

2007 Rebuild Afghanistan Summit

Organization			
Organization Name	Sarahim Center of Special Education for Afghan Children with Disabilities (SEACD)	Year Established	2005
Website	www.seacd.org		
501(c)(3) status	Pending	Tax ID	20-5150735
Contacts			
Main Contact Name	Nazifa Shairzay	Presenter Name	Harrier Cagatay
Phone Number	805-426-8108	and Nazifa Shairzay.	
Email	info@seacd.org	If only one presenter then H. Cagatay	
About the Presenter			
1) Harrier Cagatay is the Health & Communications Director.			
2) Nazifa Shairzay is the Executive Director and spends at least 6 months out of the year on-site at the Center in Kabul.			
3) Both have been involved with the Center since its establishment in July 2005.			
Organization's Mission/Objective			
The mission of SEACD is to provide Afghan children who are developmentally and/or physically challenged with three main tools – literacy, vocational skills and a state of optimal health – that will allow them to become self-subsisting and productive adults. Children of all ages, backgrounds and disabilities who are able and eager to learn are welcome as funding and resources permits.			
List the organization's past accomplishments in helping the people in Afghanistan. Be sure to include start and completion dates			
* The Sarahim Center opened its doors on July 9, 2005 to 3 students and currently serves the needs of 52 children, ranging in age from 5-18 and having physical and/or mental disabilities.			
* Each child to date has received the following services: Education (in the following areas: literacy, mathematics, social studies, English, physical fitness, drawing, calligraphy & craftwork), Life skills training (opening a bank account, taking care of their own hygiene and performing common activities of daily living), vocational skills training, warm meals, medical attention and daily encouragement.			
* Transportation for each child to and from the center has been arranged by the Center's own two vans and hired drivers.			
* The Sarahim Center has helped the people in Afghanistan by answering the call of a country that is already under stress to provide a proper education to the physically and mentally healthy and of families that are not equipped with the means or education to care for physically/mentally challenged kids. These children who are often found begging on the streets are taken in and provided a place where they can receive an education, basic medical care and learn a trade that will enable them to be self-sufficient and productive.			
Note: The start date for these ongoing accomplishments was July 2005. The completion date for four of our students occurred in March 2007 when they transitioned into the public school system and were accepted at the 4 th grade level.			

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What is your organization planning on doing to help the people in Afghanistan?

We plan to continue to address the need of educating and caring for the special needs children by providing them with the services outlined above. Our future plans include facilitating internships/apprenticeships, job placement, assimilation into the public school systems and pursuit of additional education or vocational training.

We believe that education and encouragement are the right of every child, disabled or not. Research has proven that community based programs are the most successful means of providing rehabilitation and support services to the Afghan population (2005, UN Comprehensive Disabled Afghan Program). We set out to create a grassroots organization to provide basic education and a means of earning income to the special needs children of Afghanistan however what has also been achieved is instilling the children at the Center with the hope and ability to shape a successful future and contribute to the rebuilding of their country.

We *are* making a difference, one child at a time!

How can the Bay Area community get involved in helping your organizations?

Donate supplies, learning tools/games and books for the children

Provide expertise in the area of special needs education

Create venues and promote the purchase of products and crafts made by the children of the Center

Help us spread information about the Center and raise funds

Become an active member and volunteer your time and resources to our many on-going projects

Sponsor a child!