

Report on The Rotary Foundation's Special Initiative Grant 06-01



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The cover picture is of Fary Moini experimenting with being “trapped” under a burka.

Fary Moini's Accomplishments Under Grant SI 06-01

La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotarian, Fary Moini traveled to Afghanistan funded by Rotary Foundation Special Initiative Grant SI 06-01. She was in Afghanistan from March 31 through May 7, 2006. Below is an outline summary of her activities while there.

Rotary School in Jalalabad

Fary visited the Rotary School in Jalalabad an average of two to three times per week for four weeks. Accomplishments include the following:

1. Taught basic English to fifth and sixth grade girls and to seventh and eighth grade boys.
2. Distributed approximately 400 English dictionaries provided by the La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary Club (hereafter sometimes referred to as "the club"). These were shipped through the US military to Jalalabad.



Students at Jalalabad Rotary School receiving English dictionaries donated by La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary Club.

3. Demonstrated to the teachers how to use Rosetta Stone English as a Second Language (ESL) software on the computer lab furnished by the club.

4. Purchased supplies for approximately 1,750 personal hygiene kits, assembled the kits with the help of students and then distributed a kit to each student. Funds for this came from a penny drive at Doyle Elementary School in San Diego, a Sister School for the elementary grades at the Jalalabad Rotary School.



Students at Jalalabad Rotary School assembling personal hygiene kits with funds purchased by penny drive at Doyle Elementary, its Sister School.

5. On two separate occasions arranged for Jalalabad physicians to provide lectures to the students on the importance of personal hygiene and use of the donated items.



Students at Rotary School listening to personal hygiene lecture provided by Jalalabad physicians.

6. Established a video lab at the school and ran DVD's for students and teachers. These DVDs assisted with English learning using simple cartoons and also provided profile information about the Doyle Sister School. She trained the teachers how to use the projector, video camera, and laptop that were donated to the school. The laptop was donated by the club and the projector and video

camera were donated through funds from a Hewlett Packard-Sister Cities International grant.

7. Purchased and oversaw installation of generator at school to run the video room and computer lab. (Funds provided by the club.)
8. Videotaped daily life at the Jalalabad Rotary School to be shown to the students at Doyle Elementary School.
9. Delivered letters prepared by Doyle elementary School students to students at the Jalalabad Rotary School. Talked to the students about the same and suggested that return letters and art work be prepared. Collected letters and art work from Jalalabad Rotary School to take back to Doyle Elementary School.



Students at Doyle Elementary School who have participated in the Sister School program. Also pictured- Fary Moini and Doyle Vice-Principal Steve Mosher.

10. Arranged for Dr. Dave Warner (from the US) to provide a lecture to the students on Global Citizenship, Global Responsibility, and the importance of community awareness and involvement.
- 11.



Dr. Dave Warner providing lecture on Global Citizenship at Jalalabad Rotary School

12. Assessed the utilization of female teachers and explored possibilities for funding more of the same. Met two times with the Director of Education of Nangarhar Province regarding the need to increase the number of female teachers at the school.
13. Coordinated visitations to the school by Professor Arsala Nangyalay, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Education, (from Central Government in Kabul) and Mr.Gerdiwal, Director of Education for Nangarhar Province.
14. Worked with representatives of Relief International to implement the *Schools-on-Line* program at the Jalalabad Rotary School using the computer lab in place. This program provides computer training for middle school students with an objective to eventually link these participating students with students at the Preuss Middle School in San Diego. (The Preuss Middle School is strongly supported by the club.)



Mr. Habib providing computer instruction to students at Jalalabad Rotary School.

15. Followed up on the assessment process to establish a V-SAT internet connection at the Jalalabad Rotary School.
16. Met with village elders of the community supported by the school and talked about the importance of village support of the school. Arranged for the Advisor to the Minister of Education to participate in this meeting.
17. Met with the teachers to hear their concerns about providing quality education to the students.

Nangarhar University

1. Taught English as a Second language to first, second and third year university students for full mornings for two weeks.
2. Participated in multiple meetings with Chancellor of Nangarhar University, top administrators at Nangarhar University and the Minister of Higher Education (one meeting) to assist the development of a partnership between Nangarhar University and San Diego State University.



From left to right, Chancellor Hamadzi, Dr. Warner, Professor Safi and Fary Moini.

