



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION U.S.A.

**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GOLFERS TAKE SWING TO END GLOBAL POVERTY  
AT HOUSTON GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**HOUSTON, TEXAS, May 25, 2011.** On May 23, 2011, 190 golfers took a swing at ending global poverty by raising \$175,000 in the annual Houston Partnership Golf tournament at Sweetwater Country Club in Sugar Land, Texas. The tournament began with a shotgun start followed by a putting contest and drawing. Houston Partnership Golf joins other events across the country sponsored by PartnershipsInAction, an initiative of Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA), to raise awareness and funds that reduce hunger, disease, illiteracy and poverty in Africa and Asia.

With over half of the world's population living on less than \$2 per day, golfers participating at this charity tournament help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia create long-term, self-help solutions to lift themselves out of poverty. Partnership Golf tournaments will be held in eight major U.S. cities this year and since 2007 over 3,400 golfers have participated and raised funds for AKF USA. Beginning in 1995, annual Walks, Golf tournaments, and other PartnershipsInAction activities have attracted over 350,000 participants and raised \$42 million for poverty alleviation projects supported by AKF USA. 100% of donations and all net proceeds from these activities go directly to AKF USA projects; not a cent is spent on administration.

Golfers not only raised money for people in need but also participated in an evening of fun that included a live auction, crazy pants competition and performances. At the auction, golfers outbid one another for items like Emirates airline and cruise tickets. A local youth dance troop and the Houston Rocket cheerleaders performed.

Special guests included Houston Texans NFL football players Eric Winston and Owen Daniels, City of Sugar Land Chief of Police Doug Brinkley, City of Stafford Chief of Police Bonny Krahn, and Fort Bend County District Attorney John Healey and Assistant District Attorney Matthew Bannister.

AKF USA, established in 1981, is a private, non-denominational, not-for-profit international development organization committed to alleviating poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy. AKF USA works to address the root causes of poverty by supporting and sharing innovative solutions in the areas of health, education, rural development, civil society, and the environment. AKF USA is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code.

AKF USA is part of the Aga Khan Development Network ([www.akdn.org](http://www.akdn.org)), a network of private, non-denominational, development agencies around the world, established by His Highness the Aga Khan to empower communities and individuals, often in disadvantaged circumstances, improve living conditions and opportunities. The Network's agencies work for the common good of all citizens, regardless of their gender, origin or religion and its underlying impulse is the ethic of compassion for the vulnerable in society.

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*An agency of the Aga Khan Development Network*