

PARSA 2018 Annual Report

April 15, 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- Annual operating budget of \$1 million.
- Afghan Scouts has direct Scout programs in 18 provinces, and works with the Ministry of Economy to train Scout Masters in all 34 provinces.
- Conducted psychosocial support groups for women in eight provinces, achieving 79% overall attendance.
- Sisters 4 Sisters grew from 40 girls to over 200 enrolled.

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PARSA Vision

PARSA will establish itself nationally as an organization that is effective at creating social change in Afghanistan in partnership with a government that supports community-led decision making and development.

PARSA Mission

We will create a national and international network of support through communication that creates a sense of belonging and joint ownership to our collaborative, community-led development effort that makes a definitive impact on our beneficiaries.

By doing our work well as leaders in Afghanistan, we will contribute to a growing movement in the world for peace, poverty alleviation and empowerment for individuals to create and act on their own solutions as they rebuild their communities.



2018 Overview

PARSA's programs are developed and implemented by Afghan leaders who have hope and vision for their country and who use their tenure at PARSA to learn how to achieve that vision. In this regard, PARSA is unique from other organizations and in 2018 we began to see national impact and social change that are a result of PARSA's efforts. PARSA's approach to program development and training Afghan leaders, as well as our grassroots funding support allows for flexibility in how we meet challenges and innovate to include communities' needs and get investment in our programs. As one PARSA director said "PARSA is my university".

- In 2018, PARSA's Afghan Scout program engaged in a partnership with the Ministry of Education to train school-based Scout Masters. This means that the Afghan Scouts program is now available in all 34 provinces of the country, and is a national program recognized by the President's office.
- PARSA's psychosocial staff developed and implemented an effective model of support groups for women in eight provinces, led by volunteer facilitators giving women in remote areas access to psychosocial support. Implementing 49 support groups with 76% overall attendance has laid the foundation for PARSA psychosocial staff to launch a national program for victims of violence and their families in 2019.
- Founded in 2017, the Sisters 4 Sisters program was created because girls in our Afghan Scout program wanted programs every day, because there are so few places for girls to learn, play and be creative. In 2018, demand for the S4S program grew so much that over 300 girls applied for 40 places. PARSA directors decided they did not want to turn the girls away and created the "Murabi" program, where girls from 2017 became mentors for the newcomers. This new part of the program, where girls mentor other girls, has become key to the success of S4S and means that we will be able to replicate the program nationally.

PARSA's Afghan Scouts Program

PARSA launched our Afghan Scout program in 2009 in two orphanages in Kabul, with two troops and 64 youth. In 2018, with over 2,000 youth in our Scout programs in 18 provinces and 697 Scout Masters trained by PARSA across the country, PARSA achieved a milestone for achievement through the vision and hard work of our Afghan leaders. Originally established in Afghanistan in 1931 and registered with the international World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) in 1932, the national Afghan Scout program thrived until the Russian invasion, when WOSM withdrew the registration. Now, 41 years later, through the persistent efforts of PARSA's Afghan Scout staff, working in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Afghanistan is slated to become the 171st country to join the 40 million strong WOSM. PARSA has been acknowledged by the Minister of Education, Mr. Balkhi, as the essential catalyst for bringing this important program back to all 34 provinces, assisting with the training of the Ministry Scout Masters, and reintroducing the Scout spirit of youth leadership, community service, volunteerism and citizenship to all of the adults and youth PARSA works with.

Program Highlights

- Scout troops across the country conducted community service projects that included tree planting, visiting hospitals, tidying neighborhoods, installing garbage bins, donating libraries, and visiting prisons to provide hygiene packages to inmates.
- Rabina Shujayee, female Scout Master and active in the program since 2008, was hired by our Kabul office to work on program management.
- The Scouts partnered with The Memory Project, where students in the US created portraits of youth from Bamiyan project. The Scouts facilitated the distribution of the portraits.
- The Scouts conducted several successful events, including a summertime Camporee for Scouts from around the country, the Basic Unit Leaders Training Course, and the Advanced Unit Leaders Training Course.
- PARSA's Afghan Scout management worked with the Ministry of Education and the Office of President Ashraf Ghani to complete the requirements for Afghanistan to rejoin WOSM.
- Scouts in Kabul partnered with Resolute Support and the U.S. Embassy for several activity days.

Province	Total	Boys	Girls
Kabul	443	297	146
Parwan	56	56	0
Baghlan	32	32	0
Bamyan	166	87	79
Laghman	64	64	0
Nangarhar	96	96	0
Ghazni	64	64	0
Logar	64	64	0
Herat	149	64	85
Badghis	128	96	32
Ghor	90	90	0
Balkh	88	56	32
Jowzjan	32	32	0
Samangan	96	64	32
Badakhshan	96	32	64
Takhar	64	32	32
Kunduz	88	69	19
Kandahar	224	160	64
Total	2040	1455	585
Percentage		71%	29%



Psychosocial Programs

In 2018, PARSA completed a four-province survey about Afghan women experiencing violence to ascertain how to set up and provide a psychosocial service program for victims of violence. Conducted in Herat, Kunduz, Kandahar and Khost the survey included establishing fifteen local "peer counseling" support groups for women who responded to the survey while taking part in weekly support group meetings. Our findings from the survey indicated that women are still having great difficulty accessing protection and legal services when in crisis, and that a combination of circumstances including exposure to traumatic incidents relating to the war, poverty, and the stress of daily living are contributing to the likelihood of women experiencing socially condoned violence.

