Humanitarian Assistance for the Women and Children of Afghanistan (HAWCA)

Report of activities and projects in the year 2003

Postal address in Pakistan:
HAWCA
P.O. Box# 419,
Mhd Jan Khan Watt,
Kabul, Afghanistan.

Postal address in Pakistan:
HAWCA
P.O. Box# 646,
Sadder Road,
Peshawar, Pakistan.

Mobile (Kabul): 0093-070277031
Telephone (Peshawar): 092-091-825358

URL: www.hawca.org
Email: hawca@hawca.org
### Table of Contents:

Note: - Please press CTRL key + click to follow link.

**PREFACE** ............................................................................................................. 4

**1- EDUCATION** ..................................................................................................... 5

1. a- Home-based Classes .......................................................................................... 5
   1. a. i- In Nengarhar: .................................................................................................. 5
   1. a. ii- In Balkh (Mazar-e-Sharif): ............................................................................. 5

1. b- Literacy Centers .................................................................................................. 5
   1. b. i- HAWCA Literacy Center (Kabul): ................................................................. 6
   1. b. ii- HAWCA Literacy Center (Mazar-e-Sharif, Balkh): ......................................... 6
   1. b. iii- HAWCA Literacy Center (Jalalabad, Nengarhar): ........................................... 7
   1. b. iv- HAWCA Literacy Center (Farah): .................................................................... 7

1. c- Primary schools .................................................................................................... 8
   1. c. i- Mahjoba-e-Harawi Primary School (Peshawar, Pakistan): .............................. 8
   1. c. ii- HAWCA’s No.3 Primary School (Peshawar, Pakistan): ................................. 8
   1. c. iii- Primary school of Now Bolaq (Samangan, Afghanistan): ............................ 9
   1. c. iv- Primary school of Nooristan (Nooristan, Afghanistan): ............................... 9

1. d- Assistance to Public Primary schools in Kabul .................................................. 10

1. e- HAWCA’s English Language Center in Kabul ...................................................... 10

1. f- HAWCA’s Computer Course ............................................................................. 11

1. g- Scholarship program for Afghan children Pakistani schools .............................. 12

1. h- Higher education in Pakistani universities .......................................................... 13

**2- HEALTHCARE** ............................................................................................... 13

2. a- Supporting Gulkhana MCH (Kabul, Afghanistan) .............................................. 13

2. b- Training of TBAs in Peshawar: ........................................................................... 14

2. c- Mobile Health Team ......................................................................................... 15

2. d- Distribution of medicines in Afghanistan & Pakistan .......................................... 15

2. e- Treatment of a TB Patient .................................................................................. 16

2. f- Operation of two young women ......................................................................... 16

2. g- Treatment of Nazaneen: ..................................................................................... 17

**3- EMERGENCY RELIEF** ..................................................................................... 17

3. a- Wood and coal distribution for returnee families in Saidkhail, Parwan province .......................................................... 17

   The local people were very helpful during food distribution. They helped a lot during transportation and other works ....................................................... 18

3. b- Wood and coal distribution for returnee families in Arzan Qeemat, Kabul 18
3. c- Wood and coal distribution for returnee families in Bagrami district, Kabul
.................................................................................................................................18
3. d- Food distribution for flood victims in Logar Province .................................19

4- INCOME GENERATION.................................................................20

4. a - Tailoring Workshop in Kabul .....................................................................20
4. b- Microfinance for women in Kabul ..............................................................20

5- SPONSORSHIP PROJECT ............................................................20

6- OTHER ACTIVITIES ..........................................................................21

6. a- Teacher training for teachers of literacy centers in Kabul .........................21
6. b- Teacher’s coordination meeting ..................................................................21
6. c- Signing petition for peace and speeding up disarmament process ...........22
6. d- Taking part in CLJ Gender and Law Working Group ..................................22
6. e- Taking part in First Women’s Sit-in in Kabul ..............................................22
6. f- Receiving a certificate of appreciation from HE Hamid Karzai for taking part
in the CLJ process ........................................................................................................23
6. g-Publishing the booklet of HAWCA ..............................................................23
6. h- Internet facility in main office of HAWCA (Kabul) .....................................23

Courtesy ...............................................................................................................24
PREFACE

Humanitarian Assistance for the Women and Children of Afghanistan (HAWCA) which is active as a humanitarian organization since 1999 to assist the suffered and marginalized women and children of Afghanistan through its educational, health, incoming generating and emergency relief projects is very pleased to present its annual report of activities and projects of 2003.

The year 2003 has been the 2nd year of the new situation in Afghanistan, and it has been the 2nd year of the transitional government of the country. For HAWCA the fifth year of establishment has been started as a new year for further activities and further determination towards making the life different for the women and children of the country.

Despite of challenges and constrains for each and every NGO (especially for women groups) HAWCA during the year 2003 was active in the development and cooperation field as well as in advocacy and lobbying in favor of women’s rights and human rights. However, HAWCA is having the experience of working in mentioned field even during the harshest regime of Taliban, but with the new changes once again HAWCA staff decided to take an active action in order to improve the situation of human rights and women’s rights in the war-ravage country.

