



**AGA KHAN FOUNDATION U.S.A.**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WALK TO END GLOBAL POVERTY AT  
ATLANTA PARTNERSHIPSIN ACTION WALK**

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA, October 23, 2011.** Today, over 6,500 walked to end global poverty in the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Partnership Walk at Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta. The [Atlanta Partnership Walk](#) is an initiative of [Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A](#) (AKF USA) to raise awareness and funds that reduce poverty, hunger, illiteracy and poor health in Africa and Asia.

Atlanta's [2011 Walk](#) raised over \$1.2 million. **100% of the funds raised at Partnership Walk go directly to projects sponsored by the Foundation;** not a cent is spent on administration.

The Walk featured lively entertainment and activities for all ages to celebrate the diversity of world cultures, ranging from The Polyphony Ensemble to Zumba Atlanta. Before the Walk, a 5K Run/Walk, 1K Kids Run and 100 Yards Kids Run took place. The Walk also included a *Village in Action*, where participants enjoyed interactive displays and hands-on exhibits that spotlighted how the Foundation is implementing creative solutions in poor regions, ranging from disaster preparedness in Afghanistan to energy-efficient homes in Pakistan to quality education in Kenya. At the *Village in Action* visitors learned about the Aga Khan Development Network's health, shelter, infrastructure and agriculture projects in Pakistan over the past year to help communities recover from the 2010 floods that devastated one-fifth of the country.

Amanda Cook, Erin Coleman, and Craig Lucie, anchors and reporters for WSB-TV hosted the event along with Hanif Juma and Arynah Jiwani. Distinguished guests in attendance included Mayor Mike Bodker, City of John's Creek and Representative Lynn Riley, Georgia House, District 50. Mayor Bodker welcomed and thanked participants by saying, "I have had the privilege to be involved with the Aga Khan Development Network for the past five years, and to see this mass of humanity come out here today is such a great feeling, especially knowing the great work that you're doing."

To learn more about the event or make a donation, visit [www.partnershipsinaction.org/walk](http://www.partnershipsinaction.org/walk).

Partnership Walk events will be held in nine major U.S. cities this year. Since 1995, [PartnershipsInAction activities](#), including the annual Partnerships Walk and Golf tournaments,

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have attracted over 350,000 participants and raised \$42 million for poverty alleviation projects supported by AKF USA. Participants help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia create self-help solutions to lift themselves out of poverty. Contributions make a tremendous impact in creating opportunities for girls in Afghanistan to go to school, for farmers in Mali to feed their families, and for mothers in India to lead healthy lives.

**About Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A.**

AKF USA, established in 1981, is a private, non-denominational, not-for-profit international development organization committed to alleviating poverty, hunger, illiteracy and poor health. 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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