

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION

Our mission is to work for the welfare, support and empowerment of indigent and displaced people. The key focus is on alleviating the suffering of thousands of internally displaced people stranded in makeshift camps in Bangladesh by providing them with better living conditions, education and economic skills and opportunities.



WELCOME TO THE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Friends around the world,

Here we are, twelve years after we began this journey with OBAT. Our mission today is clearer, our resolve to empower the camp residents' lives is stronger and every step that we take in this direction is entrenched in the belief that one day every camp resident will realize his or her dreams. Today, just as twelve years ago, every aspect of our work is focused on the impact we are generating by investing in the education, health and well-being of the camp residents who have been living in misery in one hundred and sixteen camps since the last forty-five years. OBAT has come a long way with your support as we are now serving the camp residents in fourteen cities and seventy-nine camps.

To share with you the impact you have helped us create, it is my pleasure to present to you our annual report for 2016. This report is a testament to our focus, an inspiration for all those who can make a difference and a salute to those who already have.

I hope you will take away from the report the messages of impact and empowerment that resonate strongly throughout. To further realize the impact and empowerment you have helped us accomplish, please view our documentary (bit.ly/OBATimpact), created by students from OBAT Media Productions, who are also enrolled in OBAT's educational programs.

Thank you for reaching out, for standing with us and for touching the lives of countless forgotten camp residents.

Gratefully,

Anwar Khan

lukhan

President and Founder, OBAT Helpers Inc.



MISSION, VISION AND CORE VALUES

Vision

We strive for a world where displaced people can live with dignity and have access to basic amenities of living, education, health care and equal employment opportunities.

Mission

Our mission is to work for the welfare, support and empowerment of indigent and displaced people. The key focus is on alleviating the suffering of thousands of internally displaced people stranded in makeshift camps in Bangladesh by providing them with better living conditions, education and economic skills and opportunities.

Core Values

Empowerment: We enable our beneficiaries to live better lives by educating them and building their skills, thus empowering them to attain financial independence.

Responsible stewardship: We are committed to cautious stewardship of all our resources- we use responsibly the time and skills of our partners and volunteers and we spend prudently the funds donated to us.

Integrity and Accountability: We uphold the highest ethical values and principles in our everyday operations. We value the trust that has been placed into us by our donors and remain accountable and answerable for our actions to all our stakeholders.

Excellence: We strive to attain excellence in providing services to our beneficiaries and challenge ourselves by setting high operational standards for the organization.





GuideStar

GuideStar is the world's largest information portal on nonprofits. The platinum seal awarded to OBAT by GuideStar, denotes the highest level of transparency exhibited by a nonprofit which is registered in the GuideStar database.



GlobalGiving

The vetted organization seal is awarded by GlobalGiving to nonprofits that have passed its rigorous due diligence process. OBAT has been vetted since 2012 by GlobalGiving which is the largest online, global crowdfunding community. The topranked organization seal is awarded by GlobalGiving to the nonprofits that have displayed a high level of engagement with the GlobalGiving community and have demonstrated a commitment to effectiveness through their rewards system.



Great Nonprofits

Top-rated awards are given by Great Nonprofits to organizations that have been rated highly by people who experience their work first hand, whether they are the people served, volunteers or donors.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US EMPOWER THE CAMP RESIDENTS SINCE 2004 THROUGH









STATS ON OBAT IN 2016

74 Cities

79
Camps Served

35K
Beneficiaries

8
Tutoring Centers

29
Preschool Centers

Arabic Education
Programs

1,075 Scholarship Programs

Education for Working Children Programs Health Clinics and one Mobile Health Clinic

Sewing and Embroidery
Training Centers

148
Tubewells*

8 Schools

48
Bathrooms**

Computer Training
Centers

^{*} Deep/motorized and shallow tubewells as well as hand pumps

^{**} Community and individual













2016 HIGHLIGHTS: EVENTS



On May 22nd, a fundraiser was organized by OBAT Ambassadors of Dallas. The key note speaker was Mr. Azhar Azeez, President of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) and a longtime supporter of OBAT.



