



**Perspectives from Kabul and International Community: March 8th 3-5pm
Embassy of Finland, Washington DC**

To celebrate International Women's Day, please join Her Excellency Adela Raz, Deputy Minister for Economic Cooperations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Afghanistan and Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women Issues and Gender Equality Anne Meskanen from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland for an interactive discussion on the new generation of Afghan women leaders. Please see flyer attached.

Multicultural Advisory Council (MAC): January 20th, 2018

AMPAA joined other nonprofits in the area for a MAC council meeting at the Fairfax County Health Department. The Virginia Family and Fatherhood Initiative introduced "Stronger Parents Brighter future." This project supports expectant and parenting teens, women, fathers aged 16-24 and their families. MAC also is continuing to reach out to multicultural nonprofits to help alleviate the opioid crisis. Please see attached flyers including services for mental health, substance abuse, developmental disabilities, opioid overdose reversal training and prevention techniques. Please contact AMPAA for further information.

Foreign Medical Graduates-Scholarship Opportunity: December 12th, 2017

Kaplan University was kind enough to offer the opportunity to give one of AMPAA's members a \$1,000 scholarship. This presentation offered AMPAA's members information on the US Medical Licensing Process for Foreign Medical Graduates. Ariana Nieves Kaplan Representative and Dr. Hafiz from Kaplan Medical presented their information during one hour session and responded to the questions asked by audience. AMPAA's member Dr. Samiullah Shinwari was able to win the scholarship drawing. See info below in email regarding services Kaplan provides.

AMPAA & AAHP Partnership:

AMPAA is pleased to announce it has partnered up with the Association of Afghan Healthcare Professionals (AAHP) based in the United Kingdom. Both organizations will collaborate on projects, and activities to assist the Afghan community at home and abroad. For questions or comments please email us directly.

Afghan-American Conference: March 23-25, 2018

AAC has officially announced dates for the upcoming conference to be held at NYU in New York. Applications will go live tomorrow, 27th. Please visit www.afghanamericanconference.org for more information.

AMPAA Annual Health Fair October 28th, 2017

James K Polk Elementary School Alexandria, VA

Over 100 patients and 87 volunteers participated at the annual health fair. Special thanks to Children of Persia (COP) for cohosting the fair with Children of Persia. Pictures and videos are posted on AMPAA's facebook page.

28th Annual Scientific Session: September 9th, 2017

Virginia Hospital Center Arlington, VA

The 28th Annual Conference hosted by AMPAA and Iranian American Medical Society of Greater Washington (IAMS) was a success this year. Thank you to all those who participated. Topic was pediatrics and over 45 people attended or presented during the session. Pictures and videos are posted on AMPAA's facebook page.

The Afghanistan Dental Relief Project, Inc.

Dental Nonprofit

ADRP is an organization established in 2003 to provide dental treatment facilities in underserved areas in Afghanistan, to staff with volunteers, to train Afghan people in dentistry, to provide treatment at no cost, and to provide instruction in methods of preventative dental care. Clinic in Kabul provides care to over 20,000 patients a year. Founder, James Rolfe, DDS, is asking for financial support. Please visit www.adrpinc.org or email adrp@verizon.net

Hoopoe Books

Series of illustrated children's books

This English-Dari and English-Pashto edition of books is published by the nonprofit Hoopoe Books and available on Amazon by searching "Hoopoe Dari" or "Hoopoe Pashto." Books are based on traditional tales from Afghanistan, and the illustrations that represent culture, which promotes tolerance and understanding in addition to fostering a sense of identity in people whose roots are there. Proceeds from the sales help fund Hoopoe's [Books for Afghanistan](#) program, which provides underserved girls and boys with books and trains teachers to promote literacy. Please pass information along to other who would be interested. Please contact hoopoebooks@origins1.com for more information.

Moraa University Presentation by Dr. Amir Aziz: July 19th, 2017

Founder and President Dr. Aziz presented to AMPAA members and friends about Moraa education complex located in Afghanistan. This institution is an all women university which provides education to women and girls. Meeting took place in Springfield, VA. For more information visit: <http://moraa.edu.af/>

AMPAA Visit to Afghanistan: May 31st-June 7th, 2017

AMPAA member Dr. Nazila Raofi Salamkhail, PharmD, visited multiple centers in Kabul this month. The description of her travels is attached. Her visit occurred during the bombing in Kabul and she was able to raise money for the families affected by the tragic incident. AMPAA thanks Dr. Salamkhail for her service. For more questions regarding her visit please contact us.

Book Launch: *A Place of Miracles*

North Bethesda United Methodist Church on Sunday, April 30th

Mr. Lee Hilling has written a book entitled *A Place of Miracles -- The Story of a Children's Hospital in Kabul and the People Whose Lives Have Been Changed by It*. The book was received well by the Afghan community. This event was attended by AMPAA's President Dr. Sayed Shinwari. Pictures are attached. To order a copy: [Book Info Here](#)

Tele-Education at Herat University

AMPAA and Afghan Education For a Better Tomorrow (AEBT) have been collaborating on a tele-health project. Board member, Dr. Nahid Aziz, has initiated this collaboration and has successfully setup sessions for the students and faculty at the university. For any member interested in working with AMPAA please email us. AEBT's 2016 Newsletter is attached.

Need Help with Resumes or Cover-letters?

AMPAA Member Heela Azizi has volunteered her time to help any health professional needing assistance with resumes or cover letters. All correspondences can be done via email. Please email member heela.azizi@gmail.com for more information.

Telemedicine in Afghanistan:

AMPAA has partnered with Raqim Foundation and Afghan Education for a Better Tomorrow (AEBT). The parties will work together to develop and establish policies and procedures that will promote and sustain telemedicine projects, providing medical assistance to the people of Afghanistan. Specifically, Raqim Foundation will provide telemedicine networks, facilities and necessary equipment in Afghan villages. AMPAA will provide medical services and medical education assistance and consultations to patients by professional medical doctors. Afghan Education for a Better Tomorrow will offer technical assistance to promote and expand the telemedicine networking throughout the villages of Afghanistan. Under the leadership of Dr. Nahid Aziz, AMPAA's board member, in the past several months, consultations were provided to patients who suffer from psychological distress and psychosocial issues in Kalakan District, which is located in Northern part of Kabul province.

Afghan Ministry of Public Health:

AMPAA has signed an Agreement of collaboration with Afghan Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) on 23rd of August 2015. The agreement will allow AMPAA to conduct its projects and programs in collaboration and coordination with MoPH in Afghanistan. As a first step, the MoPH has provided a guesthouse in Jamhuriat Hospital in Kabul for Afghan and non-Afghan medical professionals who wish to travel temporarily to Afghanistan for the purpose of assisting the Afghan health sector. The guesthouse is free for medical professionals who wish to assist the Afghan Health System through direct health care delivery or educational programs. The guesthouse is located in the most secured area in the centre of Kabul. It is near the Ministry of Interior, old Prime Minister Office and Wolayat (the Governorate). The guesthouse is near the major shopping centers including some very fine restaurants.

First EVER Afghan Medical School Exchange Program:

AMPAA has initiated a partnership with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). We met with the lead coordinator in the Washington DC headquarters. The Association has an international program called Global Health Learning Opportunities (GHLO). The program provides the opportunity for more than seventy countries throughout the world to exchange their medical students with each other. We have targeted 6 universities in Afghanistan as members of this program. AMPAA is thrilled to announce it has signed the first school to participate from Kandahar, Afghanistan with the great help and support from MoPH. This will be the first and only medical school exchange program in Afghanistan. For more information please visit the website: [GHLO Link](#)

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