



Greetings!

“Nowruz Piruz” (Happy New Year) to you and your loved ones. We can all agree that this year needs hope and hope is a flower that must be watered. The tragedy and limitations before us seem to grow exponentially and threaten to overtake each flower. Child Foundation is here with watering cans and willing hands to help you and our communities grow.

You can give **an eidi gift** to a vulnerable child today.

As we enter a new year, our sister organization, Child Foundation Iran, has a brief update about the Iran Food Package program. For safety, in-person operations of both the Child Foundation USA and Child Foundation Iran offices have been diminished but we are still working. You can support our **coronavirus relief efforts** as well.

We hope that the sabzeh on your haft seen is healthy and bright.
Happy Nowruz and let us all lean into the work before us.

With sincere gratitude and optimism,

Navid Seyedali

P.S. Child Foundation's Legal Means of Aid to Iran

Child Foundation is proud to stand by the people of Iran despite how difficult it is to send aid. We are actively involved in all four of the below actions in Iran:

1. Under OFAC's General License E, Child Foundation can transfer funds in the case of a natural disaster such as the flood in Sistan and Baluchestan province.
2. Under OFAC's General License E, Child Foundation can transfer funds in the case of humanitarian aid such as the coronavirus outbreak.
3. Child Foundation's Iran Food Package Program for our over 6,000 students is needed more than ever and legal as importing food is not a sanctioned activity.
4. Child Foundation's efforts to secure medical supplies that are hard to come by inside of Iran are also legal as importing medical supplies is not a sanctioned activity.

To learn more about OFAC's General License E, please visit [here](#).

Give an Eidi Gift

Child Foundation Iran (بنیاد کودک)

The year 1398 was difficult for Iranians and also for Child Foundation. A year that started with devastating floods and is coming to an end with a deadly pandemic. We have witnessed heightened sanctions against Iran, shrinking wages, international tensions, domestic protests over a deteriorating economy, the downing of the Ukraine Flight 752, and several natural disasters. What a surreal year 1398 was.



However, the optimism and motivation of the Child Foundation Iran staff and Child Foundation USA staff is unwavering for two reasons. First, your steadfast kindness and support for the students miles away. Second, the students who face economic hardship but still thrive in their education. The proof of their success is in the grade point average of 17.8 out of 20 for the first semester of the year 1398 Iranian school.

Due to OFAC's denial of Child Foundation USA's license renewal (for the transfer of non-disaster relief related funds), Child Foundation Iran had two options:

Option 1: To dismiss the 6,000 students sponsored by Child Foundation USA. This tragic solution would address the financial loss but come at a human cost.

Option 2: To recruit co-sponsors for these students in Iran, urgently, and reduce the risk of dropout among our promising children. Naturally, Child Foundation Iran chose the second solution because it was impossible to run the risk that so many bright minds would leave school.

So, Child Foundation Iran got to work on a large sponsorship drive and the means to co-sponsor students. At the same time, Child Foundation USA determinedly worked on regaining OFAC's permissions to transfer non-disaster relief funds and developing the food package system until the new OFAC application is approved.

We are making excellent progress.

Importing food is not sanctioned, but it is complicated.

There are three stages to sending food packages to Iran:

1. Purchasing food from non-Iranian vendors outside of Iran
2. Transporting food into the country with permission from the Iranian government
3. Distributing food packages to our families no matter how small their village is

Our Iran Food Package Task Force members from Child Foundation Iran and Child Foundation USA identified the foods which the Iranian government will permit for import. Regulations change in Iran periodically; however, we are moving forward. The task force also identified non-Iranian vendors and secured initial results.

The last stage is critical and brings in social, ethical, and psychological dimensions. **Respecting the dignity of our students and their families is more valuable than charity that robs vulnerable people of their pride and self-respect.** Child Foundation Iran and Child Foundation USA want to differentiate our program from stigmatized charitable giving by working with grocery stores to distribute the food. This strategy avoids public gatherings at our offices to dole out lower-quality resources. We want to support a generation of children with minimal harm to their sense of self due to uncritical and unprofessional assistance.

Our task force is, right now, in negotiation with chain grocery stores to work out a solution that reaches all of our students across the country.

The Iran Food Package Task Force members from Child Foundation USA:

1. Navid Seyedali, President of Child Foundation USA and Iran Food Package Project Manager
2. Reza Eshghi, Director of Administration at Child Foundation USA

The Iran Food Package Task Force members from Child Foundation Iran:

1. Gholamreza Jenaghi, board member and project's legal counsel (bottom left)
2. Dr. Hormat Nazeri, Managing Director of Child Foundation Iran (top)
3. Vahid Amani, Iran Food Package Project Coordinator (bottom center)
4. Ali Payani, Iran Food Package Project Coordinator (bottom right)

This is a challenging journey, but we are strongly motivated because we care about our students who deserve to grow and utilize their talents with your support and kindness. May your kindness last into the next year.



Help a child access
education

Choose a child

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