

ANNUAL REPORT OF BEHBUD ASSOCIATION USA, INC. 2014



In 2014 our main focus was to raise funds primarily for our Education program at Behbud Association, Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Behbud continues to work towards empowering and sustaining the livelihoods of women, children and their communities, and addresses the needs of the people of Pakistan during natural disasters and emergencies.

Our entire volunteer team at Behbud Association USA (Behbud USA) worked hard towards raising funds and organizing small fundraisers, proceeds from which benefited our projects.

Fundraising Details:

Behbud USA in 2014 did not hold a very major fundraiser as it had been doing in the previous years, but instead concentrated on doing smaller events throughout the year at the homes of Behbud friends and supporters, which helped immensely in cutting down venue costs.

- ❖ Behbud Crafts Exhibition in March at the AMWA event.
- ❖ Behbud's Summer/Fall line clothing exhibition at the home of Mrs. Shaheen Sultan in New Jersey in early August. Our sincere thanks to her for her hospitality.
- ❖ Another Behbud Clothing and Home Textiles Exhibition was held in September at the home of Mrs. Fozia Qureshi in Scarsdale, NY. Our many thanks to her for her generosity.
- ❖ A Behbud Crafts Exhibition in December at another AMWA event.
- ❖ A couple of other Exhibitions and Sales were organized at various venues, all hosted by Behbud supporters and to whom we are most grateful.

This year our fundraising efforts, which include donations from Behbud supporters and sale from our Exhibition events, generated a total of approximately \$55,000. Our total annual expenses were approximately \$2500, meaning we spent LESS than 5% total of our income in this year to cover our administrative costs which include Annual State Registration Fees for the 4 states we are registered in, Annual Filing Fees, Tax Accountant Fees, Postage, Office Supplies, and a few items for our fundraisers. This year's income helped in funding our schools.

Heartfelt thanks to all our donors and supporters to whom we are deeply grateful and it is their generosity that helps run our various projects. Behbud USA held a Thank you Dinner in appreciation of their constant support at the home of Tabassum Ilahi, Behbud's General Secretary, in September. Thank you, Tabassum for hosting this event.

Sincere thanks to our team of dedicated volunteers, whose hard work made these events a success!

Details of how we used the proceeds are as follows:

YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

EDUCATION:

Through your donations this year, we have provided education to more than 1000 students aged 5 to 17 in our schools in the Rawalpindi/Islamabad area. Following is a report on the schools Behbud supports.

Behbud Model High School, Rawalpindi:

The Behbud USA supplements funds to a large extent for this school, totaling approximately \$10,000 plus annually. It also provides for any unforeseen needs of the student body and faculty, which could range anywhere between \$2000-3000 annually.

- The school facilities have been enhanced, and enrollment has increased 30%
- Teacher refresher courses continue to be given on a regular basis to enhance their teaching capabilities.
- The "Adopt a Child" program is in its third year and we are grateful to those of the Rawalpindi / Islamabad membership who have supported this project. The opportunity is also available to our donors in the USA. The expense of 1 student from Nursery to Class 10 is only \$130 annually.
- Parent-Teacher meetings are encouraged and our Education Committee helps in facilitating these exchanges.
- Teachers were given a 20% raise in their salaries as cost of living has gone up substantially. This increase is funded by Behbud USA.

Behbud Home Schools:

We are pleased to inform our supporters that we have acquired another Home School in Golra, Islamabad, bringing our total of Home Schools to 6. The administration of all the schools falls under the responsibility of the Education Committee. The newly acquired Golra School is funded by a private individual, but Behbud USA provides books, other educational material and covers any shortfalls and repairs.

The 5 schools that Behbud USA totally funds are located in the urban slums of Rawalpindi. With the extremely high level of inflation, the annual running cost of *each* school is now approximately \$4000 and it is expected to increase in the next year and the following years. This sum includes teacher salaries, rents, utilities, cost of all books and required educational materials. Maintenance and repair work require additional funds.



Farash Town Home School



Mai Sarwar Home School



Golra Home School

- The enrollment in these schools is now approximately 600 plus, and there is a demand from the parents in other neighboring communities to open more schools for their children. Both girls and boys are enrolled in these schools up to the primary level.
- Text books/notebooks/stationary/art material/ and other school related items are provided to all the students throughout the year.
- Uniforms have been provided to all the students in the 6 schools. A Behbud member donated the uniforms.
- Refresher courses for teachers were conducted with the help of our professional volunteers.
- The Education Committee has hired teachers of higher qualifications than before, which means higher salaries. The very high inflation also has made it necessary for us to raise the teacher salaries. The positive side of it is that the children benefit greatly from these better qualified teachers and therefore are better equipped to go on to Secondary and High School studies.
- Clean drinking water is provided for the children on a daily basis.
- New blackboards/desks, chairs/and floor mats were provided for all schools.
- All the schools were painted to maintain clean and hygienic conditions.



Behbud Model School



Teaching Staff @ Model School

TOTAL EXPENSE FOR 2014 ON EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Behbud Model School:	\$10,000
Home Schools:	\$ 22,000
Maintenance/Paint/Desks/Matting:	\$ 3,000
Women's Vocational Center:	\$ 1,000
Miscellaneous:	\$ 2,000
TOTAL:	\$38,000

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Our funds this year did not permit us to fund any other project besides Education and in part the Women's Vocational Training Center. Cost of running the 7 schools that we support have gone up considerably.

We hope in 2015 to raise more funds and humbly request our donors to please contribute generously, making it possible to provide for our other projects.

MISSION & OBJECTIVE:

The aim of Behbud USA is to support existing social welfare projects of Behbud Pakistan, including model and home schools for children in urban slums and skills training projects to benefit women seeking income generation opportunities. Behbud USA focuses on projects in and around Rawalpindi & Islamabad, Pakistan. In coming years, Behbud USA hopes to expand its support for social welfare projects by establishing more educational facilities for children in urban slums, and expanding its role in supporting health care projects that Behbud Pakistan currently operates.

We hope to continue and progress in the years to come in this noble venture with the help of our generous donors. We need and count on your continued support for the economic uplift of the less fortunate and hope to be able to make a difference for the better in the lives we touch.

BEHBUD WEBSITE:

Please visit our newly updated Behbud website, courtesy CONFIZ, for more in depth information on its projects. Donation forms are also posted on it, or you can make your tax deductible contribution through PayPal. The website address is: www.behbud.org



The Behbud USA Committee sends their heartfelt thanks to all its generous donors. We wish you and your families the very best of Health, Happiness and peace in the world in 2015 and in the years to follow.

Sincerely,

Behbud Association, USA – Inc.

For more information on donating, please visit our website at www.behbud.org. BEHBUD USA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization. All donations are tax exempt to the extent allowed by the US law.