One of the important and historical events of the year 2003 was the constitution Loya Jirga (CLJ) where 502 delegates from all over the country got together to decide about the future constitution of Afghanistan. Hence, HAWCA has been one of the active women’s organizations who took part in promotion of human rights and women’s rights within the constitution, through participating in debates, working groups, platform for action as well as through raising awareness amongst its beneficiaries all over the country (1).

The process of disarmament is also started during the year 2003 and even though it is going significantly slows, HAWCA has been involved in lobbying for these issues through taking part on signing petitions and arranging sit-in demos in Kabul city. And by mentioned ways one of the aims of HAWCA which is to promote women’s rights and human rights has been achieved.

One very important issue to consider is that the year of 2003 for HAWCA has been the year of improving the quality of its assistance rather than expansion of activities; we worked how to improve to quality of assistance we are providing through meetings, workshops, awareness programs and capacity building projects.

Hereby, HAWCA would likes to present the annual activities and projects during the year 2003:

---------------------------------------------------
(1). Please find further information on page 21.
1- EDUCATION

As HAWCA is having a protocol with the MoE(Ministry of Education) regarding the primary and literacy education, we follow the curriculum of the MoE which means the centers are following the 18 months program in which students are studying each grade in six months and within period of 18 months they are being graduated from 3rd grade. This way it is a help for younger students to return to proper educational system i.e. primary schools and women can continue later with any other program available in their areas of living.

1. a- Home-based Classes

During the year 2003 for HAWCA the focus on primary education and literacy for women and girls remained as one of the first priorities. Thus, HAWCA tried to focus on increasing the quality of education besides expanding the project further.

1. a. i- In Nengarhar:

There are HAWCA literacy classes in Jalalabad city and also in Behsood district. The same program of the past is still continuing. During 2003 there have been six home-based classes for women in Behsood district, where mostly girls of teenagers are attending.

1. a. ii- In Balkh (Mazar-e-Sharif):

During the year 2003, HAWCA had six home-literacy classes in this province, as the numbers of classes were graduated during the year. The students were graduated during the year 2003 from 3rd grade, a number attended the public schools and another number is trying to get into the literacy school that government provides for further continuation of woman’s education.

1. b- Literacy Centers

HAWCA have had seven literacy centers in Afghanistan during the year 2003. Young girls and adult women are the main beneficiaries of these centers. The number of students differs in each center, but most of them have 200 - 250 students.

All students get classes of personal hygiene and health care with a book for these subjects (The book “Where there is no doctor” which has been translated by the help of
HAWCA and HAWCA supporter, Sarah Kamal, in Canada.

1. b. i- HAWCA Literacy Center (Kabul):

HAWCA had two literacy centers in Kabul, which were established by H.E. Habiba Sarabi at the end of March, 2002. The literacy centers are located in the western and south-western part of the city.

In September 2003 a number of students who followed all the courses have been graduated from the 3rd grade. They were given a certificate with signature of Ministry of Education’s literacy department as well as HAWCA.

The new comer students are the ones who will continue the classes after September 2003. There have been new registrations by which new attendants were admitted. Both of the centers have had a number of 514 students who were from class 1\textsuperscript{st} to class 3\textsuperscript{rd}.

New centre in Kabul was established in March 2003 with the help of GVC in Bagrami district of Kabul city. The duration of this centre was 18 months year, the centre was in a village where around 500 families are living, and women at different ages attending the classes, in a year the staff were able to graduate a number of girls who were admitted to the primary school established nearby. The centre is following the activities same as all other six centers. Due to lack of funds as well as establishment of new home-based classes where agencies are providing students with further assistance, HAWCA has closed down the center in March 2004.

1. b. ii- HAWCA Literacy Center (Mazar-e-Sharif, Balkh):

The sub-office of Mazar has been actively working during the year 2003. The HAWCA representative of HAWCA, who is at the same time project manager for the literacy project, has registered HAWCA at the MoE department in province of Balkh. Students at Mazar centre were also graduated in September and afterwards new beneficiaries have been registered. The centre location has been changed after the end of the course (18months) as in the area, most of students were the ones attending to HAWCA centre.

The centre is located in Karte Khurasan no. 2. There are 350 students and 12 teachers.
1. b. iii- HAWCA Literacy Center (Jalalabad, Nengarhar):
Despite of some difficulties with communication between main office and Jalalabad literacy centre, the centre was functioning very well. It is located in the centre of Jalalabad city, in an area where mostly mid-class and poor families are living. There are also some religious minorities (Hindus) living in the surrounding area, and some girls from these groups attending the literacy centre. As according to HAWCA aims and objectives HAWCA condemns any kind of discrimination, the staff of Jalalabad office are accepting the Hindu and Sekeh girls and also taking this opportunity, they are talking to students regarding such issues. The only subject these students are not following is the religious studies, during that period they are busy with other class activities.

There are 10 teachers and 200 students studying in this centre and two guards.