On April 9th, OBAT's board member, Mr. Nadeem Haque organized a successful fundraiser. The event served to create awareness for OBAT among Bay Area, California residents and introduced new avenues of funding.



An incredible and first of its kind project was undertaken by the students of OBAT Helpers Media Productions (OMP) in 2016. "Diamonds in the Rough," was an exhibition consisting of photos taken by the students of OMP who have been trained in photography and videography by Immad Ahmed. The exhibit was held at the Indiana Interchurch Center's art gallery in Indianapolis, where works of well-known artists are displayed every month. Thanks to the outstanding training and mentoring provided by then COO and current Executive Director, Immad Ahmed, the students got behind the lens and were able to relate stories through the amazing photos that were a part of this exhibit. "Diamonds in the Rough" opened on April 1st, 2016 and was displayed till the end of the month. The subjects of the photos were students living in the camps, who were continuing their education with the assistance of scholarships received from OBAT. Their stories of hardship, resilience and determination to shine, amid the darkness surrounding them, accompanied the photos.



Keeping with a yearly OBAT tradition, Friends of OBAT Indiana organized a packed iftar at the ISNA Headquarters in June 2016.

For the first time, an Interfaith Iftar was organized by OBAT at the Indiana Interchurch Center. The event attracted a diverse interfaith community from Indianapolis who enjoyed learning about fasting, its accompanying traditions as well as the importance of the month for the camp residents.





On July 24th, a restaurant in Forest Hills, New York was the gathering place for a fundraising brunch held in support of OBAT. We are grateful to Mr. Husam Ahmad for organizing this event and for galvanizing new support for OBAT.





OBAT's presence at the 2016 August APPNA and September ISNA conventions is a yearly affair and is a great opportunity to thank existing supporters and to find new friends. We are grateful to both of these organizations for welcoming OBAT every year.



The weekend of September 22nd was an important one for OBAT. OBAT was celebrating its twelfth birthday and several events were organized around it. For the first time, a retreat for the board members was organized in Indianapolis and several directors flew from various cities in the US to attend this event. The day ended with a dinner held to appreciate the local donors who have been the rock and support of OBAT since its inception. The crowning feature of the board meeting held the next day was a google hangouts session with the team in Bangladesh who joined the board meeting virtually and provided updates to the board about the progress of the projects in the camps.







OBAT Ambassadors of St. Louis organized a fundraiser for the Sardar Bahadur Nagar School on December 6th. SB Nagar is the largest of the eight schools run by OBAT. We are grateful for their continued support of this initiative. A special note of gratitude to Dr. Helal Ekramuddin and Dr. Azfar Malik for organizing this event.

MEET SABA ANJUM

OBAT's Information Technology Center in Syedpur started its operations in December, 2013. The courses offered at that time were mainly Microsoft Office Application courses. In 2016, the Graphics Design course and later on in the year, a course on Freelancing (Graphics Design and Digital Marketing) was added. The latter enables the students to market their design skills online and earn an income, sitting at home through short term projects for third-parties. Ten students joined the first batch of the Freelancing course. Here's a story of one of them.

"My name is Saba Anjum and I am the daughter of Mohammad Zia Uddin Ahmed. We live in Bansbari Camp in Syedpur. I have been a student of OBAT's I.T. Center in Syedpur. I also teach at the tutoring center run by OBAT. My father is currently unemployed and does not have a source of income. I have a brother and two younger sisters. In April 2016, I enrolled myself in the Graphics Design course. After the six month training ended, I joined the freelancing course for another three months. Due to these courses, I was able to get admission in the Government Training Center (Learning, Earning Development Project) for a two month course on Digital Marketing. I am now earning approximately \$150 per month. This income contributes a lot to my family's living expenses as due to my father's unemployment, we have been under severe financial pressure. I would like to thank the Syedpur I.T. Center's team for their excellent training and for your support that has made this day possible for me and my family.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS: VISITORS



Dr. Rezwan Khan spent several days in the camps in December 2016.
Dr. Khan resides in Texas and is a valued member of the OBAT board.

Mr. Jinnah works as an Accounting Officer with HCI (Human Concern International), a non-profit based in Canada. HCI has been extending support to OBAT since the last few years.





