THE i-CARE FOUNDATION
NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2018

CHAIRMAN’S MESSAGE

In this issue of the newsletter we feature the i-Care Foundation Scholarship Fund to allow our donors to support high performing and deserving students who wish to pursue higher education in the best universities in Pakistan. The i-Care Foundation accords great importance to encouraging young people and strongly believes that education is the key which changes lives. I am also pleased to report an overwhelming response from our donors to the i-Care Foundation Sehr-o-Iftar Program. We appreciate and thank our donors for supporting the campaign through which we were able to reach over 10,000 people in Karachi and Islamabad during the holy month.

Farrokh K. Captain

NEW PARTNERS

Patients Welfare Association: PWA is the largest non-political student-run welfare organization of Pakistan. Located in Civil Hospital Karachi, and run solely by the volunteers from Dow Medical College, PWA provides blood transfusion and thalassemia services for poor patients free of cost.

M. Hashim Memorial Trust. Based in Karachi, the M. Hashim Memorial Trust offers free complete cancer treatment to poor patients at the Neurospinal & Cancer Care Institute (NCCI). This includes surgical treatment, biopsy, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, and radio-surgery.

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i-CARE UPDATES

US FUNDRAISER FOR REHABILITATION OF WAR SURVIVORS IN SWAT: The i-Care Foundation arranged a fund-raiser in the United States for a program supporting adolescents affected by war with psychosocial counseling, formal education and vocational training.

FUNDS DONATED FOR PUERTO RICO HURRICANE VICTIMS: Communities affected by the hurricane in Puerto Rico received a donation of $30,000 for solar powered lamps and communication charging stations. In Puerto Rico, Hurricane Maria decimated the electrical grid, leading to failure of telecommunications system.
i-Care partner organization, the Behbud Association Karachi, has been working in the poorest areas of Karachi since 1970. Behbud works to uplift and empower residents of marginalized communities by providing quality and low cost education, health services and vocational training.

The Behbud Association Karachi is managed by a group of women volunteers whose aim is to empower underprivileged women and children. The dedication of the volunteers and the support of generous donors enable Behbud to impact nearly 200,000 beneficiaries annually.

A subsidized healthcare program provides affordable services to the communities and a specialized vocational training and income generation program teaches marketable skills to people become economically self-sufficient.

"Life is really a unique puzzle. Full of ups and downs.

Sometimes it's possible to fall into a pit of darkness where you do not see any light.

Only those who love you, those who care for you, those who sacrifice every comfort for you, are the ones who can become your light.

For me it was the support of my family and the love and care of the staff and faculty of Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (SKMCH&RC) . I was a cancer patient of Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

The treatment plan was very tough. The medication and chemotherapy gave me pain and nausea. On several occasions, I felt like quitting. The staff of the Shaukat Khanum Hospital helped me go through those tough times.

I realized there are still good people in the world. The experience was bittersweet, but thanks to Shaukat Khanum, I was given a second life. It is now up to me to chase my dreams with even more vigor."

Supporters of the Rashid Memorial Welfare Organization (RWMO) raised $24,000 in partnership with the i-Care Foundation using Facebook.

Rashidabad is a project of RMWO providing education and health care services for the less privileged communities living in rural Sindh.

The Facebook campaign helped RMWO reach a wider audience and create awareness about the diverse projects in Rashidabad.
i-CARE SEHR-O-IFTAR

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we reached over 10,000 beneficiaries during the holy month. This year the i-Care Foundation Sehr-o-Iftar Campaign focused on three major activities.

This included the delivery of one month food ration packs to poor and destitute families living in the slum areas of Karachi and Islamabad.

We organized iftari for orphans and hospital patients in five separate locations and arranged Eid gifts for women and children residents of the Panah Shelter Homes in Karachi.

THE I-CARE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The i-Care Foundation Scholarship Fund supports talented students from underprivileged backgrounds. The Fund exists to bridge the financial gap for high performing students. Since 2016, the i-Care Foundation Scholarship Fund has sponsored over 250 students from all across Pakistan.

The scholarships are provided to the students who have secured admission in top universities in Pakistan but do not have access to the resources required to cover the fees and living expenses.

The i-Care Foundation identifies deserving students in collaboration with our partner charities. Students are also given life skills and employability coaching and mentoring for the duration of the scholarship.

For example, the i-Care Foundation has partnered with NED University of Engineering and Technology and has awarded six scholarships to students studying applied physics, industrial chemistry, mechanical engineering and civil engineering.

$3.5m SCHOOL FOR HUNZA VALLEY

American philanthropist and i-Care Foundation donor, Diana Macarthur inaugurated the state of the art Al-Murtaza Academy's Elizabeth Tschursin Memorial Campus in the village of Murtazabad in the remote Hunza Valley in Gilgit-Balistan.

The $3.5 million school opened its doors to over 400 students and is the first of its kind in the region. Diana said the school was built to commemorate her daughter Elizabeth Tschursin and also give new life to the community in Hunza that she had adored.
Adopting international medical standards to deliver best-in-class healthcare services, the i-Care Foundation partner, Aman Health has created a holistic healthcare eco-system from community health to large scale emergency medical services.

This approach bridges the gaps between diagnosis and treatment, reduces the burden of diseases and raises awareness of community health challenges and solutions to empower vulnerable and poor communities.

Aman Health’s flagship initiative, the Aman Ambulance, has changed the landscape of emergency care in Pakistan and is the first ambulatory vehicle network providing round-the-clock emergency care in the province of Sindh. The service includes 230 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), 16 doctors and life-saving equipment, providing 24/7 emergency medical interventions with an average response of 10.3 minutes. The Aman Ambulance also holds the recognition of being awarded the ‘Best In Asia’ EMS Service Award, in 2014 by The Asian Emergency Council.

“My family always supported my dream of wanting to become an engineer. However, I never imagined the dream would become a reality. My father is a laboratory attendant in a primary school and his salary is not enough to support this dream of mine.

I had was always been a bright student. I received excellent grades throughout my school days. At the age of 17, I applied to NED University. My family was overjoyed when I received the confirmation letter from the university.

The big problem was that even with the admission, we could not afford to pay the tuition fees. My father asked for a loan from the bank but got rejected on several occasions. I began to lose hope completely.

After a few days, NED University contacted me and told me about the Professional Education Foundation (PEF). I contacted PEF and told them my situation. I had an interview with at PEF office in Karachi and after a few days, I received a call confirming that I would be awarded full scholarship.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to pursue my dream of becoming an engineer."