1. b. iii- HAWCA Literacy Center (Farah):
This center was established in March 2003, The establishment of this center is another great achievement for HAWCA to struggle against illiteracy in Afghanistan.

Two hundred women and over aged girls (those girls that older than to attend school) are taking the advantage of this literacy center. Each student has the necessary school materials (pencils, rubbers, sharpeners, a color pencils box, notebooks and books). In this center students are sitting on chairs and are provided with other necessities of a education center. They are studying for three in day from 8:30 to 12:30, and will be graduated after passing three years of academic.

1. b. iv- HAWCA Literacy Center (Nimroz):
Nimroz centre is located in Zaranj where two hundred Afghan women and adolescent girls, without distinction of their ethnic group, have been enrolled in the center. In this center students are sitting on chairs and are provided with other necessities of a education center. They are studying for three in day from 8:30 to 12:30, and will be graduated after passing three years of academic.

Donors for Literacy Education:

ASDHA as partner and Govern basc, Ajuntament de Castell-Platja d’Aro, Ajuntament de Polinya, Ajunmeatnm de Mutriku, Principat d’Asturies, Platja d’Aro Council, Mutriku Council, Vasc Country Government, as donors, Italian Cooperation (As donor) and GVC as partner, plus some individual supports.
1. c - Primary schools

1. c. i- Mahjoba-e-Harawi Primary School (Peshawar, Pakistan):

This primary school has been working throughout the year 2003, with good results, however, due to repatriation of refugees, a number of students left the school, but new students attended the school so, the whole program is going the same as before and a number of 238 were studying in this school.

In this year HAWCA changed the building of the school, which is a better building with more room and good condition. In the 10\textsuperscript{th} December students with the help of their teachers had a function to celebrate Human Rights Day. In this function Alia (Project Officer) explained about this day and some problems that the people of Afghanistan are facing inside and outside the country. Students read poems, songs and essays. They also had entertainment programs, and at the end all staff, students and parents prayed for a peaceful Afghanistan.

In this school besides the education, the students were also receiving a monthly package of food as well as they were supported by a medical team visited the school twice during the year 2003.

Worth mentioning that all the students in this school are working children, they are garbage collectors, mechanic workers, shopping bag and water sellers. We also have significant number of students who are the breadwinner of their families, in the morning they attend school and for the rest of the day they work to earn money for their families. HAWCA also is supporting a number of the students' families.

Donor for this project:

Ajuntament de Barcelona, Ajuntament de Lleida, Principat d' Asturias, Diputacio d' Albacete through ASDHA, Spain.

1. c. ii- HAWCA's No.3 Primary School (Peshawar, Pakistan):

HAWCA continued this project same as the year 2002. Despite of the fact that the HAWCA's No.3 Primary School didn’t have proper funding possibility but with the help of donations and individual funds like Kate Orne and some other organizations HAWCA managed to continue this project.

Students along with the help of staff of this school had arranged a function. The subject of this function was awareness about Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly), election and reconstruction of the country.
Donor for this project:
Women for Afghan Women (USA), Women’s Commission (USA), Funds from My Faraway Family (Kate Orne) and individual funds from HAWCA supporters.

1. c. iii- Primary school of Now Bolaq (Samangan, Afghanistan):

The school which was established in the year 2001 in Peshawar continued its educational activities until April 2002 over there. In June 2002 it was reopened in the village of NowBolaq where most of the students were coming from.

The school has been active during whole the year 2003 with the normal curriculum of the MoE. It is having from 1st to 4th grade and during year 2003 the donor of the project approved construction of a new building for the school, however, currently the school is working in a Madrasa (religious school) which is located at the centre of the village. Later in 2003 the construction work has been started and the rest of the construction activities are planned for the coming year 2004.

In May 2003 a delegate from Spain and main office of HAWCA has traveled to the area to visit the school. The visit was very helpful to the donors, as well as to the HAWCA staff to know better the area and need of people.

All the students of the Primary School of Now Bolaq received uniforms, stationary (in monthly bases), clothing for winter, food packages and so on.

Donor of the project:

Govern Basc, El Forum Feminista Maria de Maeztu, ASDHA.

1. c. iv- primary school of Nooristan (Nooristan, Afghanistan):

Primary School of Nooristan was under construction during the year 2003. At the 2nd half of the year the work was finished while the school program was going on in the open air. The school is having 6 rooms, for classes, admin office, guard house, a store, a larger room and an open land for entertainment and sports of the students. The area people are very supportive to this project, hence some of the extra activities to clean up and breaking of stones were part of volunteer contribution by the community in Nooristan Dara-e-Titeen area. Children from several villages around are attending the school. Girls and boy are coming at the same school. One of the challenges in these areas is lack of well-experienced teachers. But, despite of that the students receiving all basic facilities for getting education such as books, stationeries, uniforms, classrooms, chairs, black boards and chalks etc.

Due to lack of security to the surrounding areas of Dara-e-Titeen, female staff of HAWCA and/or any expatriate delegate could not visit the school, whilst the male
staff of HAWCA visited the school several time to monitor the area and activities over there. The school is aiming to be continued in the coming year.

