



Ali Hasan Mangi

Memorial Trust

Changing Lives. One Village at a Time

Newsletter
Winter 2020

Dear donors and friends,

As this difficult year draws to a close and our team reflects on the months gone by, we all feel grateful that we did the best we could during unprecedented global upheaval. In the first half of the year, we were able to take timely decisions that we feel served our communities best. That time also gave us the space to plan for the future and the result is we're all set to begin 2021 stronger, more efficient and more productive.

In March, we closed all our facilities although our offices remained opened with minimal staff to continue receiving applications for assistance from the public with new precautionary measures in place. In September, when the Pakistani government announced a reopening, we resumed operations with an extra measure of caution. We continued to keep most of our indoor facilities closed and moved children's arts, crafts and games activities outdoors into the park. We also reduced the number of patients we would handle per clinic and moved the waiting area to an open space as well.

In the summer we carried out renovation to create a much larger reception area to replace the previously tiny space we had. This meant dismantling our small public library to include that space in the reception. The new reception can accommodate a lot more people and seat more staff to serve the public. We have a new and bigger library under construction which will be completed by the spring of 2021.



Since our Community Clinic remained closed for six months, we used that time to accelerate our medical assistance program under which we helped more than 150 patients get access to specialist care and surgery at various hospitals. Additionally, we brought 15 patients with congenital heart conditions to Karachi and got them through treatment and surgery. We also moved our clinic to more spacious premises to keep patients and our healthcare workers safe.



We used the clinic closure period to reach out to other healthcare professionals so we could reopen with expanded staff. We added a physician to our team and her arrival was very well received since female patients in our communities felt culturally more comfortable with a woman physician. We also added a brilliant young nurse practitioner with expertise in both mother-and-child care as well as nutrition to anchor our preventive healthcare and family health initiative that will begin next year. In that project, we will work on raising awareness about birth spacing, the benefits of smaller families and prevention to protect against malaria, dysentery, typhoid and parasites.



Our family assistance program through which we help communities build toilets and home and install water handpumps slowed this year as we took extra care in sending our field team out into crowded villages. We did however keep the projects running throughout the year.

In 2020, we helped 465 families in 43 villages build toilets at home. We provided the construction materials while people themselves paid the mason and put in the labour. We have built 969 toilets so far and project has expanded from District Larkana to Districts Shikarpur and Qamber-Shahdadkot as well. We are in the process of completing about 150 toilets after which we will conduct another round of fund raising for more construction. This is one of our most important projects because most families in villages across Sindh live without toilets; jeopardizing health because of poor sanitation and also affecting safety and dignity for women.



We also installed another 100 handpumps in 32 villages in 2020, giving families access to clean water at home. We have so far installed 555 handpumps.



Our shelter project continues too. This year we helped 52 families in 21 villages build homes to replace their mud huts. We provided bricks and roofing while families put in the foundation, provided labour, paid the mason who built the house and contributed a good portion of materials too. We have helped about 235 families build shelter.

A MUD HUT BEFORE CONSTRUCTION:



AFTER CONSTRUCTION:



We began a new skills training project a few months ago through which women learn tailoring and dress design at our Community Center. We bought 15 sewing machines and other related equipment and remodeled one of our classrooms to adapt it for this course. We're taking in 15 women at a time and the course offering has been so popular, we have a waiting list as well.



For 2021, we seek your help with two main projects:

1. Children's Activity Hall: Our children's activity project which has been running since 2012 is one of the most popular features of our Community Center. However, our previous hall was small and cramped. We have made adjustments to the structure to be able to create a much larger space where children can enjoy a range of after-school activities including jigsaw puzzles, block-building and other indoor games. To complete construction of this, we're seeking a donation of Rs 500,000. Any amount, no matter how small, will really go a long way. We have worked long and hard over these years to keep our children off the streets and away from the dangers of drug and gambling dens that exist in every neighborhood. That's why we want to get this done as soon as possible.



2. Community Center Operational Expenses: Our Community Center that opened in 2012 is at the heart of all our projects. That base is what makes all our work possible. It's where children spend the day, patients come to seek help, women come to learn skills and members of the public come to apply for assistance with building toilets and homes. It's where our staff spends the day serving various communities. The cost of running the center which includes salaries, utilities and maintenance expenses is where we really need help. We would be grateful for any donors who agree to sponsor expenses a month or a year or anything in between. If anyone would like further details, please do get in touch.



Thank you as always for your support and generosity. Please write to us at mt@alihanmangitrust.org if you have any questions about our work or would like any other information. Thank you as always for your continued support and generosity.

Naween Mangi
Managing Trustee
AHMMT
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