

2007 Rebuild Afghanistan Summit

Organization				
Organization Name	afghans for Afghans		Year Established	2001
Website	http://www.afghansforAfghans.org			
501(c)(3) status	Agape Foundation is our fiscal sponsor		Tax ID	
Contacts				
Contact	Main		Representative	
Name	Ann Rubin		Ann Rubin, founder of afghans for Afghans	
Phone				
Email	afghans4Afghans@aol.com			
About the Representative				
<p>1) Ann's nonprofit management and media experience includes marketing, business planning, and development. While at Salon.com, she managed the Table Talk community service. Ann co-founded MuseumShop.com.</p> <p>2) Ann has an MBA from the Haas School at the University of California at Berkeley. She knits and crochets too.</p> <p>3) In 1999, Ann visited Peshawar, where many Afghans live and sell their exquisite textiles. A highlight of the trip was traveling to the top of the Khyber Pass and playing with the Afghan kids trading money.</p> <p>4) Ann is the administrative coordinator for Weave a Real Peace, a worldwide membership of indigenous textile organizations and their supporters.</p> <p>5) Ann and afghans for Afghans have received recent awards for their dedication to the people of Afghanistan: Knitter of the Year 2006, Jefferson Award for Community Service 2007, Heifer Hero 2008.</p>				
Organization's Mission/Objective				
<p>afghans for Afghans is a humanitarian and educational people-to-people project that knits and crochets blankets, sweaters, vests, socks, mittens, and hats for the people of Afghanistan. In partnership with the S.F. office of the American Friends Service Committee, afghans for Afghans started in late 2001 in response to the war that unfolded after 9/11. <i>afghans for Afghans</i> creates beautiful and practical blankets and garments as a gesture of friendship and respect for Afghan children, women, and men. This follows a long American tradition of knitting for others at times of war and crisis. Our project offers the opportunity for North Americans to constructively and tangibly respond to need and suffering with the work of our own hands and hearts. We partner with reliable and experienced relief organizations for transit and distribution, including Afghans 4 Tomorrow, International Orphan Care, CURE Hospital, Church World Service, Mobile Mini Circus For Children, and others. To date, we have produced more than 60,000 blankets and garments for Afghan families.</p>				
What is your organization planning on doing to help the people in Afghanistan?				
<p><i>afghans for Afghans</i> will continue with current programs as long as the need exists. To encourage cross cultural appreciation, we document traditional Afghan knitting designs and create new knitting patterns based on Afghanistan's rich cultural heritage. We have also pursued microenterprise to enable Afghan women to earn income, but we have not moved beyond research and market testing because of hurdles in Afghanistan. We hope to continue pursuing the possibility of microenterprise as time goes on.</p>				
How can the Bay Area community get involved in helping your organizations?				
<p>Join us in knitting and crocheting for the people of Afghanistan. Help us sort and pack cartons for shipping. We also welcome requests from established NGOs that would like to distribute our gifts to their clients in Afghanistan. Please email us to introduce yourself. We welcome your involvement.</p> <p>Current guidelines and program information are available at our website: http://www.afghansforAfghans.org</p>				