**Donor of the project:**

*Funds from D.S. Party and the municipality of Rome, Italy. (HAWCA received the funds in the year 2002)*

**1. d- Assistance to Public Primary schools in Kabul**

Supporting of Fazil Big Secondary School in the 5th district of Kabul city continued. The aim of this project was to support public school structures in the capital city, but in remote areas of the location.

Fazil Baig primary school which is having a number of 2500 students (girls and boys) is a primary school (1st to 6th grade).

HAWCA provided the school with the establishment of proper drinking water system, chairs, stationary, school bags, some reparation works as well as premium for teachers in monthly bases.

Besides, HAWCA Project Office was monitoring their studying system and following the attendant books of teachers and students regularly, in order to improve their regular access to education in the school.

**Donor of the project:**

*Ajuntament de Barcelona, Ajuntament de Lleida, Principat d’Asturies, Diputacio d’Albacete.*

**1. e- HAWCA’s English Language Center in Kabul**

Due to the recent developments in Afghanistan, there is an urgent need for educated/trained personnel in each and every governmental department in Afghanistan. Foreign NGOs, companies and local NGOs, etc. also need technical expert and educated staff especially in computer and English language. There is a golden opportunity for those who know computer and English language. For this reason thousands of young and old people rushes to the computer and English course to learn computer and English language in order to get job. There is also a tremendous need for female staff, especially those who knows English and computer.

But due to financial problems every one is not able to attend these courses. Taking this point in the view HAWCA’s English Language Center was established in the year 2003.
A number of 155 women and girls were studying throughout the year 2003. There were four classes with three different levels.

- Level one (Inter Com 1)
- Level two (Inter Com 2)
- Level three (Inter Com 3)

The biggest achievement of this project is that a number of 155 students (women and girls) were able to have free access to English language classes, they were provided with all material such as books, deductible material, posters, documents and useful informational books. The students of the centre had also chance to increase their knowledge on several other issues, such as peace, human rights, general information, gender issues and so on.

**Donor of the project:**

*Afghan Women’s Leaders Fund (TCP) from USA, ICRC from Canada and GVC from Italy.*

1. **f- HAWCA’s Computer Course**

The war, particularly the Taliban rule, deprived almost all the young people from proper education and schooling. Now there are thousands of boys and girls that are in search of one kind or another of education whether through proper school or colleges or through other educational channels. HAWCA’s Computer Course which is totally a free IT institute for at least three years is providing a golden opportunity for a number of those who cannot learn computer through other computer courses in the city because there is not a single course which is free in Kabul.

HAWCA’s Computer Course was established in the year 2003. At first it was only for females but due to lots of demands and requests of males of the area, this course started to provide IT training for the males too. Boys are attending this course in the morning and girls are coming to this IT center. There are 160 students in total that are studying in this course.

The softwares that are thought in this IT center are:

1. Windows 98, Windows XP
2. MS Dos
3. MS Word
4. MS Excel
5. MS PowerPoint
6. Adobe Photoshop
7. Macromedia Flash
8. Visual Basic
9. Web Development

This year they studied Windows XP, MS Dos, MS Word, MS Excel and MS PowerPoint.

**Donor of the projects:**

*Fons Catal de Cooperacio al Desenvolupament, Fons Mallorqui de Solidaridad i Cooperacio, (as donor) ASDHA (as partner).*

1. g- Scholarship program for Afghan children Pakistani schools

A number of 40 children are taking benefit from this project. Almost all of them are from poor families but they are intelligent and very brilliant in their studies. An Italian NGO (AIDOS) is supporting this project and this project's main objective is to provide better education and educational environment for the students mainly girls. A number of boys are also the beneficiaries of this project. The beneficiaries of this project attend best Pakistani schools in Peshawar, Rawalpindi. They receive all kinds of stuff needed for their schooling. In addition, families of the students receive an amount of money instead of the money that their children brought them before joining this program. Actually before attending the school, most of the students worked either in their home or outside home. So, the money is instead of their working time for their families.

This article explains about the life of one of the beneficiaries.

“Name: Reha Ahmad
Date of Birth: 12th November 1987
Gender: Female
Class: 9th
School: Country Grammar School

Reha was born in Farah, she says she can't remember her father; she was an architecture, because he was killed when she was three years old. From now on her mother was the one to earn living for the family. Her mother along with her ten years old brother was working in the small piece of land that they owned. Beside this her mother was sewing cloths for the women of the village. They were living with her uncle, he was very supportive and helpful to them and still he is. When the Taliban conquered Farah, her uncle was forced to leave Farah for Quita and then Peshawar. Here in Peshawar her uncle was working as watchman in a Pakistani school. HAWCA sponsored Reha in the year 2001 to study in a Pakistani school, Country Grammar School. At start Reha some difficulty in her studies as English and Urdu was not her mother tongue. Gradually
she improved in her studies and got 80% marks her final exam. Reha says “I want to be architecture and complete the projects in my village that my father left behind”.

