



Ali Hasan Mangi

Memorial Trust

Changing Lives. One Village at a Time

Newsletter
Summer 2022

Dear Donors, Supporters and Friends,

Welcome to your newsletter that covers the first six months of 2022. As always, our team has had a busy six months working on various different projects, aiming to continue serving the rural communities in Upper Sindh.

We have now run projects in a total of **160 villages** in districts Larkana, Qamber-Shahdadkot and Shikarpur and the demand for assistance continues to flow in. Our Public Pukaar Office, located at our Community Center in Village Khairo Dero, receives dozens of applications a day from families seeking help with healthcare, building homes and toilets as well as installing water hand-pumps.



We pressed ahead with our toilet project in these six months and have so far helped 2,384 families in 146 villages build toilets. Women lead this project; they're the ones who travel long distances to our office to apply for assistance, they're the ones saving up to pay the mason and they put in the labour when the toilet is being built. Their lives are completely changed with the installation of a toilet at home since they no longer need to manually empty makeshift ones every day or wait till after

dark to go out into the fields. We hope to reach a target of 3,000 toilets in the next six months and request you for your support to help us reach this goal. It now costs a donor Rs 14,360 to fund a toilet.



Under our housing assistance program, we helped another 14 families build shelter in different villages. Infrastructure that's desperately needed may be an achievement but we feel our greatest success is motivating these communities to fully participate in their own progress rather than waiting on handouts. In our experience, a home and a toilet are the two most sought-after facilities by the public and when we align development goals with people's aspirations, it's hard to go wrong. People have put in shares of up to 70 percent toward the cost of their homes and we have assisted with the rest.



Our specialist medical assistance program remains one of our most popular projects. In addition to our Chronic Care Clinic that provides a consultation and free medication to patients with long-standing illness, we helped several dozen patients with specialist care at various hospitals. Through our special program for patients with congenital heart disease, we helped three children through surgery to repair birth defects of the heart and one young man went through major surgery to replace an aortic valve. We also helped two children with bone surgery who had been through botched operations in Larkana that had left them unable to walk.



In Village Mehed Shaheed, District Qamber-Shahdadkot, political monopolization over water meant crop failures in the spring that left families in hunger. We ran an emergency food assistance program in that village--again led by women--where we provided one month's food supplies to 100 families to help them tide over a difficult period.



Our team has spent several months interacting with landless farmers trying to find solutions to improve their incomes. Since these farmers are share croppers and are required by tradition to pay for the majority of inputs themselves, their savings are exceedingly low. This year, we bought two tractors with the aim of providing these farmers with ploughing, reaping and levelling services at rates that are at least 40 percent lower than market rates. In our pilot phase, which lasted from early April to end June, we helped 58 farmers from six villages farm about 300 acres of land and they report significant improvements in their income. Farmers say they have always rented out tractors with a promise to pay later and therefore been burdened with heavy rates of interest upon reaping the crop. By paying only for the cost of fuel and renting out our tractors, they save a larger share of the crop. We hope to expand this program to more farmers in more villages.



We also started a new program under our Anwar Mangi Scholarship Fund through which we selected 17 students--half of them young women--to participate in a six month Aptech Institute computing course that will certify them in office automation, graphic design and website development. It cost us about Rs 20,500 per student including the fees and the cost of travel to Larkana to attend classes. This is the first time youth from a village in the area have been given the opportunity to attend courses in the city that provide certification from overseas. The difficulty for students in rural areas is not just the fees which is always a barrier but the cost and means of transportation to the city which is especially difficult for women to overcome. We are also providing these students with laptops so they can practise at

home and develop income-generating opportunities.

At our Community Center, we opened a bigger activity hall for children. All this infrastructure is aimed at helping keep children and the youth away from the streets by providing positive and constructive avenues.



The primary difficulty for us in recent months has been rising prices. Petrol prices have risen almost 75 percent in these six months, remarkably increasing the cost of conveyance for our team that travels from village to village helping build toilets and homes. Additionally, costs in general have also increased rapidly, making medicines for our clinic, the cost of healthcare and building materials much more expensive for us. Obviously, as this increase has hit the general public, donations have also begun to slow. Our concerns are:

1. Our staff, all of whom are paid low salaries due to our budgeting position, are struggling to cope with higher food prices and we would like very much to be able to raise salaries and make them more comfortable.
2. The cost of running our Community Center which amounts to about 350,000 rupees a month; our Center houses our public pukaar office, clinic, playground, public park, children's activity hall, public art hall, skills training center, public water stand, public library, community school and offices.

Below you will see a list of our achievements since 2008. All of it has been made possible with your support for which we thank you profusely. Please do reach out if you would like any further information. mt@alihasanmangitrust.org

Achievements: 2008-2022

Area Covered: 160 Villages in Three Districts of Sindh

Education:

TCF School: 835 children enrolled

Early Learning Center: 400 children prepared for schooling

Scholarship Program: 492 students helped

Adult Literacy Program: 400 women educated

Technology Literacy Program: 550 students taught computer basics

Skills Training Program: 116 students trained

Healthcare:

Community Clinic: Tens of thousands treated and given free medication

Medical Assistance Program: 355 patients provided special care

Disability Assistance: 47 people provided with disability aids

Heart Cases: 97 patients treated through surgery or medical therapy

Eye Surgery: 70 cases

Family Planning: 23 women taken through tubal ligation

Community Infrastructure Built:

Children's Playground: Free swings, slides and climbing equipment for children

Public Park: Only one of its kind in the area

Children's Activity Hall: Free constructive games for children

Community Library: Stocked with thousands of books

Public Art Hall: Fully stocked facility with free arts & crafts for the public

Public Water Stand: Providing free cold drinking water to hundreds a day

Bridges: Built in 8 villages

Sewerage Drains: Built in 4 villages

Public Toilets: 14 villages

Public Water Handpumps: 19 villages

Family Assistance Program:

Microloans: Provided to 141 entrepreneurs

Housing Assistance: 272 families in 63 villages helped to build homes

Water Hand-Pumps: 695 families in 83 villages provided with handpumps

Toilets: 2,384 families helped to build toilets at home in 146 villages

Kitchen Gas: Connections provided to 127 families

Kitchen Construction: 130 families provided with kitchens

Solar Power: Provided to 624 families in 26 villages

Emergency Food Assistance Program: Provided to 1430 families

Farmers' Assistance Program: 58 landless farmers in 6 villages helped to reap crop, plough and level almost 300 acres of land at rates 40 percent lower than market prices, helping raise their income.