

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the PKCF family, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a happy, peaceful new year and to thank you for your unwavering support.

With each passing year, the projects we have initiated have grown in scope and reliance on their funding for success. I spent three months in Iran inspecting every project, reviewing budgets, meeting partners, and speaking with each child and young person under our care. My trip and subsequent report to the Board of Trustees led us to conclude that due to the high cost of inflation and the need to ensure each project's long-term survival, we will focus our funding on ten of our most worthy projects in Iran. These projects were selected for their tremendous impact, excellent leadership, and impressive outcomes, and we are thrilled to continue our vital backing for them. We have highlighted accomplishments from four of these projects in this newsletter.

I am also pleased to inform you that since June 2023, Natalie Kabiriha has been working closely with the PKCF team. She is a competent addition to PKCF, and I am delighted to announce that, as of immediate effect, she is my Executive Assistant. Natalie will accompany me on my next inspection trip to Iran in March 2024. This is in preparation for her and a younger generation to assume responsibility for the Foundation when I am no longer able to manage PKCF directly.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to all our supporters for your steadfast support. We will embark on 2024 with continued determination to bring more love and light to children.

Best wishes,

Diana Khalatbari

Bachehaye Ma (Our Children) – Kerman 2006

In 2006, the Tavakoli family purchased 25,000 m² of land in Kerman. PKCF funded the construction of 5 buildings on this land to house and care for orphaned children.-PKCF supports 90% of BM's annual operating costs and represents its most prominent aid donor. We are delighted to provide the following updates:

- Several girls who received university degrees have opted to continue their higher education while living in BM and helping their younger siblings.
- Several girls (now adults) got married in the last couple of years, having their wedding ceremonies in their childhood home of BM. Like all other women in Iran, they have traditionally been provided with home furniture. A few are now proud owners of their own homes with babies on the way. The older boys who finished their schooling and military service now live independently and hold well-paid jobs.
- The Sewing Workshop project continues to be a great success, with clothes sold on Instagram <u>@poplimoda</u> and in the popli boutique located in a mall managed and staffed by BM young adults. The profits are distributed between BM and the young adults who staff the boutique.
- Souroush, who joined BM at age three, is now eighteen and a Paralympic swimming champion who has earned medals in all categories. In October 2023, he represented Iran at the 4th Asian Paralympic Games in Hangzhou, China, where he won a bronze medal. He has also qualified to represent Iran in the 2024 Summer Paralympic Games in Paris! This young man has overcome much tragedy and adversity through his time at BM, and we are so proud to see him flourishing.



Sourosh at age 3, the first year at BM centre 2006.



Sourosh at age 18, winner of bronze medal at the 4th Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, China 2023.

Bachehaye Ma is currently home to 98 children. New arrivals from age three are welcomed by their older siblings and quickly settle in. While most of them are healthy children, Roshanak Tavakoli takes in children who other organisations have rejected due to special needs. Please let us know if you are planning a visit to Iran so we can arrange a visit to this fantastic organisation.



Bachehay Ma Orphanage, younger boys and girls, Kerman, Autumn 2023

Jafarabad Village Learning Centre – Ghazvin

<u>The Primary School</u> PKCF initially constructed this school in 2006 and has funded refurbishment over the years. The 158 girls and boys who attend the elementary school are thriving. Two mothers who were once students whose four children currently attend the school are members of the Parent-Teacher Association and are determined to ensure the school excels for future generations. PKCF assists with the school's maintenance, equipment supply, teacher transportation, and educational excursions for students. Upon completing the 6th grade, girls and boys will attend the new middle/high school, **Forough Mehr**, in the same compound.



Diana Khalatbari's visit, Primary School, Jaffarabad, Ghazvin, 2023

Students in the classroom, Primary School, Jaffarabad, Ghazvin 2023

<u>The Secondary School Forough Mehr</u>, Pargol and Nazgol Saati have honoured the memory of their parents by funding the construction of this secondary school for the children of Jafarabad. PKCF supervised the school's construction and continues to oversee maintenance and all the students' needs.

Fifty-five girls and boys attend the middle school, and another 56 girls will eventually enrol in afternoon secondary school classes.



Group of students in the School yard and the classroom, Forough Mehr Middle School, Jaffarabad, Ghazvin, 2023

PKCF Middle/High School, Hichan, Baluchistan, since 2021

PKCF commenced construction on this school for boys at the end of 2021 and inaugurated the school in September 2023 when our CEO and PKCF representatives visited Hichan. They met with teachers, students, and their families to understand their needs and determine how best to help them. They dedicated one morning to training students on how to care for the environment by picking up and bagging plastic bottles for sale. On inauguration day, for the very first time, the streets surrounding the school were clean.

Vocational classes are also offered to interested students in the afternoons to utilise the classrooms when school has finished for the day. For example, *souzan douzi* workshops are run, teaching women from the village how to produce Baluchi embroidery.



Diana Khalatbari's visit, PKCF Middle/Secondary School, Hichan, Baluchestan, 2023



Boys in the classroom, Secondary school, Hichan, Baluchestan, 2023

Kaykee Village – Baluchistan, since 2021

In October 2023, our CEO visited Kaykee Village and is delighted to report that the provision of the water well, reservoir, toilets and baths has had a significant impact on the lives of the villagers. PKCF continues to supply biannual delivery of food/hygiene packs, assist with medical needs, and provide transport for children attending school in a neighbouring village. The most heartwarming change we can see is that they have so much more pride in their village, having planted small vegetable patches, increased their livestock, and made great efforts to keep their Village clean of litter.



Roshanak Tavakoli's visit, Kaykee Village, 2023

Children provided with rucksacks, Kaykee Village, 2023