Greetings,

Child Foundation lifts children from poverty by bringing down barriers keeping them from quality education to successfully grow into adulthood.

2021 was an exceptionally challenging year. COVID disproportionally impacted vulnerable communities and claimed lives. Afghanistan’s government fell, resulting in a severe humanitarian crisis. But, Child Foundation did not retreat. We pressed ahead by finding new ways to support 800+ children and their families, including opportunities for girls, while at the same time assisting refugees. Our work and its importance are now recognized by the new government.

All of us know COVID jeopardizes the health of children and their families. In 2021 we sent COVID medical equipment to support hospital shortages in Iran. Thousands of families facing hardship received care packages. Scores of food packages were delivered to families facing price hikes and shortages in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, and Tajikistan and we equipped many classrooms with COVID safety equipment. In Afghanistan our Thalassemia Clinic remained open for all children needing life-saving treatment.

According to the UN, the pandemic is creating the largest disruption to education in history - affecting approximately 1.6 billion learners. We know that lack of internet access and devices exacerbate learning inequities. To ensure our students in Iran get necessary tools for success in school during the pandemic and beyond, Child Foundation launched the Iran Education Fund in 2021. Based on needs assessments, students are receiving tablets, laptops, and smart phones and other supplies directly supporting their education. All of this momentum means excellent prospects for greater outreach and impact for disadvantaged children in 2022!

I thank all the donors and partners across the world for being with us each step of the way in 2021, and making hopes and dreams for children come true.

Gary Gamer
President and CEO
Child Foundation

Shohguna has been studying at a Child Foundation-funded after-school program in Tajikistan since 2020. This year, with the help of her tutors and extra classes, she entered a local Vocational Technical College studying her favorite major, design. She’s grateful that she can make a difference in her life with the help of kind sponsors.

Ali from Iran became a Child Foundation scholarship student in the fourth grade after his liver transplant surgery. With the help of Child Foundation, he went to one of the best private middle schools tuition-free. “Studying in that school was a turning point in my life,” Ali adds. He was also registered in after school English classes to complete his educational support. He is now a medical student and thanks the Child Foundation family for helping him succeed.

Esmatollah has been a Child Foundation student for more than 10 years. Not only is he an English literature graduate from Balkh University, but he is one of Child Foundation’s volunteers in Afghanistan. His career is now in providing affordable education. Esmatollah says, “the kindness and generosity of my sponsor motivated me to establish an academic institution focusing on English, computer and art.”
Iran Education Fund: Connecting students to better education

Child Foundation Iran Program is multi-faceted, and branched out even more in 2021 to better support disadvantaged students. Our first level of care is the monthly food packages provided through the Cosponsorship Program. Students receive nutritious essentials like beans, lentils, chickpeas, and rice. The second level of care comes from cosponsors in Iran who provide a monthly stipend. When disaster strikes, emergency care kicks in with emergency assistance like the thousands of COVID care packages sent this year.

Our social workers help make all this support mean the most to each child. They connect students and their families to resources like after-school classes, mental health support and community resources to aid students struggling in school or at home. Social workers are also essential in discouraging early marriage by helping families understand the costs and weigh alternative options.

Iran Education Fund is an exciting new level of care added to the Iran program in 2021. Unequal access to remote learning and modern education tools solidifies cycles of poverty. Child Foundation is leveling the playing field by equipping students with school supplies and services.

Once students’ needs are assessed individually, Child Foundation gets the right tools in the right student’s hands with essentials like laptops, tablets, smartphones, and internet access to guarantee their success in the digital world. Additionally, the fund provides services like after-school classes and college exam prep material to increase students’ standing in their college entrance exams. Thanks to our Iran Education Champions, this program is already working. In 2021, we sent $1,000,000 to Iran for the laptops and tablets and we are excited to send more.
For nearly 200 children, ongoing blood transfusions and care are life-saving medical services to treat Thalassemia families cannot otherwise afford. We also funded emergency surgeries in Kabul for 6 children who would not have survived without the intervention.

Afghan Thalassemia Clinic

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During this year, our students struggled to access education this year due to the pandemic. While countries like Iran built up an online system for children, many countries had little to no online support when schools shut down for weeks or months at a time. But our support did not stop. We deeply invested in food security as prices rose amidst faltering wages and loss of life. Child Foundation also funded multiple shipments of medical supplies to Iran and supplies for classrooms in other countries. And thousands of care packages (grocery store gift cards) were sent to sponsored children in Iran to ensure families could better care for themselves.

Hungry children struggle to learn. Throughout this year, Child Foundation delivered food to thousands of families through the Iran Care Packages, 1,000 Food Baskets for 1,000 Families, and food provided at Thanksgiving time. Children in Iran additionally received monthly food support through the Cosponsorship Program to fuel their curiosity and potential.

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Who is Child Foundation?

Child Foundation is a 501(c)(3) international charity organization with the mission to support underprivileged children succeed in education and achieve safe, healthy, and fulfilling lives. We support children and families in Iran, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Nepal, Tajikistan, the United States, and refugees landing in Greece.

What is sponsorship?

Sponsorship is a Child Foundation program that focuses on improving the well-being of vulnerable students who are at risk of falling out of school if basic needs are not met. Sponsors’ contributions make a difference through monthly financial or other support to the child and their family, such as food, tuition, school supplies, and medical assistance. Child Foundation pairs each child with one or more sponsors, depending on the child’s needs. When you sponsor a child, you provide support while building a relationship with them through letters, photos, and progress reports.

What are our children facing?

Child Foundation sponsored children qualifying for scholarships based on their enrollment in school or educational programming and their needs. Thousands of children are in emergency situations based on their poverty, which makes them extremely vulnerable to child labor and child marriage, among other harmful outcomes. What is more, Child Foundation springs into action when our children and their families face disaster, such as earthquakes, floods, and the global pandemic which hit the poorest the hardest in 2020. Disaster relief complements sponsorship and prioritizes getting kids back in school as soon as possible.

Why invest in education?

Your generosity reduces the financial stress on a family that may push children into the workforce or early marriage, reducing the chances they will attend school. Education empowers and equips students to be problem-solvers who can forge new pathways for themselves and their families.

Changing the face of the future... One child at a time!