



THE CITIZENS FOUNDATION, USA

Winter Newsletter 2021

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## REOPENING SCHOOLS... REIGNITING DREAMS



This holiday season, give a gift of education!



Sidra Iqbal

Mark your calendar for our  LIVE event

Learn what TCF is doing to bring children back to school



Riaz Kamrani

Sunday, 26 December 2021 - 12 PM CST, 1 PM EST, 10 AM PST

### From the Desk of Haroon Ismail

TCF Supporters, Friends & Family,

As we approach the end of the year and spend time with our loved ones, I often try to take time and reflect on the countless blessings that we all enjoy. My wife and I were blessed with a



daughter, our first child, providing us with a silver lining in what has been a nerve-racking and tumultuous last two years. Becoming parents has created in us a new sense of responsibility. I found myself desiring to give her even more than I was blessed to grow up with.

There are **22.8 million children out of school in Pakistan, majority of which are girls**. A third of these children simply have no access to education. Moreover, the public school system in Pakistan suffers from significant gaps, often lacking even basic amenities such as electricity, clean water, gender-specific bathrooms, and furniture. As second generation Pakistani Americans, we often lose sight of how these basic amenities can be luxuries for children who were born into different circumstances than we were.

A quality education should be a right, not a luxury. I can't help but think about how much I'd be depriving my daughter without one. There are millions of parents who feel the same way, working tirelessly to give their children the best possible future.

In these uncertain times, your support is more important than ever. **It takes \$120 a year (\$10 a month) to educate a child.** These are small amounts for us but have the power to literally transform the lives of these deserving children in Pakistan. **Help bring their dreams into reality. Help develop the next software engineer, professor or astronaut. Do for them what you would do for your own children - because they deserve it.**

I hope that you will open your hearts and donate generously to support those in need. Wishing you and your family the best this holiday season. Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

Haroon Ismail  
Director, TCF-USA

*Haroon Ismail has been serving as a member of the Board of Directors of TCF-USA since 2019. As one of the founders of both the Young Professionals New York and South Florida chapters, Haroon has been dedicated to spreading awareness of TCF and its mission to educate underprivileged children across Pakistan. Haroon is currently an investment professional at AEA Investors, a global private equity firm based in New York.*

★ *Our awards this Year* ★

TCF selected among top 25 global projects at the  
**Expo 2020 Dubai's Global Best Practice Program.**

GuideStar  
Platinum Seal of  
Transparency



2021 Best  
Practice Honoree



Charity Navigator  
Highest ★★★★★ Rating

**TCF's 3 Priorities to Bring Children's Education  
BACK ON TRACK**



### Prioritizing Mental Health

To help our students cope with the mental health repercussions COVID-19, TCF has embedded a dedicated time called 'Khair Maqdam' (Welcome back) within the school day. During this time, teachers engage children in stress and anxiety management activities to help them share their concerns and express gratitude.



### Addressing Learning Loss

TCF has implemented two distinct remediation programs to help children recover from learning losses caused by school closures: **Aaghaz (The Beginning)** - an 8-week program addressing learning loss collectively and **Uraan (The Flight)** - a program focused on individuals or small groups. [Read more..](#)



### Providing support to Teachers

TCF is ensuring all TCF teachers and principals are vaccinated and have the skills and tools available to support learning post COVID-19.

**Staff circles** are held fortnightly to provide teachers a collaborative space for problem solving, peer support and discussions on self-care.

## TCF Campus Visit - An Experience not to be Missed!



■ *Farhat Hussain, a US-based educator, has been a TCF supporter and a committed volunteer for 11+ years. Read about Ms.Husain's recent experience of a TCF school visit in her own words.*

"Happiness, joy, excitement and eagerness..this is the first impression you get, upon seeing the faces of the children at TCF Quayyumabad Campus. With super clean uniforms, hair neatly made, exhibiting superb manners and respect, it is a real joy to see them go about their way, so eager to learn. Driving up to the TCF campus through slums can be a daunting experience until you walk through the school gate into a completely different world. Eleven years ago, I visited the same campus and

it was very gratifying to see how well it has been maintained. As an early childhood educator and administrator for the past 26 years, I also, definitely noticed all **the improvements that had been made, in keeping with best practices for educating young children.** Children walking down hallways showed wonderful self-control and manners, and no teacher was heard being loud."



"The big surprise on my tour was the TCF college!!! It was an awesome seeing these young people, so focused and engaged in their classrooms.

