



PartnershipsInAction

Be the Solution to End Global Poverty

MEDIA ALERT

LOS ANGELES PARTNERSHIP WALK - OCTOBER 12, 2008

WHAT: An estimated 5,000 people are expected to participate in a walk at Memorial Coliseum to demonstrate their support and build partnerships aimed at ending global poverty.

Partnership Walk is a public event to raise awareness and funds that help communities in Africa and Asia become self-reliant. Partnership Walk is an initiative of Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA) and is organized by its network of volunteers in communities across the United States. Partnership Walk is a national event, held since 1995 in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Houston and Los Angeles. The Walk brings together families, community organizations, students and leaders in government, business, media and the arts for a day of entertainment, learning activities and fundraising. Since 1995, PartnershipsInAction events have attracted over 250,000 participants and raised \$29 million nationwide.

100% of the funds raised at Partnership Walk go directly to projects supported by the Foundation. The cost of organizing the Walk is underwritten by AKF USA and in-kind contributors. No contributions are used for administrative costs.

Aga Khan Foundation's work improves health, education and living standards in some of the poorest communities in Africa and Asia through grassroots self-help programs. Its programs focus on reducing illiteracy, hunger, disease and poverty in countries such as Afghanistan, India, Kenya, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Tanzania. Aga Khan Foundation presently is engaged in over 100 programs in 18 countries and is an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network. www.akdn.org. As a private, nondenominational, nonprofit international development organization, AKF works for the common good of all citizens, regardless of their gender, origin or religion. Its underlying impulse is the ethic of compassion for the vulnerable of society.

Our 2008 theme, "*Planting Our Future – Partnerships in Action*" spotlights the extraordinary success, expansion and impact of Aga Khan Foundation's rural support programs, initiated in northern Pakistan in 1982 and expanded to nine other countries. The story of AKF's rural support programs brings to light the power of partnerships and reflects the Foundation's enduring commitment to community participation and grassroots democracy. It embraces the time-tested principle of helping people to help themselves.

The Foundation works in partnership with other institutions dedicated to international development such as the U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Microsoft Corporation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, among many other private foundations and corporations.

VISUALS:

- Interviews with representatives of AKF USA and dignitaries.
- Village in Action: interactive educational exhibits that showcase the Foundation's work.
- 5,000 people walking in solidarity to end global poverty in a festive, culturally diverse atmosphere with live entertainment and speeches by notable dignitaries.

WHEN: Sunday, October 12, 2008, 9:00 a.m. registration; 10:00 a.m. Opening Program; 11:00 a.m. Walk begins

WHERE: Memorial Coliseum, 3911 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90037

CONTACT: For more information or to schedule interviews, call Ms. Shaheen Nanji at 310-613-5000 or Martha Sipple, AKF USA Communications Officer at (202) 293-2537 or mobile (202) 203-0838
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An initiative of Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. and its volunteers in communities across America