Mr. Husam Ahmad, founder of Ahmad Family Foundation and longtime supporter of OBAT, visited OBAT BLS School on September 27th where he spoke with the students and teachers. Mr. Husam has contributed toward the renovation of BLS School and has formerly sponsored the Dhaka School as well. The next day, he also visited the science project organized jointly by OBAT Tutoring Center, scholarship students and think tank members. During his visit, he announced that the students who receive an A+ in the secondary or high school exam will be gifted a laptop from the Ahmad Family Foundation. Mr. Ahmad lives in New York and has visited the camps on multiple occasions.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS: VISITORS (CONTINUED)



Mr. Syed Mozaffar Jamil, another supporter of OBAT, spent some time in the camps in 2016. Among the projects he visited were tutoring centers, vocational centers and Sardar Bahadur Nagar as well as Ferozeshah Schools.



A group from TTWF (Teach the World Foundation), consisting of Mr. Robert Torres and Mr. Shafiq Khan, visited the camps to lay the groundwork for a future tech collaboration which involved providing tablets to preschools kids to promote literacy through digital learning methodologies.



Mr. Aftab Iqbal (left in this photo, during his visit to an OBAT School): Mr. Aftab Iqbal resides in California and is an avid supporter of OBAT. Following are his own words about his visit:

"I went to Bangladesh in December 2016. I visited a few camps in Dhaka and in other cities as well. No words can define the misery and suffering through which the people in the camps are going through on a daily basis since last 45 years. OBAT Helpers are doing an amazing job in the camps. They believe in providing the fishing rod instead of the fish. Besides providing basic amenities where possible, this organization is giving hope, dreams and optimism to the people and the major tool which they are using is education."



Ms. Arishaa Khan (front row, 2nd from right, with students from OBAT's educational projects in Rangpur). Arishaa has been volunteering with OBAT since her childhood and has worked on several special projects for OBAT as a young adult. She recently completed her graduate studies from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. Her visit in 2016 was her second time visiting the camps and was focused on assisting with implementation and monitoring of the projects.

MEET FATEMA

On International Women's Day in 2016, OBAT joined hands with Surjer Hasi (previously Smiling Sun Clinic) to provide pre and post-natal maternity care services to the women in Syedpur camps. Debilitating poverty does not allow camp women to seek such services otherwise. In Bangladesh, especially in the camps, untrained "traditional birth attendants" (TBA's) are responsible for 95% of deliveries annually. Many lives are lost- both of moms and babies, as a result of lack of proper care and facilities.

Through this clinic, the Syedpur camp women were able to receive care free of cost. We are thankful to the RS Foundation and to HCI International for their support of this program.

Within this program, free treatment was provided to the women, who were encouraged to go to the clinic for their delivery and treatment. Women were also educated on the importance of pre and post-natal care, vaccination etcetera. Ninety-eight healthy babies have been delivered to the camp women. One of these healthy babies is Fatema.

Meet Fatema's mom, Tara:

"I live in Golahat Camp II, in Syedpur. My husband is a hawker, he sells calendars and newspapers on the street. My family's financial condition is very poor. My husband barely makes a living, at the most he earns around \$2 per day. On days when the weather is rough, he cannot earn anything. Hence, it was not possible for us to get our baby delivered at a clinic. However, we were able to get our baby girl, Fatema Khatun delivered at the Smiling Sun Clinic which is working with OBAT on helping the camp women deliver babies safely. Fatema was born through a C-section in September 2016; she was healthy at birth and weighed nearly eight pounds. After the delivery, I was able to visit the clinic for a follow up and for medicines. I could not have afforded getting proper pre and post-natal care for even a normal delivery, the fact that I received such great care for a C-Section was wonderful. Thank you to all of you for your kindness."



2016 HIGHLIGHTS: EMINENT MOMENTS



An English School in the camps was the first milestone OBAT achieved eight years ago when the Dhaka Elementary School was established. In 2016, eleven of its students were accepted by Queens School, a prestigious private institution, to continue their education in the sixth grade. The Vice-Principal of the Queens School had earlier visited the Dhaka School to ensure that the students met the standards of education adhered to by the private school. In the Vice-Principal's words, "I never thought that the camp school kids could be so smart and well-behaved and could speak English."