Visiting a Citizen's Foundation campus is an experience not be missed as you get to see your donations at work and experience first hand TCF's success in educating the underprivileged children of Pakistan. It really warms my heart and fills my being with happiness and appreciation that I am a part of this amazing organization." Farhat shares.

### TCF recognized among top 25 projects worldwide at Expo 2020 Dubai!



TCF was selected to be showcased at Expo 2020 Dubai's Global Best Practice Program **"Small Steps, Big Leaps : Solutions for Sustainable Impact."** TCF was recognized among **top 25 global projects, after a review of 1,175 applicant programs from 141 countries** by an international committee!

The Program highlights projects around the world that have proven to offer tangible, adaptable and scalable solutions to help achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

[Read more...](#)

### Newsweek features a TCF alumna - 'I was born in a slum - I am a doctor of neurology'



Dr. Sidra Saleem, currently a second-year Neurology Resident in Ohio, is a TCF alumna, whose inspiring story was published in Newsweek on November 10, 2021.

In her story, Sidra acknowledges the huge difference her schooling made in her career, **" The Citizens Foundation school in my area provided me with an education and the guidance I needed. The school gave me the pathway I needed to follow, and I just kept walking."**

[Read the full story in Newsweek](#)



## Our Chapters are back with spectacular Events!

...and we couldn't be more excited! This year, between October to December 2021, TCF-USA's 10+ Chapters went above and beyond to spread awareness about TCF movement. From annual galas, donor appreciation events to welcome back get-togethers, TCF-USA events reached out to 6000+ individuals.

The presence of renowned personalities such as - Ayesha Ali, Consul General, New York; Dr. Adil Najam, Dean, Boston University; Sabrina Siddiqui, White House reporter for The Wall Street Journal; Mushtaq Chhapra, TCF Founder; Mira Sethi, Pakistani writer; Ali Sethi and; Mahvush Shah, renowned Pakistani singers - made the year-end events even more spectacular!

We grateful to our **TCF-USA Seattle, Boston, New Jersey, Westchester, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Houston, Wichita, New York Young Professionals and South Florida Chapters** for hosting successful events and for their unwavering support and generosity.

**TCF-USA Houston Chapter's**  
**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala**  
 Saturday, February 26, 2022  
 6 pm CST  
[Buy tickets](#)

## DC Chapter Annual Gala - a new record of success!

After a hiatus of 2 years, TCF-USA Washington DC Chapter hosted its physical 12th Annual Gala on November 20th at the Ritz Carlton with over 500 guests in attendance.

This year, Mushtaq Chhapra, TCF Founder, Salman Hassan, CEO TCF-USA and other TCF-USA dignitaries attended the event. In his address, Mushtaq Chhapra applauded DC chapter for supporting TCF's mission. **"It is indeed a testament to the strength of the DC community and its firm commitment to TCF's cause."** Mr. Chhapra added.

Later, a live art auction of the work of renowned artists such as, Mashkoor Raza and Guljee was held to help raise funds for the cause; it was followed by a musical performance by Pakistani singer, Ali Sethi.

Even through the pandemic, Washington DC community stood by TCF to support its COVID-19 Response Appeal in 2020, pledging food and cash relief for 26,000 families across 108 deserving communities.

The generous contributions of the Washington DC community through the years have allowed the Chapter to build and support **34 TCF schools**. Through these schools, the Chapter is **keeping dreams of a better tomorrow alive for more than 5,000 children**, their families and communities each year.

# Give a Gift of Education before Year Ends



## Have you tried our EFT feature for a quick and secure donation?

With our gift-giving feature, Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), donating is faster and easier. All you need is your account & routing number. Save on a stamp and get a receipt via email instantly. Option to mail a check is still there. For details on various donation methods such as checks, wires, stocks, please click here.

[Donate now](#)



## Did you know you can double your impact?

TCF-USA has partnered with over 220+ organizations to make your gifts go twice as far.

Please click here to check if your employer is featured in the list of organizations that match for TCF-USA. For questions, please call 888-729-3022.

[Double your impact](#)

Your donations are tax-deductible for this year to the extent allowed by the law up to December 31, 2021. Donate now to save on tax!



The Citizens Foundation, USA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Your donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law. All donations are under the independent control of The Citizens Foundation, USA.

Phone: (888) 729-3022 | TCF-USA Tax ID: 41-2046295.

  
**1,687**  
Schools

  
**275,000**  
Students

  
**12,950**  
Female Faculty

  
**50,500**  
Graduates

**DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT**

**Visit Our Website**