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www.womenforafghanwomen.org

Mission Statement

Women for Afghan Women (WAW) is an organization of Afghan and non-Afghan women from the New York area who are committed to ensuring the human rights of Afghan women.

WAW promotes the agency of local Afghan women through the creation of safe forums where Afghan women can network, develop programs to meet their specific needs, and participate in human rights advocacy in the international sphere.

WAW raises funds for the reconstruction of Afghanistan, particularly schools and health facilities for women and children. Recognizing that the ability to earn their living is fundamental to the empowerment of women, WAW supports the development of vocational training programs for women in Afghanistan who have been denied access to education and professional training.

The inclusion of women in all decision-making processes is a requirement of a democratic society. WAW advocates for the representation of women in all areas of life in Afghanistan: political, social, cultural and economic.

Programs:

Human Rights Advocacy:

- ❑ To advocate for the full inclusion of women in all aspects of Afghan life
- ❑ To keep alive and vibrant the discourse of human rights for women in an Islamic context.
- ❑ To educate the broad public about the situation in Afghanistan.
- ❑ To remain committed to a fundamental human rights ethic, but beyond that, to remain open enough to contain the myriad voices that form the dialogue and debate

Humanitarian Assistance: Afghan Women's Fund

WAW makes a commitment to keep its own overhead to a minimum in order to fundraise for humanitarian relief and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan and in the refugee camps, particularly those that embrace women and children. Since our founding in April 2001, Women for Afghan Women has raised and distributed over \$300,000 in aid to various NGOs, schools, and women and children in Afghanistan.

Community Outreach:

- ❑ Our community outreach program aims to empower Afghan women to fight for their rights as women, as Americans and as Muslims. We are planning:
- ❑ Quarterly cultural empowerment events where Afghan women scholars, activists, artists, and other Afghan women are showcased and celebrated.
- ❑ English classes for Afghan women, which will help them emerge from the home and participate in life in America.
- ❑ Classes to introduce Afghan/American children to their culture.
- ❑ A safe environment where Afghan women can gather for mutual support.
- ❑ A future campaign to focus on education and college readiness of Afghan girls.
- ❑ Counseling for domestic problems