Informed by our survey, PARSA will be piloting community-based approach through our "Healthy Afghan Family" program of psychosocial training and services where we will take an indirect and holistic approach to serving communities. Leading with our highly successful support group program we will be conducting outreach to areas where women are not currently able to access help.

In addition to our support groups, in 2018 PARSA laid the foundation for the establishment of a "Healthy Afghan Community" centre at our main office in Marastoon with direct psychosocial services including counselling, workshops including parenting, child development and discipline without physical punishment, support groups for men and women, and a "self care" program for psychosocial professionals and others working with vulnerable or traumatized people.

PARSA conducted 49 support groups for 273 women in Kandahar, Herat, Kunduz and Khost. Overall attendance was 79%.



Sisters 4 Sisters

Sisters 4 Sisters (S4S) is a program of mentorship, tutoring and personalized attention for groups of at-risk girls aged 10 to 18. PARSA's approach addresses the challenging social circumstances that Afghan girls experience as they attempt to succeed in school and prepare to enter adulthood. The program includes 4 pillars: mentorship, psychosocial health, physical wellbeing, and education.

S4S also supplements a poor education system, and we have hired teachers in English, mathematics, and computers. It is voluntary for the girls to participate in these subjects, but we have found that 95% of the S4S participants have signed up to all three subjects, indicating that they perceive the instruction to be highly useful.

The S4S participants have responded extremely well to having their specific hardships as Afghan girls addressed, and it shows in the development of their confidence. They have begun to express themselves, break out of their shells and take initiative in telling PARSA staff what they want to learn and experience. This includes hosting events where the girls create and act in plays, perform songs and poetry, and compete in competitions for literacy and athletics.

In 2018, S4S saw requests to join the program skyrocket, with 300 girls applying for 40 places. In order to increase our capacity we trained Murabis, or "Junior Mentors" to lead groups of ten girls. The Murabis run the day-to-day activities for their group and work with individual members to identify her unique needs and give her personalized attention. This structure has allowed us to register 197 girls in the program, and we have had an overall attendance rate of 78%.

"I cannot turn them down. They are begging to just stand at the back wall and observe the training. The girls who we've accepted are acting like they have won a place at a university."

- Yasin Farid,
PARSA Country
Director

PARSA 2018 Financial Report (unaudited)

Income	
Opening Balance for the year 2018	\$ 66,875.82
Donations	\$ 145,250.22
Grant Income	\$ 820,044.85
Other Income	\$ 15,906.06
Sales Income	\$ 11,428.90
Total Income	\$ 1,059,505.85
Expenses	
Total Administration Share Cost	\$ 37,092.21
Total Operations	\$ 54,335.21
Other Direct Costs (ODCs)	
Balkh Regional Training and Scout Troop Activities	\$ 36,463.57
Herat Regional Trainings and Scout Troop Activities	\$ 34,482.35
Kabul Regional Training and Scout Troop Activities	\$ 100,500.40
Kandahar Regional Training and Scout Troop	\$ 31,439.07
Total Other Direct Costs (ODCs)	\$ 202,885.39
Total Indirect Costs	\$ 16,264.52
Total Rent or Leases	\$ 40,936.71
Total Staffing	\$ 549,986.69
Total Blossom Hill Fellow Ship Program	\$ 13,465.09
Total Supplies	\$ 9,080.26
Total Training and Workshops	\$ 18,962.02
Total Basic Scout Master Training Kabul - 7 days	\$ 1,414.52
Total Transportation, Travel and Per Diem	\$ 53,623.50
Total Utilities	\$ 7,332.49
Total Expenses	\$ 1,005,378.61
Net Income	\$ 54,127.24



Who Funds Us?

PARSA receives the bulk of the funding through grants from international donors. The Public Affairs Section of the United States Embassy has provided the bulk of funding for our Afghan Scouts program. This year, The Asia Foundation provided significant funding for our psychosocial support groups for women. We also receive significant discretionary funding from individuals who fund us through our PARSA Family Member donor program. Many of these donors have been supporting us at the grassroots level for over two decades, and their dedication is what allows us to develop sustainable programs and grow as an organization.

List of Major Donors 2018

United States Department of State - Public Affairs Section

The Asia Foundation

Canadian Women 4 Women

Norwegian Refugee Council

Blossom Hill Foundation

Embassy of Australia - Direct Aid Program (with Free to Run)



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