



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

**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**AGA KHAN FOUNDATION U.S.A.  
LAUNCHES PARTNERSHIP WALK 2007**

**Atlanta, Georgia, August 17, 2007** – Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA) announces today the launch of the Atlanta Partnership Walk 2007. As an annual event held in five major cities across the U.S., the Walk raises awareness and funds to alleviate global poverty and promotes partnership between America and the developing world. The Walk brings together families, friends, students and leaders in government, business, media and the arts for a day of learning activities, fundraising and culturally diverse performances. **100% of funds raised at Partnership Walk go directly to the projects supported by the Foundation.** The cost of organizing the Walk is completely underwritten by AKF USA and in-kind contributors. No contributions are used for administrative costs.

The Atlanta Partnership Walk will be held on Saturday, November 10 at the Piedmont Park. Over 10,000 participants are expected to walk 2 to 3 miles to demonstrate their support for ending global poverty. Nationwide, over 50,000 are expected to participate in the Walk. An opening ceremony will feature celebrities and distinguished guests, along with entertainment celebrating the diversity of world cultures. Visit the Partnership Walk website at [www.partnershipwalk.org](http://www.partnershipwalk.org).

The theme for Partnership Walk 2007 is *Innovative Solutions to Create Hope and Opportunity*. Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary beginning in October 2006. This year's theme captures the depth, scope and impact of a quarter century of achievements. In every undertaking, the overriding goal of the Foundation's work is to assist in the struggle against poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy through the discovery and implementation of innovative solutions to development.

One of the Walk's most inspiring features is the *Village in Action*, through which participants of all ages engage in interactive activities to learn how people in developing countries overcome the challenges of low incomes, poor health conditions and limited educational opportunities. Walkers can embark upon an exciting and engaging learning adventure by taking part in hands-on exhibits designed to make visitors feel they are traveling to different countries in the developing world. Walkers can experience culturally diverse music, arts, dance and food from countries where the Aga Khan Foundation is active. The exhibits and activities of the Village in Action showcase the innovative solutions that Aga Khan Foundation has supported in Asia and Africa through projects in health, education, rural development, microcredit, community organizations and the environment.

AKF USA, established in 1981, is a private, non-denominational, non-profit international development organization committed to alleviating poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy. 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 overarching goal of the Network's programs is to help poor communities achieve a level of self-reliance whereby they are able to plan their own futures. The Foundation presently supports over 100 programs in 18 countries for the common good of all citizens regardless of their gender, origin or religion. The geographic focus of the Foundation's development programs is in East Africa and South and Central Asia.

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*An agency of the Aga Khan Development Network*