A wave of positive changes swept OBAT's projects in Bangladesh, as the COO and current Executive Director, Mr. Immad Ahmed instituted various changes, streamlining processes for a better functioning organization. At February's end, he conducted a training session of all the project officers who arrived in Dhaka from various cities OBAT is working in. Training included teaching staff the use of the G Suite from Google Cloud in order to make updated and accurate information available to the Bangladesh and US office at all times. This also ensures proper monitoring and record keeping of the projects. Reporting templates, the employee handbook and the employee performance review process were among the other areas covered by the training.



PEC (Primary Education Certificate) is a national exam administered by the Education Ministry in Bangladesh and is required to be taken by elementary school students for continuing their education at the middle-school level. In 2016, more than three million students took the exam from the entire country. A total of three hundred and eight students from OBAT's educational projects, including schools and tutoring centers, took and passed the exam. Farewell/graduation parties for these students were held in all the schools run by OBAT.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS: EMINENT MOMENTS (CONTINUED)



Think Tank accomplishments:

Find out more about this dynamic group at: bit.ly/OBATThinkTank

- To celebrate the International Mother Language Day, on February 21st 2016, OBAT's Think Tank in collaboration with Bangladesh Medical Student's Society (BMSS), South Asian Youth Society (SAYS) and the International Federation of Medical Students(IFMSA), hosted a free medical camp. The camp was held in two locations, OBAT's English School in Mohammadpur and BLS School in Mirpur. Workshops were also held for students on health and hygiene awareness. About 700 people received a free medical checkup and exam during this medical camp.
- OBAT Helpers and BMSS (Bangladesh Medical Student's Society) collaboratively organized a "Human Centered Design" workshop. This training was led by Immad Ahmed, the former COO and present Executive Director of OBAT.

HCD is a creative approach to problem solving. It's a process that starts with the people you're designing for and ends with new solutions that are tailor-made to suit their needs. The three day long training session was held at Dhaka Medical College. More than one hundred medical students participated in this training. Around twenty of OBAT's Think Tank volunteers and other staff members also participated. Activities and brainstorming sessions were organized for the workshop's attendees. They also got the chance to develop prototypes for their proposed solutions. The medical students devised solutions to some of the problems faced by the camp dwellers after being briefed about the current issues by the Think Tank volunteers.

• To raise awareness for feminine hygiene and issues resulting from the high temperatures in Dhaka, the Think Tank organized an awareness workshop on May 1st. Feminine hygiene products as well as mineral water were distributed among the workshop's attendees who learned about both the topics from volunteers from a local medical college.

MEET AYESHA PARVIN

In a lot of ways, eighteen year old Ayesha's story is similar to that of many other young girls living in the camps-laced with hardship, struggle and poverty. The poignancy of her personal struggle though, makes her life harsher than that of others living in the camps.

Ayesha's father abandoned his family when she was very young. Her mother worked as a house maid to make ends meet. Her two younger sisters got the chance to study at OBAT's Dhaka English School and excel in their studies. The family lives in a tiny hut in Geneva camp in Dhaka. Ayesha's life took a fateful turn when at the age of thirteen, she met with a horrific accident. She was walking across the train tracks in the slum area of Begoon Bari in Dhaka, when she got hit by a train. Her legs had to be amputated below her thighs. Since then, she can only move around on a wheel chair. That itself is a huge challenge given the extremely narrow and unpaved alleyways in the camps. She has been helping her mother with their family's finances by doing sewing and handicraft work at home.

