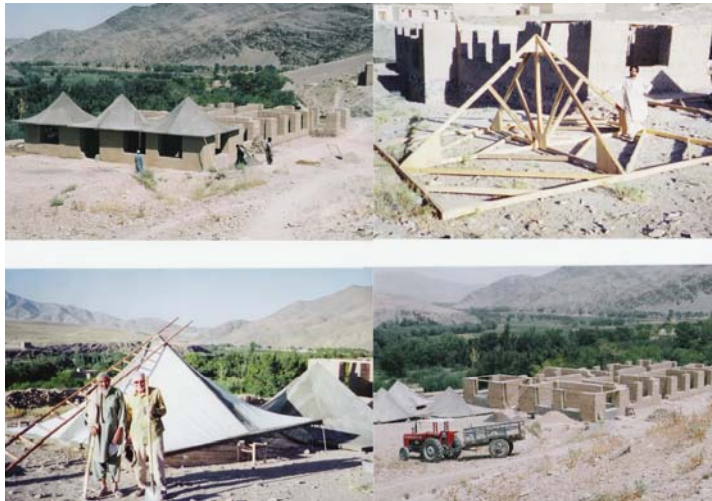
## Education for Girls and Boys in Rural Afghanistan

### School in Wardak Province

Wardak province borders Kabul province on the southwest. The village of Sheik Yasin is a distance off the main highway that leads to Kandahar. The road eventually becomes a narrow road worn in the earth and just before reaching the school a small creek must be crossed without the use of a bridge. A bridge does exist but we were asked not to use it apparently for safety reasons.



When I visited this school building in July 2003, the community had constructed the brick walls covered with plaster on property donated by an American expatriate, Mr. Mayar.



The roof under construction.

Unlike the traditional flat roof, this building would have pitched roof sections on either end. The mid-section would be flat. Engineers Without Borders and Builders Without Borders were consulted on options for the flat section as timber to span the walls was not available.

During the summer of 2004 a wall was built around the school and floors laid in the rooms. The windows and doors were installed before the snow fell. This much needed moisture delayed further work until March of this year. The interior work is nearly done. A well and toilets will complete the building project and the school is scheduled to open in June. The total cost will be close to \$66,000 by the time it is completely finished.

The villagers decided to name the school the Ismael Khan Mayar Primary School. Ismael Khan was Mr. Mayar's father and Governor of Wardak during the reign of King Zahir Shah. The plan is to hand over the school to the Ministry of Education if they have the capacity to pay the operating costs. Otherwise the United

Nations Association of Colorado will pay the costs for the first year.



About 200 girls will attend in the morning and 300 boys in the afternoon. These children are waiting for the school to open.

This school is a project of Afghans 4 Tomorrow with funds contributed by the Afghanistan Foundation, Partners for Peace in Afghanistan, the Episcopal Diocese of New York, **Partnership for Education of Children in Afghanistan (P.E.C.A.)**, the Duddley family and other individuals.

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## **School in Khost Province**

### **Prologue:**

Most assistance to schools in Afghanistan is in the capital city of Kabul and in other urban areas. Schools in less secure rural areas are not being developed; thus, Partnership for Education of Children in Afghanistan (P.E.C.A.) chose the rural province of Khost, a neglected area, which desperately needs attention. P.E.C.A. supports the community in their efforts to educate citizens and in their efforts to enlighten hearts and minds of the majority of people in district.

## **Community Profile of Da Doornamio School of Ishmail Khel / Mandozai district, Khost province, Afghanistan**

### **Location:**

The city of Khost, capital of Khost province, is 222 kilometers southeast of Afghanistan's capital city, Kabul. Ishmail Khel / Mandozai is a rural district in Khost province located 24 kilometers west of the city of Khost.

The damaged, paved road running south of Kabul to Palalam in Logar province, through Gardez in Paktia province and Jadran Mountainous district in Paktia province is the only way to transport goods to this area. The road from Khost, the capital city, to Ishmail Khel / Mandozai district is paved. Travel by car from Kabul to the school takes eight to nine hours.

### **General Population:**

The population of the Ishmail Khel / Mandozai district has been estimated to be around 100,000. Forty percent (40%) under the age of 18. The illiteracy rate among men is 80% and among women is 97%. The district/village is surrounded by Jadron district on the west, Tani district on the south, Mossa Khel district on the north and Khost city limits on the east.