3. Met with university officials to assist the development of the Guest House and International Learning Center on campus—to be funded by Rotarian Steve Brown and John Moores through the club’s foundation. Bids were obtained and a contract has been signed.
4. Oversaw the utilization of the computer lab on main campus previously supplied by the club.



Nangarhar University Professor Safi at university computer lab

5. Arranged for Dr. Dave Warner to facilitate the utilization of the private satellite platform donated to the Chancellor by San Diego State University.



NU Chancellor Hamadzi with donated laptop and donated satellite platform (behind his head on the ground).

6. Met with Dr. Mangal and Dr. Safiullah to assess their utilization of an online ESL medical scholarship donated to them by University of California-San Diego. This program teaches use of the English language for the medical profession.
7. Assessed the utilization of the computer lab at Nangarhar Medical School (The lab was provided by funding through SI 04-11.) The lab is being utilized over 12 hours per day with either one or two students at each station.
8. Worked with former GSE team member Dr. Khan to arrange for the purchase of pediatric equipment for the critical care unit neonatal ward. (Funds were provided by SI 04-12.) Rotarian Zamarud Shah in District 3270-Peshawar, Pakistan purchased these supplies in Pakistan and facilitated the transportation and delivery to the border. Fary and Dr. Khan picked up this equipment at the border and put it to use at the neonatal ward.



Dr. Nasir Khan with neonatal oxygen machine purchased with donated funds from The Rotary Foundation.

9. Worked with hospital administrators, including former GSE team member Dr. Khan, regarding the logistics of receiving the container holding \$2,500,000 of medications (wholesale value) that will be arriving shortly. (Funds were provided for this through MG 58236.)
10. Met with university officials and female students regarding the feasibility and need to build a dormitory for females on the campus of Nangarhar University's College of Education.



Fary Moini with female students explaining need for female dormitory.

11. Met with former GSE team member Dr. Khalil (pathologist) to help prepare for San Diego Rotarian Dr. Art Mendoza's (pathologist) visit and lectures later in May.

Public Hospital and Ministry of Public Health

1. Provided anatomy charts for distribution at nursing school located at Public Hospital.
2. Assessed problems related to lack of use of two ultra sound machines donated by the club last year. Arranged for three day training sessions for local doctors to learn how to operate these ultra sound machines. Participated in dedication ceremony for two ultra sound machines.
3. With the assistance of Dr. Dave Warner, assessed the feasibility of providing V-SAT internet connection to computer room in Mid-wifery school located at Public Hospital and also extending same to other parts of the hospital. Funds to be provided by SI 04-12.
4. Met with Dr. Rabbani, Advisor to Minister of Public Health and Dr. Pardis regarding establishing visiting doctors program for Jalalabad.



From left to right: Dr. Rabbani, Dr. Pardis with Fary Moini

5. Met with Dr. Pardis, Director of Nangarhar Public Hospital, concerning administrative needs of the hospital including how technology can be utilized at the hospital.
6. Attended meeting convened by Dr. Pardis where local NGOs involved in public health, directors of public health clinics and hospital in nearby provinces, and the PRT (US military) discussed general public health issues and future cooperation.
7. Arranged meeting between Nangarhar University Chancellor Hamidzai and Dr. Pardis who also is the Director of Public Health for Nangarhar Province. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss mutual cooperation between Nangarhar Public Hospital and Nangarhar University Teaching Hospital.

Micro Credit

1. Visited micro credit project funded by MG 55095.



Micro credit beneficiary with her cow.



Micro credit beneficiary making dresses

2. Met with Relief International representatives responsible for administering the grant.

ESL Donated Scholarship from Michigan Rotary District

1. Met with Nangarhar University Chancellor Hamidzai regarding locating candidate for scholarship.
2. Met with appropriate Department heads at Nangarhar University re publicizing scholarship.
3. Attending meetings of Rotary Club of Jalalabad and discussed the scholarship.

Other Activities

1. Attended six meetings of Rotary Club of Jalalabad and assisted with training and club administration.
2. Met with Alhaj Fazel Karim Fazel, President Rotary Club of Kabul, to discuss Rotary basics and how to revitalize the club.
3. Met with PRT representatives (U.S. military and USAID) to advise of Rotary's present and future activities in Jalalabad and to advise of Sister Cities activities. Discussed urban planning issues.
4. Met with new Jalalabad Mayor and new Nangarhar Province Governor regarding Rotary's past, present and future activities in the region and also advising of the San Diego~Jalalabad Sister Cities affiliation and activities.



