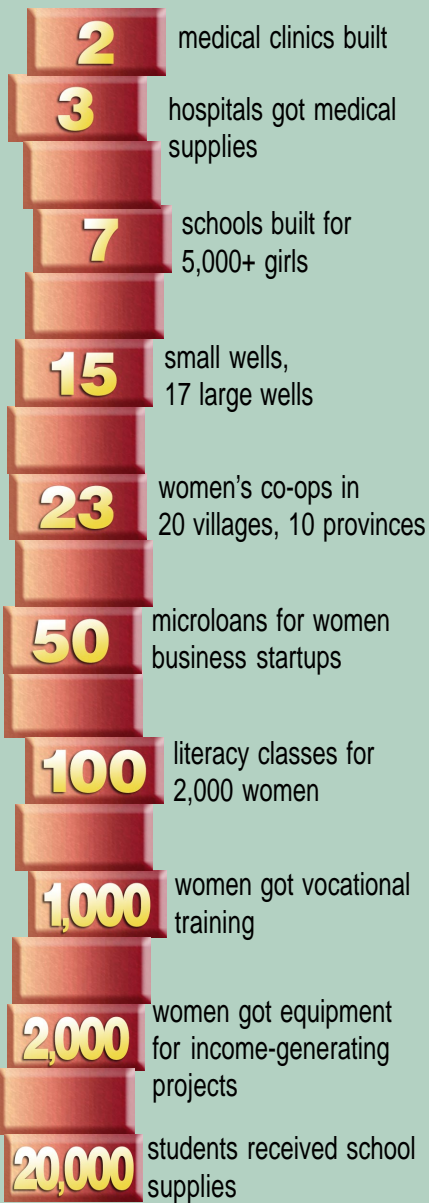




# Women For Afghan Women— Afghan Women's Fund

## It All Adds Up!

Here is how your donations to AWF have changed the lives of Afghan families since 2002:



**The Afghan Women's Fund** operates under the auspices of **Women for Afghan Women**, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization headquartered in New York. Contributions to AWF/WAW are fully tax-deductible.  
[www.womenforafghanwomen.org](http://www.womenforafghanwomen.org)



## Dear Friends,

*When I read the headlines and watch the news, I struggle not to lose hope for our war-torn world and the families who, themselves, have given up hope. Yet each time I go home to Afghanistan, I return with renewed faith in our ability to make things better . . . one step at a time, together.*

*In this report, you can see the faces of the women and children whose lives have been changed by your generous contributions. Thanks to your support, they are the faces of our future.*

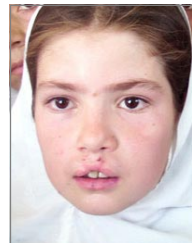
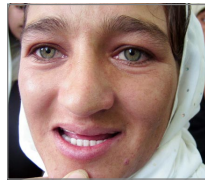
*With best wishes for the holiday season,*

*Fahima Vorgetts*

*fahimawaw@yahoo.com*



**Fahima Vorgetts**, director of AWF and a board member of WAW, was born and educated in Kabul. She has devoted her life to raising funds and providing assistance to Afghan families, especially to women and girls. She is a co-founder of the Humanitarian Organization for Orphans and Widows of Afghanistan. In 2009 she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Washington Peace Center.



Here are just some of the faces of Afghan girls for whom education has opened up the possibility of a happy and productive future.

## For Afghan Girls, the Future is **Now**



**M**aybe tropical flowers don't bloom in the desert, but in many parts of Afghanistan, arid terrain has been replaced by lush landscaping and thousands of girls are blossoming in tents and domes they call schools.

All of this, and more, stems from the Afghan Women's Fund. For nearly a decade, AWF has nurtured Afghan women desperately in need of a reliable water supply, medical clinics, literacy and craft skills, and — most of all — education for their girls.

For many young women in Afghanistan, education starts with a dream that they don't believe will come true. Then a village farmer or friendly businessman steps forward and donates a piece of land. At first, maybe school is just a tent, then an igloo-like prefabricated dome, guaranteed



# Community Grassroots Help Schools Bloom

to last 45 years. AWF buys domes from the manufacturer and, with the help of local men and women, assembles them on site. When one makeshift school for 150 girls was bursting at the seams, AWF built a bricks-and-mortar school that became the showpiece of the area, welcoming more than 1,200 students by the time it was finished.

The girls in these schools face hardships and hurdles that are unheard of in America: Some of them must walk miles, over hills and rough terrain. Some have had acid thrown in their faces, yet they return to school again and again, despite their disfigurement. Here are some of the things they say about the education made possible by AWF contributors:

"Everybody must learn more to resolve their problems and pave the way for education because education has a main point in improving global society and peaceful situation in the world."

"I am in 10<sup>th</sup> grade in high school. Thanks a lot for donation of computers. Now we are able to speak English language and computers - your cooperation is the reason."

"I am in 8<sup>th</sup> grade... education is the way to solve the human misery and poverty and both of them are the main reason of casualties in the world. I want to become a lawyer in the future."



## Evolution of a School:

Tents, domes, bricks and mortar.



WAW / AWF  
978 Yachtsman Way  
Annapolis, MD 21403  
[www.womenforafghanwomen.org](http://www.womenforafghanwomen.org)

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# Share the Spirit of Thanksgiving with Afghan Families



**As we gather around the Thanksgiving table in gratitude for all that we have, please consider sharing your blessings with Afghan families who have so little. Your contribution of \$6,500 funds one classroom for 60 students in three shifts; \$1,000 is a down payment on a dome school; \$750 pays for one teacher or three computers; \$250 funds medical equipment and supplies; \$100 provides school supplies for five students for the entire semester. Make checks payable to AWF/WAW and mail to Mary Ellen Bobb, 978 Yachtsman Way, Annapolis, MD 21403.**



AWF volunteer staff: Fahima Vorgetts, Mary Ellen Bobb, Maribeth Kalinich, Stephanie Kalinich, Daryl Glenney