### **Security**

Historically in Khost province there are little opportunity for education for higher education

including high school. This resulted in illiterary, limited knowledge and no apparent options. These conditions made it possible for extremism to spread easily and become adopted as the world view by the people residing in Khost province.

The literacy demographics of Ishmail Khel / Mandozai have changed recently as a high number of educated men who studied and worked in Kabul have returned after their retirement. They now serve their community and have encouraged and made possible education of both girls and boys by donating land with a building and adding tent classrooms through the help of UNICEF.

Basic education and information flowing into the area from beyond is a threat to the power held by Taliban and Al Qaeda.

The people are united and abide strictly by the decision of their Qaumi Jirga (Tribal Council) not to welcome Taliban and Al Qaeda and resist their attempt to destabilize the area.

The authorities of the city of Khost also protect this district. The school has its own security guards.

### **Da Afghan University in Khost**

At the Da Afghan University in Khost there are 1,441 students all of whom are male.

### **School Building and Property Assessment:**



The people of Ishmail Khel/Mandozie have donated about five (5) acres of land with

buildings which are now school property. The building currently has fourteen rooms mostly without windows and glass. Two rooms have been destroyed by the anti-government elements and need to be rebuilt immediately. This property needs a wall for protection around the school. There is no drinking water supply and there are no toilets.



There are no chairs or desks/tables. The floor carpets are torn and very old. There is no room for a library. There are no books, magazines, newspapers, visual aid equipment, etc. Sports and physical education facilities consist of a bit of desert land.

In January 2005 it was reported that community began repairing the two damaged rooms and the local community contacted UNHCR to build a separate school for the boys. UNHCR approved their request. The property was split and nearly three acres of land was given to the new boys' school. Over two acres is designated for the girls' school and is the property on which the current building sits.

The priorities for the girls' school are: 1) Wall around the school with gate and door, 2) toilets, and 3) deep well with a pump, tank and generator.

### **Enrollment at Da Doornamio:**

The school has currently two (2) divisions. One is for 465 girls in first through fourth grade and the second is for 950 boys in first through eleventh grade. The girls' school has nine teachers. The number of boys continues to increase and have disturbed the girls so one of the local leaders has provided temporarily his private residence for the girls' school.

### **Physical and Mental Health Care:**

There is only one clinic in the district funded by an NGO. They provide medical treatment and vaccination. Periodically food in the form of biscuits is distributed free to children to provide proper nutrition. There are no mental health treatment or diagnostic centers or clinics.

### **Recreation:**

There are no recreation centers. There is no theater or movie theater in the whole province of Khost.

### **Economy:**

The sources of government revenue come mostly from transportation, clothing and other small businesses. The money for government programs is provided by the central government to the provincial government and then to the district government. Residents are most of their income from agriculture. Secondary sources are trading and commerce, small businesses, and public sector employees including teachers.

### **Da Doornamio School Construction Budget**

1) Wall (332 meters)		
Stone foundation	132 cubic meters @ \$25 per cubic meter	\$ 3,300
Baked brick wall	307 cubic meters @ \$32 per cubic meter	\$ 9,824
Plaster coating	1660 square meters @ \$2 per square meter	\$ 3,320
Gate and door	1 x 400 and 1 x 130	<u>\$ 530</u>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$16,974</u></b>
2) Toilets	8 x 450	<u>\$ 3,600</u>
3) Deep well with equipment		<u>\$13,000</u>

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# Afghan Cultural Education

## House Parties

Two house parties were attended by 19 people. The culture and current conditions as experienced by Barbara Gerten in July 2003 when she went to Kabul was the interest of a group of five. Fourteen gathered with Ghafar and Laila Lakanwal to have Afghan food and hear the latest information he had about the situation

## March 29 Event with Fahima Vorgetts

Forty-two people came to hear Fahima Vorgetts, an Afghan-born American, board member of Women for Afghan Women and frequent traveler to Afghanistan. Ms. Vorgetts raises money for projects that benefit women and children throughout the country. She speaks out on the oppression of women and reminds us that even today women lack many freedoms.

## Osama Movie Discussion

When the movie, Osama, came out seven people gathered afterward to discuss the movie with Glenda Marsh who traveled to Afghanistan in September of 2002.

