



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION U.S.A.

PRESS RELEASE

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

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, JULY 27, 2011. On July 22, 2011, 150 golfers took a swing at ending global poverty by raising \$220,000 in the annual Seattle Partnership Golf tournament at the Golf Club at Newcastle in Newcastle, Washington.

Partnerships*InAction* Golf 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. **One hundred percent of all donations and net proceeds from the tournament go directly to projects supported by AKF USA; not a cent is spent on administration.**

The tournament attracted high-level corporate executives, civic leaders and local celebrities. Sponsors included Wells Fargo Bank, Bell Anderson Insurance and Dillanos Coffee Roasters, Inc. Other special guests included Lieutenant Governor of Washington Brad Owens and his wife Linda Owens, Michael J. Cave, President of Boeing Capital Corp., and Brad Goode, host of Kings 5 TV.

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 is held in eight major U.S. cities and since 2007 over 3,400 golfers and sponsors have participated and raised funds for AKF USA. Beginning in 1995, annual Walks, Golf tournaments, and other Partnerships*InAction* activities have attracted over 350,000 participants and raised \$42 million for poverty alleviation projects supported by AKF USA.

Seattle golfers not only raised money for people in need but also participated in fun activities that included a putting contest and "Caddies for a Cause," where golfers placed bids for caddies who represented AKF USA projects abroad and spent the day with them learning more about these programs. An evening reception, dinner and silent auction followed a day on the course. Golfers enjoyed Hawaiian dancers and fire-eating performers at the reception. At the auction after dinner, led by auctioneer Jay Fiske, golfers outbid one another for items like trip packages to Hawaii and Paris, jet plane flight lessons and paintings.

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), 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

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