Fary Moini, Jalalabad Mayor and Dr. Dave Warner

5. Evaluated various ESL programs provided in Jalalabad for possible future expansion.
6. Established relationship between Rotary and International Medical Corps.
7. Expanded Rotary relationships generally in Jalalabad.

General Observations—Looking Forward

Although the trip was difficult in many respects, I see substantial progress in the City of Jalalabad. The Mayor and Governor seem to be doing a good job with municipal improvements. The municipal offices are run in a more business like fashion.

The Rotary School has many students and is functioning reasonably well but there are serious limitations. We need more female teachers to provide for female education beyond grade seven and to increase female enrollment in the grades below grade seven. The school should be run in two shifts to provide for grades nine through twelve. We need English and science teachers and we need to establish an internet connection for our computer lab. We need to have an administrator run the computer lab. Our teachers at the school advise that they need in service training and they will attend if it is provided. We need more community/parental involvement. All of these items are possible with support from the Office of Education in Nangarhar Province and encouragement and direction from the Ministry of Education in Kabul. Fary made the appropriate contacts with the Nangarhar Director of Education and the representative of the Minister of Education to get these items moving forward. Follow up from this end will be necessary to bring these items to a reality.

We have developed a very good relationship with the Chancellor of Nangarhar University (NU) and are optimistic about the formation of a meaningful partnership between San Diego State University and Nangarhar University. Fary's various volunteer trips to Jalalabad have been instrumental in forging this relationship. NU has many needs all the way from infrastructure needs to pedagogical direction. There are many ways to assist using the connections that have been developed with different institutions and individual in the San Diego area. We will continue to pursue these connections vigorously.

The internet lab we provided on the main campus is underutilized and we have discussed this with the Chancellor. There are various possibilities to expand use of the internet throughout the main campus and Dr. Dave Warner has made a preliminary assessment in this regard.

The internet lab we established at the Nangarhar University Medical School is functioning very well. The University of California at San Diego has expressed an interest in exploring expanding the availability of its internet based ESL program for the medical profession. Fary's meeting with the two recipients of this donation, Dr. Mangal and Dr. Safiullah was very encouraging in this regard. More follow up with UCSD is in order at this time.

One issue Fary looked into was female education generally and lack of female educators specifically. These are crucial issues for empowering females in Afghanistan nation-wide. To address these problems several factors should be considered including:

Culture, religion, social status, living accommodations, training, and use of technology.

According to Afghan culture, religion and social status, the family and even the female students themselves do not feel at ease to attend school after sixth grade if they do not have female educator present. Some things are not going to change in the short term but there are ways we can help address this situation. There are a significant number of females who have been lucky enough to graduate from high school but will be denied higher education for the lack of proper and safe dormitories, especially those who are coming from rural areas. Thirty five years of conflict and lack of upgrading university housing facilities has resulted in almost no housing facilities for female university students. Further, there is no up to date pedagogical training and technology available to female university students or teachers in service. We are hopeful to be able to bring attention to these issues and finds ways (and support) to correct the situation in Nangarhar Province.

Fary set the stage for the first visiting doctor from San Diego (Dr. Art Mendoza) to meet with professional counterparts in Jalalabad. We now need to assess the results of that professional visit and plan for more of the same. We also need to explore further the use of telemedicine options to assist the medical/public health community in Jalalabad. Fary's relationship established with Dr. Pardis should prove to be a good starting point in this regard. We are now exploring bringing the internet to various places within the Nangarhar Public Hospital and hope to have this in place in the next few months.

Much progress has been made regarding our Rotary Club's activities in Jalalabad. Many relationships have been established in Jalalabad with various organizations and individuals. There are many organizations and individuals in San Diego who are now participating in these activities as well.

We continue to look forward to a long term involvement in these efforts. One thing is certain—the name “Rotary International” and the word “Rotarian” are both well known and respected throughout the City of Jalalabad.

Respectfully Submitted,

June 20, 2006



Fary Moini



Stephen R. Brown