



Ali Hasan Mangi

Memorial Trust

Changing Lives. One Village at a Time

Newsletter
Winter 2021

Dear donors, supporters and friends,

The year 2021 holds special significance for us because for the very first time since we started in 2008, we have added a new member to our board of trustees. Taniya Zaffar Khan is not new to the Ali Hasan Mangi Memorial Trust and in fact has been deeply involved with our work for years. In November, we invited her to formally join our board so that we could better utilize her skills and expertise in improving our programs. Taniya's acute desire to understand the problems of impoverished communities, her unwavering commitment to help and her incredible network of contacts will be precious assets for us. We wholeheartedly welcome her to our team and are very excited to be working with her even more closely than before.



Another key development for us this year has been the decision to consolidate our work into three key areas. Our philosophy has always been to start and run projects that communities want. Every project we have initiated has come from the people themselves and we have then worked to ensure the project runs well. Over the years, we have also learned from experience and dropped some projects when we felt they were no longer needed or effective. Our three main categories of development work are now:

1. Family Assistance Program: This program helps families build homes and toilets and install water handpumps. It also helps communities build sewerage networks and bridges. We have helped almost 2000 families in 123 villages build toilets at home. We have also helped 626 families install water hand-pumps and 260 families build homes. We continue to receive applications from various villages in Districts Larkana, Shikarpur and Kamber-Shahdadkot and our team of field workers goes village to village talking to people about our work, how we operate and about our principle of community participation.





2. Health: Our health program has four branches: community clinic, family planning section, specialist care program and congenital heart disease program. Our community clinic has been in operation since 2013 functioning as a primary health care unit. Over the years we noted that government primary healthcare services improved significantly under the adoption of another organization and we decided that continuing to replicate those services was a waste of resources. However our clinic had also been offering consultations and medication for chronic care patients, a service that still isn't available elsewhere. From December, we converted our clinic into a **chronic care facility** where members of the public can receive a free consultation, monitoring and medicine for conditions such as hypertension, congestive heart failure, diabetes, epilepsy, depression and others.



Our **family planning** section which began in January 2021 aims to improve women's understanding of their own health and that of their family. Our team spent the year holding meetings and spoke to about 4000 women in 40 different villages. Toward the end of the year, we made an arrangement with Shaikh Zayed Government Hospital in Larkana where we take women in for tubal ligation procedures, stay with them through the process, buy them their post-surgery medication, take them back home, check on them the next day and take them in for their follow-up appointments a week later. This full service care is what we hope will make the decision easier for women who otherwise find it difficult to battle the government healthcare system. In December, we took six women in for this procedure.



Our **specialist care** program helps patients who need treatment or surgery for a variety of issues. In 2021, we helped 160 such patients. Our program for children with **congenital heart disease** continues to run in partnership with the Aga Khan Hospital in Karachi. In 2021, we helped 16 heart patients through surgery and treatment.



3. Our **Community Center** in Village Khairo Dero that has been operational for the last 10 years. This facility includes a public park & children's playground, a public library, a children's activity hall, a public art hall, a skills training program for women, an early learning center, a community clinic and a public pukaar office where members of various communities come to apply for assistance. This past year, we opened a new and expanded library and a much larger children's activity hall to accommodate all the kids who spend their after school time with us.



Plans for 2022:

For 2022, we have a substantial wish list and we hope we will continue to receive your support.

1. Operational expenses to keep our **Community Center** running which comes to 265,000 rupees a month. If anyone would like details of these expenses, we would be happy to send those across.

2. Assistance to build **toilets** for families in dozens of villages. Each toilet costs the donor 13,735 rupees (\$76). We hope to build 1200 toilets in 2022 and would be most grateful for any sponsors. If anyone would like more details on this project, please do reach out to us.

3. A new project to help **landless farmers** reduce their dependence on loan sharks. For years as we have helped farming families build essential infrastructure at home such as shelter, toilets and kitchens, we have continually been on a quest to find ways to help increase their income. This year we lost one of our most ardent supporters, Abid Hussain, to liver cancer at the age of just 50. He spent his entire life as a landless farmer and played a key role in helping us build a bridge in Village Khairo Dero that had collapsed decades ago. He led that effort, motivated other farmers to participate and supervised the project. Hundreds of farmers today benefit from that bridge. He also lead community meetings of landless farmers, participated keenly in all our projects and supported us during some of our most trying times. He was also our patient for the past five years and we cared for him with the greatest of love. When he passed away in October, our team got thinking during the traditional three-day mourning about how we could honour his life. The wealthy and famous are honoured everyday in our society but landless farmers who produce the food we eat while often going hungry themselves, are rarely, if ever, appreciated. That is why we would like to set up the **Abid Hussain Farmers' Assistance Project**. Through this project, we hope to purchase a tractor, plough and thresher machine and then rent those out to landless farmers charging only for the fuel consumed. This will lead to enormous savings, allow farmers to see first-hand the benefit of using cash for sharecropping costs and has the potential to lead to social change as well. We are seeking to raise a total of 2.8 million rupees to purchase one set of equipment and run the project for one year. We have a detailed analysis of the numbers this project involves and would be happy to share them with anyone who is interested.



Please write to us at mt@alihanmangitrust.org with your questions or comments and also share our newsletter as widely as possible. We're always grateful for your support that makes our work possible. In the end we wish you all a very happy new year.

Late Abid Hussain, a landless farmer

The Team
Ali Hasan Mangi Memorial Trust
Village Khairo Dero

December 2021