## Extrava'ghanistan

Our first-ever large cultural event was held on November 11 at the Landmark Center in downtown St. Paul, Minnesota. The program featured Afghan food, dance, music, a bazaar and silent auction, and a chai khana or tea reception. It also included a display of P.E.C.A. and WAW projects. Over two hundred people attended. The keynote speaker was Fahima Vorgetts, an Afghan-born American, board member of Women for Afghan Women and frequent visitor to Afghanistan. Ms. Vorgetts lectures worldwide, has spoken at the UN, BBC, and NPR and shared insights from her most recent visit to Afghanistan. In addition, we had special celebrity host, Don Shelby, WCCO-TV news anchor, who is personally interested in supporting schools and children in Afghanistan.

A special contribution came from young adults of the local Afghan-American community who wore traditional clothing, danced the Attan, the national dance of Afghanistan. They were lead by Dr. Ghafar Lakanwal.



In addition to ticket sales to the general public, our supporters and donors, we received sponsorships at the Partner (\$1,000) and Associate (\$500) levels.

### PARTNERS

Da Afghan Restaurant  
Excel Title, LLC  
Fredrikson & Byron, P. A.  
Khyber Pass Café  
MultiCultural Development Center  
Northwest Airlines, Inc.  
Dr. Edwin Rice

### ASSOCIATES

All American Family Home Loan, Inc.  
Ethnic Dance Theater  
Leysin American School  
Nevab Brothers Oriental Rug Company  
Paragon Home Mortgage, LLC  
RE/MAX A-1 Excellence, Inc.  
Santorini Taverna and Grill

The board is extremely happy with the success of Extrava'ghanistan and looks forward to putting on similar events in the future to introduce the public to the culture of Afghanistan and provide updates on the progress in Afghanistan.

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## Partners

**Tomorrow's Educators of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls** has partnered with P.E.C.A. to collect school supplies. Professor Jose Vega is advisor to this organization and Jeffrey Swanson lead the organization during the 2003/2004 school year. Several boxes of supplies were collected and packaged as "school kits" for individual students. The total value of supplies was \$255. Thank you!!! These supplies will go to the students at Da Doornamio in Khost province.

Profile of Tomorrow's Educators, a partner of P.E.C.A.: Tomorrow's Educators is a campus organization for all education majors and minors, both elementary and secondary. Their purpose is to provide members with information about the education programs on campus, opportunities to work with children, volunteer experience, activities to use in the classroom, and information about the teaching profession. Tomorrow's Educators meetings are a great place to meet other future teachers, share ideas, and learn more about the field of education. We have many interesting guest speakers, share numerous games and activities for classroom use, and offer Scholastic book orders, book giveaways, and treats at every meeting! If you are a future educator or are just interested in the field of education, join us!

Currently there are about 65 members. They feel privileged to use our dues in order to help in other parts of the world from their small campus.

Website: [www.uwrf.edu/community/tomorrowsed](http://www.uwrf.edu/community/tomorrowsed)

**Afghans4Tomorrow** was the organization to which P.E.C.A. contributed \$4,000 for construction of the school in Wardak province. Afghans4Tomorrow is the lead organization overseeing the completion of this \$55,000 project.

Afghans4Tomorrow (A4T) is a non-profit established in 1999. A4T is an organization for the citizens of Afghanistan, where all projects will be directed at improving the standards of life for the current generation as well as the next. They provide essential services to its people through the expertise, knowledge and dedication of young Afghan professionals abroad. Their goal is to invest funds in projects that will revive the economy as well as create lasting jobs for the Afghan people. A4T is proactively focused on establishing relationships with multiple sponsors, corporations, federal agencies, NGOs, and non-profit organizations.

Website: [www.afghans4tomorrow.com](http://www.afghans4tomorrow.com)

**Women for Afghan Women (WAW)** is an organization of Afghan and non-Afghan women from the New York area founded in April 2001. WAW raises funds for the reconstruction of Afghanistan, particularly schools and health facilities for women and children. WAW provides literacy and vocational training programs for women and children in Afghanistan. WAW sponsored a conference in Afghanistan in 2003 producing the Afghan Women's Bill of Rights which was presented to President Hamid Karzai.

Fahima Vorgetts, a board member of WAW, was our keynote speaker at Extrava'ghanistan on November 11.