**Donor of the project:** AIDOS, Italy.

### 1. Higher education in Pakistani universities

HAWCA has provided free high education opportunity for a number of male and female youth during the year 2002 through the fund which two Italian NGOs allocated for the project. The project provides all the expenses of around 10 girls and boys in Pakistani universities and colleges. The expenses include monthly tuition fee, exam fee, books, stationery, transportation, one time sneak during lunch and other trivial expenses. Now 7 people attend computer institutions. After the completion of 3 years they will get their Bachelor Degree in computer sciences from the most famous institutes of computer, like Curtain University of Australia, Portsmouth University of UK and APTECH Institute of USA. HAWCA is very eager to increase the number of beneficiaries of this program if provided with required fund

The main objective of this project is to arm the next generation of Afghanistan with the modern knowledge in all fields of life. The beneficiaries of this project will contribute in the reconstruction of the country and will infuse modern and advanced knowledge in the minds of their fellow country men and women in the near future.

Five personals are studying with the help of Italian organization AIDOS and this part of the project is going well but for the other students HAWCA is not getting proper fund there is a possibility that this part of the project may stop and the students might end up in the middle.

**Donors of the project:**

*AIDOS and Pangaea foundation of Italy and city counsel of Reverito (Italy).*

### 2- HEALTHCARE

#### 2. Supporting Gulkhana MCH (Kabul, Afghanistan)

The MCH of Gulkhana is working since two years, and it is providing basic health service to a large number of women and children such as Gulkhana, Qala-e-
Shada, Deh Qabil, Chahar Qala, Qala-e-Wazir and Pol-e-Sokhta. The medicine which ministry of health is providing covers only a small part of people's needs; therefore, one of the big challenges for the clinic is lack of medicine and other medical facilities.

The program is to facilitate and rehabilitate the MCH of Gulkhana as target clinic. After the visit HAWCA health staff had to the center, we've decided to provide them with some cleaning works and rehabilitation works. Providing the clinic medicine and as the economical conditions of the staff is not good and the salary of government is very low, so the project will also support a monthly payment to each of our staff.

Soon after receiving funds as well as after getting the agreement from the side of Ministry of Health, HAWCA had started the project. The staff had received the salary and also the clinic has been provided by medicine. HAWCA's health supervisor goes twice a week to monitor all the activities of the clinic and help them solve the problems which they are facing.

**Donor for this project:**

FIOP (Spain).

2. b- Training of TBAs in Peshawar:

In Afghanistan, each year mothers give their life to give life to their children. Many women die due to wrong practices done by Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA). Many women think that they are responsible for not giving birth to a son.

"Millions of Afghan women and children continue to face major health and nutrition problems, with maternal and infant mortality in the war-ravaged nation among the worst in the world", the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said on April 2003.

According to UNICEF spokesman, Edward Carwardine on the eve of World Health Day, 2003 "Afghanistan ranks as the fourth worst country in the world in terms of under-five mortality, with one in four children not surviving beyond their fifth birthday,"

"The infant mortality rate is amongst the highest in the world, standing at 165 per 1,000 live births, while Afghanistan's maternal mortality ratio is equally alarming at 1,600 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births. By comparison, the respective figures for the United States are seven and eight, for Britain six and seven and for Japan four and eight, according to the UN Human Development Report 2002".

According to Carwardine, "The major causes of death amongst pregnant women are actually very simple things such as hemorrhaging, obstructed labor. These
are conditions which can be identified and treated very quickly if there are even basic health care facilities on the ground.

To avoid these problems, HAWCA requested AIDOS, an Italian partner organization, and Shirkat Gah, a Pakistani women organization to help HAWCA arrange a workshop. After the survey of HAWCA along with Sherkat Gah, the workshop started in 7th July and continued for ten days. Every day TBAs (Traditional Birth Assistance) were coming from parts of Peshawar to Blue Continental Guest House, Peshawar. The workshop used to start from 8:00 in the morning and finished in the 4:00 in the afternoon. Between these timing they also had lunch and break. Trainees were also taken to genealogical ward of the different hospitals to have some practical work.

Donor of the project:

AIDOS (Italy) and Shirkat Gah Women’s Resource Centre (Pakistan).

2. c- Mobile Health Team

A mobile health team had been working in Pakistan with the refugee community for months. The aim of the team was to provide medical assistance to refugee communities who do not have access to medications in the cities.

For some times due to lake of funds it was stopped but again it started to work for months. This mobile team was visiting different remote areas of Peshawar e.g. Kababian, Tajabad and Arbab Road.

The team used to go the field from nine in the morning and worked until four in the afternoon. The doctor was checking the patient, writing medicine and test. The tests were done in the out side market as the team didn’t had this facility. This project was four months and at the end of the year it was finished.

Donor of this project:

GVC (Italy).

2. d- Distribution of medicines in Afghanistan & Pakistan

HAWCA received of medicine from Farma Mundi and Mans Unidas of Spain, and organized the distribution amongst several health clinics in Kabul as well as other provinces. The MCH of Ministry of Women Affairs is one of the centers received the medicine packages.

