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November 2014 Newsletter

It has been a busy few months for PKCF and we have much to share with you. PKCF kicked off the summer season with two June fundraisers in London: a screening of the World Cup's Iran-Argentina game and our annual event at the Kensington Roof Gardens. The sold-out screening of the Iran-Argentina game, organized by the newly formed Young PKCF committee, filled the room with more electricity, patriotism and pride than anyone could have ever imagined, while the annual event's auction included a diverse collection of Iranian artists that raised much-needed funds to support our ongoing projects in Iran and worldwide. We thank you for your unwavering support!

In this newsletter, we will share with you the story of ILIA (Iranian Life Quality Improvement Association), a school and centre in Shahr Rey dedicated to teaching Afghan refugee children who have no recourse to the public educational, vocational or medical systems. ILIA has proven itself to be one of our most successful, well-run and growing establishments as evident by the 300% growth in the number of children under its care since its inception. Our support of ILIA would not be possible without our partner, Nikan Charity, and our student volunteers who have given their time and energy to developing creative programs for the Afghan children.

Please read more to learn about ILIA and our student volunteers, and consider making a donation. We are grateful for your generous support and profoundly thank you for helping us touch so many young lives.

Feature #1: ILIA's Mission

ILIA seeks to improve the quality of life of Afghan refugee children through the provision of education and health services, and mediation in family and social affairs. The establishment currently supports 560 children and has plans to expand its mandate to include vocational training for older children, bringing the total number of children to 900. As Afghans, these children do not possess the same rights and social benefits as Iranian children, and therefore are in desperate need of privately funded provisions. In addition to education and health services, ILIA provides the following:

- Cultural activities targeted at re-integrating children into society
- Training workshops to train teachers on various children's topics and life skills
- Educational workshops on raising children for the families
- Nutrition through daily free food

PKCF is thrilled by ILIA's formidable impact and looks forward to expanding its support as the centre grows in the years to come.



Feature #2: Student Volunteers at ILIA

Growth in student volunteers spending their summers or gap years at ILIA has been heart-warming as the experience immensely benefits both the volunteers and the Afghan children. Kenza Ben Brahim, Helia Goharian, Sara Ayton, Yasmin Booth and Sima Kasraie represent just a few of our young volunteers who spent time teaching and developing creative activities for the children both inside and outside the classroom.



We would like to highlight Tarik Ben Brahim's proactive and successful efforts to launch a football camp for the ILIA children this past summer. In support of PKCF, Tarik took the initiative to fund, organize and teach a two-week football camp, raising over 13,000 GBP for the camp and ILIA. The 90+ participants received football kits, daily training by Coach Haadi who coaches Paykan FC (a top division Iranian club), and the opportunity to learn invaluable life lessons through strict adherence to "footballers' behavioural" guidelines. The coaching clearly paid off as ILIA won the championship among organisations for street and working children



Finally, Tarik enlisted Francois, a French documentary filmmaker, to accompany him to Tehran, and together have created a documentary that brings to life the struggles and victories of these eager, dedicated and talented children. Due to its incredible success, PKCF plans to support the

football camp on an annual basis.

Please click on the link below for a preview of the upcoming documentary.

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/tehran-football-club>

Student Volunteer Testimonial

"I wanted to thank you so much for the giving me the incredible opportunity to intern in ILIA. I learned so much and it was truly hands down the MOST remarkable experience of my life thus far. I don't even know how to put the words to it! I can feel how much it has changed me and was so happy that I was able to help you, the school and of course most importantly the children- all of you so dear to my heart!" – Sima Kasraie

PKCF would like to extend a big thank you to its volunteers for their time, passion and commitment, all of which have served to enhance the ILIA mission and experience.



Sample of PKCF's Ongoing Projects and Commitments

Bachehaye Ma Orphanage

Bachehaye Ma Street Children

ILIA Center for Afghan Refugee Children

PKCF Girls Vocational School

Ali Asghar Children's Hospital

Hafez Center for Down Syndrome Children

Medical Fund for needy children

PKCF Boys Training Workshop