Website: [www.womenforafghanwomen.org](http://www.womenforafghanwomen.org)

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# Organizational Development

## Web Site

Our website was given a new look in August by Tredon Wagoner. The blue and orange floral border was taken from a rug sold by PARSA – Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Support for Afghanistan an organization that trains women in income generating skills. This border was also used in material for Extrava’ghanistan.

## Core Values Statements

With the help of two graduate students, Kara Slaughter and Sitinee Sheffert, at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs the following core value statements were developed.

### **Theme 1: Educating Children in Afghanistan**

We believe that all children should receive an education, because education is the best means of achieving stability and safeguarding against extremist ideologies. Education is also a source of joy and inspiration and an end unto itself. We believe that Afghan children are victims of circumstances beyond their control, and that one of the ways to ameliorate the past injustices that they have suffered is to provide them with an education. Education is a source of social and economic advancement as well as a vehicle for teaching children to be good citizens.

### **Theme 2: Making Afghanistan a Better Place Than We Now Find It**

We feel a calling and sense of duty to help Afghanistan – whether by virtue of our Afghan heritage, our connections with family members in Afghanistan, our experiences as a guest in Afghanistan, our friendships with Afghans or Afghan-Americans, or our sensitivity to the impact that American foreign policies have had on Afghanistan. We understand and feel connected to Afghanistan, and we feel compelled to make Afghanistan a better place than we now find it. We have a desire to leave a lasting legacy to our commitment in Afghanistan.

### **Theme 3: Educating People in the United States about Afghanistan**

We have a special affinity for the nation and peoples of Afghanistan, and we enjoy sharing aspects of Afghan culture with people in the United States. We also feel that is important for people in the United States to understand the origins and nature of the political and social unrest that has impacted Afghanistan. We will focus on building relationships and partnerships with individuals and organization based on mutual respect.

### **Theme 4: Working as Part of a Diverse and Dynamic Team**

I enjoy working with board members who are diverse in terms of their backgrounds, skills, and perspectives, yet who all appreciate and share my affinity for the people and the nation of Afghanistan. It is pleasurable to work with people who are willing to volunteer their time, talent, and creativity, and who appreciate the resources, skills, and energy that I bring to the board. It is also rewarding to partner with a variety of organizations and individuals who support our vision of educating children in Afghanistan.

**Partnership for Education of Children in Afghanistan**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**As of December 31, 2004**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Individual Contributions	\$2,000	\$4,440
Individual Contributions (In-kind)		50
Corporate & Organization Contributions		591
Corporate & Organizations Contributions (In-kind)		5,115
Event Revenue	14000	17,727
Event Revenue (In-kind)		6,145
Honorariums	400	
Coin Drop Box Revenue		149
Partner Organization	4,000	0
	<u>4,000</u>	<u>0</u>
 Total Revenue	<u>\$20,400</u>	<u>\$34,217</u>
 <b>EXPENSES</b>		
School Development	\$16,140	\$1,245
Cultural Education	400	7,582
Management & General Operating	2,400	3,283
Fundraising Expenses	1,460	5,489
 Total Expenses	<u>\$20,400</u>	<u>\$17,599</u>
 INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$16,618</u>

(Unaudited)

**Statement of Functional Expenses**  
**As of December 31, 2004**

	School Development	Cultural Education	Total Programs	Management and General	Fundraising	Total Supporting	Total All Expenses
School Development	\$990		\$990				\$990
Website Maintenance		\$2,600	2,600		\$289	\$289	2,889
Supplies & Expense	255	1,065	1,320	\$229	1,266	1,495	2,815
Telephone				211		211	211
Postage & Delivery		30	30	96	48	144	174
Printing & Copying		32	32		32	32	64
Accounting (Inkind)				500		500	500
Legal (In-kind)				725		725	725
Organizational Consultants (In-kind)				1,500		1,500	1,500
Bank Charges				22		22	22
Facility Rental		375	375		375	375	750
Food Expense		2,705	2,705		2,704	2,704	5,409
Entertainment		525	525		525	525	1,050
Travel (In-kind)		250	250		250	250	500
 Total Expenses by Function	<u>\$1,245</u>	<u>\$7,582</u>	<u>\$8,827</u>	<u>\$3,283</u>	<u>\$5,489</u>	<u>\$8,772</u>	<u>\$17,599</u>

(Unaudited)