Meanwhile, part the medicine was sent to HAWCA local staff in remote areas
such as Samangan, Farah and Mazar Sharif, where the local HAWCA staff invites local doctors to distribute them for people in need in the mentioned areas.

For instance, a package of medicine was sent to Now Bulaq village that helped the kids of the area to survive against bronchitis spread during winter season in the area.

Donor for this project: Farma Mundi Valencia – Spain.

2. e- Treatment of a TB Patient

Yasameen is a lady who is suffering from TB since a long time; she is being supported by HAWCA health department by providing her with TB medication on quarter basses.

2. f- Operation of two young women

Besides all development activities of HAWCA, in some cases, according to HAWCA’s aim, it is providing support and assistance to families and especially women in need of emergency assistance. For instance, the medication and treatment in Afghanistan is not possible due to lack of technical equipments etc. and in neighboring countries it is highly expensive. HAWCA considering the mentioned point has provided assistance to two cases of women from a remote province of Farah who were in urgent need of support:

Salima one is a young girl of 20. She belongs to Farah province and attends HAWCA literacy center over there. Now she is in Pakistan and under medical treatment. She has a tumor in her ovary. After medical check up, the specialist doctor recommended for urgent operation. The doctor said though they are not sure whether the tumor is cancer or not, but they have to operate and biopsy the tumor in order to know about the exact nature of the tumor. They also said, if she doesn't operate now, there is a high risk that tumor grow rapidly and turn to cancer (if it is not now).

Farida one is a woman of around 50. She belongs to Kabul and one of her leg has cancer which grows and if she doesn't cut her leg, it will prevail to all over her body and will kill her. The doctor said if they cut her leg, she will be cured because the cancer is in its earlier stages.

Thanks to Mercè de Torres, a Spanish lady who have been kind enough to support these two patients. After the arrival of the funds HAWCA started the process and admitted both of the patients to the hospital. They were operated successfully and now their condition is much better than before, both of them returned back to their native area.
2. g- Treatment of Nazaneen:

Nazaneen Ahmad Shah, is a pretty young girl 9 years old, who is studying at HAWCA Literacy centre (Sarassyab). She is suffering from Scholodermya, which is a kind of serious skin diseases. HAWCA staff after getting to know about her problem, had taken her to doctors and hospitalized her for medical examinations, Nazaneen was also taken to German ISAF who made some further tests for the diagnoses.
A group of HAWCA supporters in USA is looking for inviting her for treatment in the USA and still (up to writing this report) there isn’t more information about it. Thus, she is in high need of assistance, because this disease is also spreading.

3- EMERGENCY RELIEF

Afghanistan has been in emergency alert since the beginning of the year 2001 due to war, huge displacement within and outside Afghanistan and as well as due to colossal humanitarian crises during the bombing of the US. Thus, HAWCA focused on the emergency food assistance in order to help the people who faced uncountable difficulties inside and outside Afghanistan during the year 2002.

The beneficiaries of the project were/are mainly 1-families headed by widow women, 2-Poor families, 3-Disabled people and families headed by orphans of war. The items which HAWCA distributed were mainly eatable like flour, ghee, sugar, bean, dry milk, rice. In addition, blanket also has been distributed in some places.

Below are the places which we distributed urgent humanitarian aid during the year 2003:

3. a- Wood and coal distribution for returnee families in Saidkhail, Parwan province

Saidkhail is located in the northern part of Kabul province. The area is green and with hills around it. Two famous rivers (Panjshir River and Ghorband River) are passing from the area and provide irrigation water. The weather of the area is fine during the summer and spring. But winter is harsh with heavy snow fall.

People of the area are mostly poor and their main economic source is farming. Most of men are farmers and work on their fields. The main crops of the area are wheat, barley, cotton, corn and the main fruits which people grow are grapes, berry, apricot and walnut.

After we (HAWCA) received the fund for the wood and coal distribution in Kabul province, we have decided to organize the wood and coal distribution program as soon as possible in three different areas. HAWCA informed its members and volunteer supporters in the areas and in order to do the job satisfactorily dispatched one of its members from HAWCA main office, Kabul to go to
Saidkhail and organize and supervise the program. As soon as our member reached the area, he, with the help of native members, contacted the people and studied their situation in order to select the neediest people before bringing and distribution the coal and wood. After through investigation, they selected internally displaced people (IDP), widows and disabled people.

On 25th of Jan. the team distributed the items successfully to the needy people. After announcing the name of the head of each family, each representative of families got their items by turn and thanked HAWCA for its assistance for the people of the area. The program started at 08:00am and ended at 03:30pm.

The local people were very helpful during food distribution. They helped a lot during transportation and other works.

3. b- Wood and coal distribution for returnee families in Arzan Qeemat, Kabul

Arzan Qeemat is in the eastern part of Kabul. The area is about 30 minutes drive from Kabul city. The famous Pul-e-Charkhee Prison is near to the area and as well as the main base of ISAF forces.

