



ANNUAL REPORT OF BEHBUD ASSOCIATION USA, INC. 2011

In 2011 our main focus was to raise funds to build our Education, Vocational Training and Health programs at Behbud Association, Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Thanks to our many donors and our fundraising efforts, we raised a net sum of \$41,000 this year. Behbud is committed to work to strengthen communities and the goal is to fund more Behbud programs continues.

2011 Annual Fundraiser:

Our entire volunteer team at Behbud Association USA (Behbud USA) worked hard towards organizing our Second Annual Fundraiser in September, 2011, proceeds from which benefit our projects.

Behbud USA had its Second Annual Fundraiser on September 24, 2011. The venue was the well known Asia Society, New York, featuring Salman Ahmad of JUNOON and his band, of international fame. More than 250 people attended the event. We are deeply grateful to Ambassador Hussain Haroon, Permanent Representative to the United Nations who accepted our invitation to be the Chief Guest. We are thankful to all those who donated items for the Silent Auction, which was a big success, as was Behbud's craft table. Additionally, Behbud USA thanks Manny Nazir (for printing our invitations), Farah Brigante (for her graphic designing services for the invitations) and Laaj Studios (for their donation of photography and videography). Most of all, heartfelt thanks to all our team of dedicated volunteers, whose hard work and long hours made this second fundraiser a roaring success!

Our main goal is to build on our fundraising efforts to benefit the main programs at Behbud. Behbud has always been an organization which not only works towards empowering and sustaining the livelihoods of women, children and their communities, but one that always steps up to the needs of the people of Pakistan during natural disasters and emergencies. We have been there to help whenever we have faced calamity – as recently as the 2005 Earthquake and the floods of August 2010.

1. Flood Relief of 2010-2011

The response for raising funds for the flood relief project was indeed very positive. BEHBUD USA raised funds (\$25,000) for flood relief and is glad to report that 23 houses in the Charsadda district were built from the donations of our generous donors who contributed specifically for this disaster.

2. Education

Through your donations this year, we have provided education to more than 700 students aged 5 to 15 in our schools in the Rawalpindi area. Following is a report on the schools Behbud supports.

Behbud Model High School, Rawalpindi:

The Behbud USA supplements funds to a large extent for this school, totaling approximately \$5000 annually. It also provides for any unforeseen needs of the student body and faculty, which could range anywhere between \$2000-4000 annually.



- The school facilities have been enhanced, with a new Arts and Crafts Room, equipped with necessary materials for this project.
- The school was provided new drinking water filter equipment for the students.
- Teacher refresher courses continue to be given on a regular basis to enhance their teaching capabilities.
- An “Adopt a Child” program has been initiated with the Behbud Rawalpindi membership, as they received details on the program. The Education Committee of Rawalpindi is hoping for a positive response. The opportunity is also available to our donors in the USA.
- Parent-Teacher meetings are encouraged and our Education Committee helps in facilitating these exchanges.
- Teachers were given a substantial raise in their salaries according to the orders of the Chief Justice of Pakistan, in order to bring the teachers up to the required wages stated by Pakistani Law.

Behbud Home Schools:

The 5 schools that Behbud supports are located in the urban slums of Rawalpindi. With the extremely high level of inflation, the annual running cost of *each* school is now approximately \$3300 and it is expected to increase in the next year and the following years. This sum includes teacher salaries, rents, utilities, cost of all books and required educational materials. Maintenance and repair work require additional funds.



- The enrollment in these schools is now approximately 500 and there is a demand from the parents in other neighboring communities to open more schools for their children. Both girls and boys are enrolled in these schools up to the primary level.

- Text books/notebooks/stationary/art material/ and other school related items are provided to all the students throughout the year.
- Teachers were given a raise and teacher refresher courses were conducted with the help of our professional volunteers.
- Despite all the hard efforts, the teachers' learning abilities leave much to be desired. Teachers with better qualifications are needed for the Home Schools, and the process has been initiated by the Education Committee. This would mean a higher salary bracket, but the children would benefit greatly and will be better equipped to go on to Secondary and High School studies.
- Clean drinking water was provided for the children.
- Toilets were repaired for the use of the children.
- New blackboards/desks, chairs/and floor mats were provided for some schools.
- Floor matting, desks/tables and chairs are needed for the remaining schools.

3. Women's Vocational Training Center

Through your donations we have provided funds for the opening of a new Women's Vocational Center in the Sihala District, which will train more than 200 women in the coming year, who in turn will learn a trade for life, giving them the means to generate income for themselves and their families, as well as longer term economic stability. We continue to maintain this vocational center on an annual basis with our funds. The cost for the annual maintenance is currently \$2000.



4. Health Care Project

Behbud USA donated \$3000 to the Health Care Project of Behbud Rawalpindi. These funds will be utilized for the treatment of various diseases, e.g. diabetes, hepatitis C, tuberculosis, HIV and general medicines. Health care is an important and vital project of Behbud and we hope to continue to support it with more funds in the coming years.



5. Café Behbud

Café Behbud is located in Islamabad and caters to the local community. It also organizes events and meetings, and rents its premises for exhibitions and seminars as well. While Behbud USA contributes financial assistance to the Café (\$3,000 in 2011), the profits from the Café's proceeds in turn, fund our various projects in Rawalpindi/Islamabad.

MISSION & OBJECTIVE:

The aim of Behbud USA is to support existing social welfare projects of Behbud Pakistan, including model and home schools for children in urban slums and skills training projects to benefit women seeking income generation opportunities. Behbud USA focuses on projects in and around Rawalpindi & Islamabad, Pakistan. In coming years, Behbud USA hopes to expand its support for social welfare projects by establishing more educational facilities for children in urban slums, and expanding its role in supporting health care projects that Behbud Pakistan currently operates.

We hope to continue and progress in the years to come in this noble venture with the help of our generous donors. We need and count on your continued support for the economic uplift of the less fortunate and hope to be able to make a difference for the better in the lives we touch.

BEHBUD WEBSITE:

Please visit the Behbud website for more in depth information on its projects. Donation forms are also posted on it, or you can make your contribution through PayPal. The website address is: www.behbud.org

The Behbud USA Committee sends their heartfelt thanks to all its generous donors. We wish you and your families a very Happy New Year, Health, Happiness and peace in the world.

Sincerely,
Behbud Association, USA – Inc.

For more information on donating, please visit our website at www.behbud.org. BEHBUD USA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization. All donations are tax exempt to the extent allowed by the US law.