

THE FOUNDATION FOR A
Better Life
ALLEVIATING POVERTY
ANNUAL REPORT 2023

FBL has continued to supported under-privilege families across Pakistan and Tajikistan over the past year. The year 2023 was impactful towards expansion and diversification of activities for achieving the goal of Poverty Alleviation. The work we do would not be possible without our donors’ financial support. This report will share the most impactful work the foundation has supported across the region, including vocational training, education support, healthcare, and disaster relief programs.

FBL AT A GLANCE:

Presently FBL PAKISTAN is supporting over four hundred students under scholarship program and among them are students in medical field, mostly in Nursing degree program, and FBL Tajikistan is also supporting around two hundred students in variety of educational fields.

	In 2023	UPTO LAST/YR	TOTAL
TAJIKISTAN	372	507	879
PAKISTAN	402	1653	2,055
TOTAL FAMILIES SUPPORTED	821	2160	2,934

The families supported through microcredit, vocational/skills development, and educational scholarships in Tajikistan and Pakistan.

Also, FOOD ASSISTANCE was provided to 47 Families in Tajikistan.

FBL Afghanistan also got registered in Kabul in the month of September 2023 and started operating in October 2023. It offers variety of vocational and skill development courses like, tailoring and chirma dosi training to women and mobile repairing and electrician’s courses to men.

Donor Appreciation Luncheon in Atlanta:

After several years of covid19 restrictions, The Directors of FBL USA decided to host a luncheon for donors and other guests on December 3, 2023. Mr. Imtyaz Isani was invited to be the Keynote Speaker. More than 225 guests were present. Chairman Jalal Sultan welcomed the guests and highlighted the progress of FBL in Pakistan and Tajikistan. Director of FBL Afghanistan, Mr. Jamaluddin Azimi joined via a video link. He explained the audience about the activities in Afghanistan. Mr. Issani explained the importance of giving and its benefits thereof in personal growth and self-satisfaction, which was well received by the audience.



Here, in USA, the Board of Directors held a donor appreciation luncheon for our donors, who are the lifeline of poverty alleviation of thousands of families are positively impacted in Pakistan, Tajikistan and in Afghanistan

“Charity is not about pity; it is about love”

... Mother Teresa

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FBL PAKISTAN

To create opportunities to increase family income, FBLP has signed Memorandums of understanding with APTECH, Pakistan, American Continuing Education Mentorship Academy, Pakistan (ACEM) and Lakhani Computer Institute, Karachi and supported 176 people from poor families for Montessori, beautician, stitching and IT courses in various parts of Pakistan.



In 2023, FBLP extended its support to 204 new students. Notably, 75% of these beneficiaries' hail from the Northern regions, underscoring their commitment to addressing poverty where it is most prevalent. This encouraging statistic reinforces our belief that our focused efforts are indeed moving us in the right direction, aligning with its mission to make a meaningful impact on Northern communities. FBL Pakistan is awarding the scholarships to the students of institutions registered with Nursing Council of Pakistan and Higher Education Commission.

Through the year micro-business support was provided to twenty-two beneficiaries, enabling individuals to either start new businesses or expand existing ones for additional income generation. HBL-FMFB is satisfactorily facilitating FBLP in transfer of funds to beneficiaries and regularly providing reports to FBL.

In addition, FBL Pakistan and the Jivan Family Charitable Fund-USA have signed a memorandum of understanding, whereby FBLP will facilitate the Jeevan Family Charitable Funds (JFCF) in organizing and operating its 'Adopt A Family' Project for poverty alleviation. Therefore, FBL Pakistan and JFCF have a common goal towards poverty alleviation. In accordance with 'Adopt A Family Project' the targeted families will be approached, counseled, supported, and followed up through a comprehensive approach. It has been planned to bring the family out of poverty in 3-5 years through financial support, counseling, skills development, and education. The newly hired staff of JFCF will start working from January 2024.

MOU signed with APTECH Institute in Pakistan:

FBL Pakistan signed a Memorandum of understanding to provide software training to our beneficiaries at discounted rates in all branches/franchises in Pakistan. They are specialized in providing software training to the students who after completing one year of training, can work from home while they are studying to finish the remaining modules at the institute.

FBL Pakistan Coordinators' meeting Islamabad:

In March 2023, a two-day conference was held in Islamabad. The coordinators of six regions of Northern Pakistan and of Central Region (Province of Punjab) attended. The purpose was to extend the support to Northern and Central regions to provide opportunities for education & vocational training in their respective areas besides giving micro loans.

***"Giving is not just about making a donation.
It is about making a difference."***

FBL TAJIKISTAN



MOU signed with MLMMEPT (Labor Dept.) Khorog University



SPCE of University of C. Asia

The Foundation for a Better Life in Tajikistan has been actively involved in various initiatives to alleviate poverty. In March and April 2023, FBLT provided scholarships at the Khorog State University for sixty-three students and Khorog Medical college for thirty-five students from under privileged families, orphans, and from rural areas. The foundation also supported students from other parts of Tajikistan by offering scholarships to 588 more students. It should be noticed that more than half of the scholarships were given to the beneficiaries of Poverty Elimination Project of AKF Dushanbe, which was not working in 2023 due to unavoidable circumstances. Additionally, the organization assisted four students by purchasing plane tickets to send them to attend their respective universities in Russia, China, and Poland.

The FBL Tajikistan also provided food assistance through the Government Justice Department, for forty-seven families with low- or no-income during holidays and natural disasters. Moreover, the foundation signed MOUs with the School of Professional and Continuous Education of University of Central Asia and The Ministry of Labor Migration and Employment of Population of Tajikistan to pay fees for individuals from poor families their vocational training courses such as cooking, stitching, massage, plumbing, electrician, auto mechanic, mobile phone repairmen. A total of 190 people were supported for getting skills. Out of the total number 102 were from SPCE UCA, twenty from MLMMEPT and the rest were for various vocational training courses. This initiative aimed to equip these individuals with necessary skills to secure employment and earn a sustainable income.

Moreover, Foundation for a Better Life in Tajikistan has supported two families with interest free micro credits. One young man was helped for opening a souvenir shop and a woman was given a machine for work with silver jewelry. In addition, the foundation helped the Department of Disabled people by buying them a modern computer and a printer, via the MLMMEPT. Photos are provided further in the text format order.

strategy to reduce intergenerational poverty must be centered on work, not welfare – not only because work provide independence and income, but also because work provides order, structure, dignity, and opportunity for growth in people’s life

President Barack Obama
from book “The Audacity of Hope.”



A beneficiary of micro business



Food Assistance in Dushanbe city of Tajikistan



A beneficiary of Electrician Courses

In the nutshell, the Foundation for a Better Life in Tajikistan has made great progress in its efforts in 2023 to alleviate poverty. Through its various initiatives, the foundation has provided food and financial assistance, education, and job opportunities to those in need. With continued support from the Foundation for Better Life USA, the foundation hopes to make an even greater impact on the lives of those living in poverty.

**THOSE WHO ARE HAPPIEST ARE
THOSE WHO DO THE MOST FOR OTHERS ... Booker T. Washington**

FBL AFGHANISTAN:

Another milestone was achieved when FBL Afghanistan received registration of incorporation and start running in Kabul Afghanistan. Started with the first training of tailoring courses and later Chirma Dosi, Mobile Phone Repairing and electrician training started. Altogether almost two hundred students are participating in these courses. Out of them fifty-five male trainees and 140 are female.

students. They will be completing their courses in the first quarter of 2024 and Insha'Allah will be starting work and increasing their family income.

***“When you have more than you need, think of those who need more.
than they have.”***
... Anthony Flower