HAWCA distribution team, headed by in-charge of distribution, started working on the project soon we have received the fund from ASDHA. The team contacted the elderly people of the area. He met the people in one of the mosques of the area and discussed with them about the distribution program. After consultation, they selected four people from among the people as the representatives of the people. With the help of these representatives, HAWCA team listed the name of the neediest people as the beneficiaries of the program. The beneficiaries for HAWCA were widows and orphans, disabled people and poor families.

Worth mentioning that before taking the items to the area, HAWCA team contacted government officials for permission. Employed guards were also present during the program in order to avoid any type of problems regarding security.

After announcing the name of the head of each family, each representative of families got their items by turn and thanked HAWCA for its assistance for the people of the area. The program started at 10:00am and ended at around 04:00pm.

3. c- Wood and coal distribution for returnee families in Bagrami district, Kabul
Walayatee is an area in Bagrami. Bagrami is one of the sub-provinces of Kabul which is situated in the southern part of Kabul province. Shaiwakee is about 20 minutes drive from Kabul city. There are very small amount of cultivated land. Most of the people of the area are poor and without any stable source of income.

After a survey that HAWCA staff had from the area, we find out that there have been several NGOs, particularly international ones, who came, carried out survey but never supported the people. HAWCA distribution team, headed by Ilyas, started working on the project for a week. The team contacted the local council. After consultation, the council or shura has introduced one representative from each village and the target beneficiaries of all areas have been chosen by a delegate that included HAWCA’s representative, village representative and the head of shura. The beneficiaries for HAWCA were widows and orphans, disabled people and poor families.

After announcing the name of the head of each family, each representative of families got their items by turn and thanked HAWCA for its assistance for the people of the area. The program started at 011:00am and ended at around 05:00pm.

**Donor of this project:**
*Fons Catal de Cooperacio al Desenvolupament (Donor) ASDHA (Partner).*

**3. d- Food distribution for flood victims in Logar Province**

After we (HAWCA) received the fund from UUSC for the emergency food distribution in Logar province, we have decided to organize the food distribution program as soon as possible. At the time we wanted to distribute food, the people needed the food urgently as they were affected badly by the flood. HAWCA informed its members and volunteer supporters in the area and in order to do the job satisfactorily dispatched a Survey Team from Kabul to get information about the people and choose the needy people for the distribution program. The team also had the responsibility to organize and supervise the program. As soon as the Survey Team reached the area, the in charge of the team, with the help of native members, contacted the people and studied their situation once more. After through investigation, they chose Padkhuab Shana and Pul-e-Halam for the food distribution.

On 1\textsuperscript{st} March 2003, the first round of food distribution has been fulfilled successfully in Padkhuab Shana. On 2\textsuperscript{nd} March 2003 HAWCA team went to Pul-e-Halam in order to distribute foods for the people of this area too. They brought the items from Kabul city as there is no big shop in the area to buy the items over there. They reached Pul-e-Halam at 9:00am and began the food distribution program at 10:30pm. The program ended at 03:00. People of the area thanked HAWCA for its assistance.
Donor of this project:  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, USA.

4- INCOME GENERATION

4. a - Tailoring Workshop in Kabul

There are 20 students, all of them women. They have two female teachers. The course is located in a one-roomed rented house in Qala-e-Baghalak of Bagrami district, Kabul. The students are studying one hour of tailoring and one hour of literacy every day. They are studying in two shifts. The center is open from Saturday to Thursday. Within six months, 20 students were graduated from the course and they were able to do cutting, sewing and tailoring with machine.

Donors of the project: PAOUC, Spain.

4. b- Microfinance for women in Kabul

HAWCA started a survey in its’ area of activities in Kabul city a pilot project of Microfinance in collaboration with Pangea (Italian Foundation), one of HAWCA’s staff got also training with BRAC on microfinance projects for women, but due to some technical difficulties this project has been postponed to the next years.

5- SPONSORSHIP PROJECT

By the generous individual financial support from around the world HAWCA do help children, widows, disables and teachers in NWFP (Pakistan) and inside Afghanistan. Though the program is in its early stages, but thanks to the kind attention of people and supporters there are a number of children and women who are being given monthly money by HAWCA. Worth mentioning that the regular flow of money to the target group is exclusively dependent to the person which is committed to send monthly donation to the desired sponsored individual.

As an example, on of our sponsored families is a teacher’s family who had three children and she gave birth to triplets (three boys at the same time). They are getting regularly the support on monthly bases, besides this support, HAWCA staff has also support the teacher for her application of one year off with salary from her school, the application was proceeded to Ministry of women’s Affair and it is under process.

During the year 2003, a number of 23 families/children were sponsored by several individuals in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Some individual who were very kind to support their sponsored families on
regular bases we appreciate their support highly:

Kate Orne, Teresa Bela, Esther Hynamen, Adriana Zarraquili, Debby, George Panayi, Steffen.

