



Children in tents.



Children's plight.



Children in the camp



Basic structure of kitchen.



Matting enclosure.



Completed kitchen structure.

## Report

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### POIGNANT STORIES

The misery of the hundreds of thousands now stranded due to no fault of their own has taken a monumental human toll. While only a fraction of the estimated over 3 million displaced Pakistanis are in tents, a huge number are dispersed in schools and other government buildings, but even a larger number is staying with friends and relatives and rented accommodation. The first-hand stories that one hears from volunteers working in various locations are heart rending. One of the displaced women was found walking on the road clutching a baby in her arms in the intense heat of Mardan. When the volunteer offered to carry the baby the woman said, "No, no it is ok. she has had diarrhea and had been in great pain but now she has settled down." When he insisted, the mother relented. As he took the baby in his arms, he realized that the baby had breathed her last and would not be troubled any more.

Another narrative is about a young man who had invited the volunteer, a university professor, to his wedding. When the professor arrived at the venue it was to a funeral. The young man had returned to his home in Buner only for a day to cut his crop. While working in the field there was firing from the planes above, killing him instantly. The army planes saw movement in the tall grass and thinking there were terrorists, shelled the fields.

### PARTNERSHIPS

#### HERE - Higher Education Relief Efforts

A meeting with Vice Chancellors Imtiaz Gillani (UET Peshawar) and Dr. Ihsan Ali (Mardan and Hazara Universities) on 1st June 2009 was most productive. They have kindly agreed to join hands with KaravanPakistan (KP) and will send a large number of volunteers - students and faculty members - for joint KP-HERE activities. In

addition they have provided accommodation for KaravanPakistan members in the UET Mardan Campus guesthouse through courtesy of Dr. Siddique Akbar. Under the guidance of Dr. Subhani, faculty member Mr. Amjad Khan Abdul Wali Khan Institute (Mardan University), has kindly agreed to lead our soft components programs as joint programs.

#### ICI

In addition to other assistance, that is being organized, ICI management has kindly agreed to allocate a sum of Rs. 100,000 to cover cost of transportation. This grant has been gratefully received to facilitate KP travel and material cartage.

#### Nokia Siemens Network

NSN has kindly agreed to provide a computer and printer. It will be set up in UET Mardan Campus- a valuable gift that will enable us to keep proper record of all activities and materials received.

**We greatly value our partnership with our various friends and sponsors. We are extremely grateful for their support, without which it would be well nigh impossible to achieve results.**

#### Support Group-HQ 7 Div

We have received a generous donation of 2 large tents for assemblies – one for women and girls programs and the other for boys; 2 smaller tents placed on tent platforms for volunteers; 8 pedestal fans and 2 wireless telephones - much needed items to help us in our activities in KaravanPakistan camp enclosure.

#### Floral Arts Society, Peshawar

The literacy program for non-literate women and out-of-school children is being supported by the Floral Arts Society.



Non-formal education in women's tent.



Beginning of literacy classes.



In the KarwanPakistan tent.



Student volunteers with faculty members.



HERE's student volunteers.



HERE's student volunteers.

## PROGRAMS

**Family Kitchen Program** – Through the cooperation of the Camp Incharge, Mr. Muddassir Malik, KP managed to construct 27 family kitchens. As funding was not available at the time, this exercise aimed at a comfortable structure at a very low cost. On examination of the prototype, UNHCR approved them as safe and comfortable and have decided to build a total of 115 family kitchens. KP is extremely pleased that all families will now be provided this facility. The use of vernacular technology and local materials - application of mud on roof and walls has resulted in an extraordinary cool space. We hope that UNHCR will follow our specifications in order that comfortable cooking places are provided to women. Our heartfelt thanks to HF's Naheem Shah who worked extremely hard and organized and supervised the construction teams, as well as to KP volunteer Rehan Khan and HF's Ajmal.

## Non-formal Education Program

The literacy program was initiated on 4<sup>th</sup> June in one of the large tents by Mrs. Nishtar, Floral Arts Society members and Dr. Sethi. There was an assembly of about 50 children and women. The event began with the recitation of the Surah Iqra from the Holy Quran, and its translation in Urdu and Pushto. 25 children of age 5-10 and 10 women have so far been enrolled. Community women teachers will be assisted by girl student volunteers. The creative arts program for children is also being taken up to help minimize trauma.

## Garbage Clearance Program

14 students of Mardan University carried out a garbage collection activity on 3 June. 10 teams are being formed, each consisting of one student volunteer and 2 boys from the camp. Periodically a judging for the cleanest area will be carried out and prizes awarded. The program will be lead by Mr. Amjad, assisted by student volunteers and boys from the camp community.

## Cooking Needs

Since UNHCR is completing other kitchens, it is important to provide the basic necessities to enable women to cook. Assessment of requirements for each family for the kitchen is being made in order to fill in the deficiencies.

## Women's Livelihood Program

To utilize the gift of 6 sewing machines from Justice Nasira Iqbal, a list of women stitching experts has been prepared by HF's Nasreen (a camp resident) to enable them to stitch clothes in the Women's Centre tent. Bales of cloth are needed to provide a change of clothes which is essential for personal hygiene.

## Cradle Distribution

In view of the popularity of the cradles for babies- 35 cradles were distributed last week - a list of babies who still need cradles is being prepared by Ms. Nasreen. These will be distributed once the list has been checked by Mr. Amjad.

## Construction Program

### Tent Microclimate interventions

Experimentation will be carried out for providing low cost insulation to tents, forced cool air into tents and exhaust for warm air. These experiments are being undertaken on an urgent basis, since conditions in the tents are entirely unbearable for children and women.

### Volunteers' Office

Based on the successful model of family kitchen construction, a volunteers office is being constructed in order to provide cool and comfortable accommodation. The office is expected to be completed next week.

### Khokha Kiosks

Design for kiosks to encourage livelihood activity and community socializing place is being finalized. If funding can be secured these will be constructed to promote income generating activities.