6- OTHER ACTIVITIES

6. a- Teacher training for teachers of literacy centers in Kabul

In January 2003, HAWCA has organized a teacher training seminar for a number of 30 teachers with the help of GVC. The teachers were from HAWCA's literacy centers in Kabul, as well as from another women group called Saba Cultural Centre. As HAWCA is working in a close coordination with the literacy department of MoE, two trainers from mentioned department were coming to train the teachers. Both trainers were highly well-experienced on the issue and teachers found their methods very interesting and practical.

At the end of seminar, HAWCA and GVC (partner NGO), organized a certificate distribution party where a delegate from Italian Embassy, the director of HAWCA and country director of GVC were also attending the ceremony and they have distributed the certificates to teachers.

6. b- Teacher’s coordination meeting

The HAWCA educational committee, is organizing a coordination meeting with all it’s teachers in province level once in every two months, the aim of this meeting is to coordinate their activities, to improve the methods of teachings; to discuss with them about several issues such as human rights, women's rights, children’s rights, constitution and so on.

Teachers are to attend these meetings and then transfer mentioned issues to majority of program’s beneficiaries, i.e. students.

During the year 2003, one specific meeting was held about teaching of health education the book “Where women have no Doctor”. The teachers are getting some information and teaching it to students at the centre.

All teachers are getting together in HAWCA office, where to stay for lunch once in every two months. All the meeting was facilitated and organized by HAWCA educational team and HAWCA’s main office.
6. c- Signing petition for peace and speeding up disarmament process

During the year 2003, HAWCA has been one of the active members of the Afghan Women’s Network (AWN), under this umbrella, HAWCA together will all other Afghan Women NGOs, organized several lobbying activities, one of them was a result of three days workshop at Intercontinental Hotel supported by Eve Ensler a play writer and her NGO V-day. The group of Afghan women decided there to organize several activities, one of them was to write a petition together for promotion of peace and speeding up to disarmament process. HAWCA got the responsibility of Northern Province, from where the local staff of HAWCA has collected a number of 10,000 signatures from women who supported the petition.

It is worth to mention that amongst the groups signed, there were also female heads of military-political groups who were ruling the region, they also signed the petition and agreed with the aim.

6. d- Taking part in CLJ Gender and Law Working Group

Orzala Ashraf founder and director of HAWCA, has attended the Gender and Law Working group as representative of civil society groups, which is an independent group of Afghan lower, professionals, judges, human rights activists, who are aiming to support the gender equity through out the government and society levels of life. One of the main activities of this group was to work on the constitution draft and include the gender and human rights issues within the constitution articles. She was also one of the speakers of the group in a press conference that was organized for suggestion on the constitution draft. The group’s achievements has been some three articles where in constitution there are points supporting women’s rights and their gender equity with men, as well as forbidding the negative costumes and traditions which violate the basic human rights and women’s rights. Meanwhile, HAWCA director was actively taking part in most of workshops, meeting and gathering on constitution issues. She has been one of volunteer facilitators of a Platform for Action for Women’s rights in the constitution. And she was in a group of trainers who trained the female delegates of the CLJ.

(Please see Annex 1 for recommendations to CLJ)

6. e- Taking part in First Women’s Sit-in in Kabul

The Afghan Women’s Network has organized a first Women demo at Women’s
Garden in Kabul, where a number of 1000 women were getting together to raise their voices for security, extension of ISAF or Nato forces throughout the country and asking for overall security. The sit-in demo had a good coverage in the media.

Orzala Ashraf, director of HAWCA was also one of the spokespersons of the sit-in. Who made interviews with several media groups there.

(Please see Annex 2 for declaration of AWN)

6. f- Receiving a certificate of appreciation from HE Hamid Karzai for taking part in the CLJ process

For being very active in the constitution process, working on the awareness process of the constitution; and promotion of women’s rights and human rights within the constitution, HAWCA has received a certificate of appreciation from the commission of constitution with signature of His Excellency Mr. Hamid Karzai the president of Afghanistan’s Transitional Government.

6. g-Publishing the booklet of HAWCA

This year HAWCA published a booklet about its activities and projects for the first time. This booklet has been divided to eight parts.

1. About HAWCA
2. Education
3. Health
4. Emergency Relief
5. Sponsorship
6. Handicrafts
7. Awards
8. Tours

6. h- Internet facility in main office of HAWCA (Kabul)

Internet and communication for HAWCA is one of it’s crucial needs, as the way HAWCA is active is not only to get funds from the donors but is to keep them informed on every and each development on a regular bases. However, for HAWCA the year 2003 was the work of lots of works and less personal for workings, without the kind support of Women in Black of Italy and PAOUC it could be impossible to full-fill the need of having internet access in the office. We hereby thank HAWCA friends and supporters for being kind enough to
sponsor HAWCA office for internet facility.

**Donor:**
*WiB of Rome (Luisa Morgantini), PAOUC (Spain).*

**Courtesy**

HAWCA would like to thank all donors, supporters and individual personals for supporting HAWCA, and their love and affection towards the devastated people of Afghanistan. HAWCA wishes every one of you good luck and happy life.

Together we can make a better world!

HAWCA.