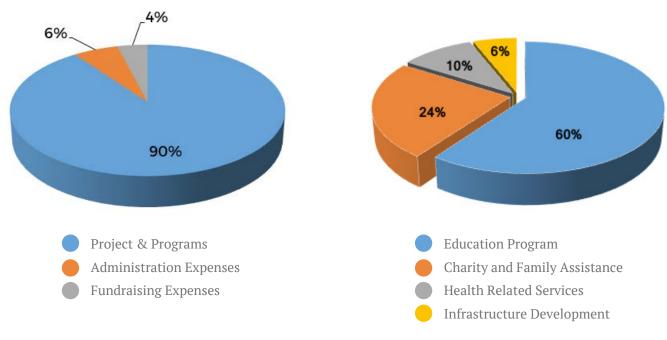
Rather than be defeated by her circumstances, Ayesha was strengthened by them and choose not to give up as she wanted to be an example for others. She took admission into OBAT's Education for Working Children and Adult Literacy program and attended classes that taught her basic literacy, for six months. She has received a certificate of completion but would like to continue taking classes in the program. Ayesha and her mother send their gratitude to you for creating hope for her amid their dismal circumstances.



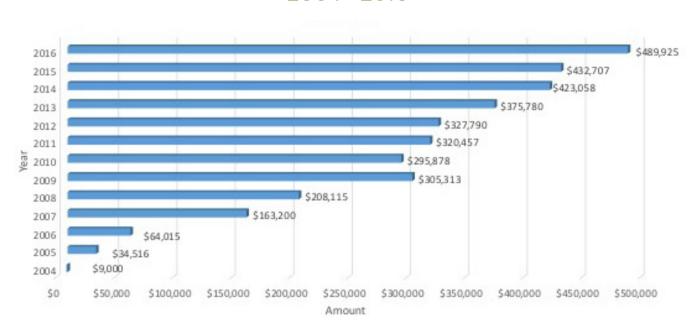
OUR FINANCIALS 2016

(Average for 2004 – 2016)





Project & Program Expenses 2004 - 2016



OUR FINANCIALS 2016

Total Revenue	\$569,522
Administrative Expenses	\$39,952
Fundraising Expenses	\$46,584
Program Expenses	\$489,925
Total Expenses	\$576,461
Revenue Less Expenses	\$(6,939)
Assets	
Total Assets	\$83,049
Total Liabilities	\$947
Total Net Assets	\$82,102

OBAT'S TEAM (US)

Board of Directors

Officers

Anwar Khan - President and Founder

Dr. Shujaat Wasty - Vice President

Charlie Wiles - Secretary

Cyrus Suleman - Treasurer

Directors

Tabasum Ahmed

Afshan Khan

Dr. Rezwan Khan

Dr. Azfar Malik

Kamran Anis

Brette Smith

Mohammad Masum

Dr. Shahid Mansoor

Nadeem Haque

US Staff

Immad Ahmed - Chief Operating Officer (currently serving as Executive Director)

Dr. John Clark - Executive Director (currently serving on the Board of Directors)

Saima Hassan - Director of Development and Communications

OUR TEAM IN BANGLADESH

All our projects are executed with the help of our implementing partner, ISDCM- Integrated Services for the Development of Mothers and Children.

Sohail Akhter Khan - Project Manager, Bangladesh

Ms. Shahana Akther - Accounts Officer

Humayun Kabir - Project Officer, Khulna

Farooq Azeem - Senior Project Officer, Dhaka

Abdul Halim Khan – Project Officer, Syedpur

Shahinur Rahman Guddu - Project/ Monitoring Officer, Rangpur

Mohammad Salahuddin - Field Officer, Rangpur

Raju Raj - Project Officer, Dhaka

Mostak Himadree - Project/Monitoring Officer, Chittagong

Manzoor Ali - Field Officer, Chittagong

Mahfug Alam – Monitoring Officer, Syedpur

Md. Shohel Ahmed - Head of Tutoring Center, Mymensingh

OBAT Helpers, Bangladesh

Sabera Sultana - Executive Director

Board of Directors

Syed Jalaluddin Ahmed

Mehboob Alam

S.M. Zakwan Barkati

Imamul Haque Siddiki

OUR PARTNERS IN BANGLADESH FOR 2016

Surjer Hansi Clinic (formerly Smiling Sun Clinic)

BCCP (Bangladesh Center for Communication Program)

Euglena

Lions Club of Chittagong

Shilpakala Art Academy

Dr. Mazharul Huq BNSB Hospital

Christian Service Society

BMSS (Bangladesh Medical Student Society)

MAJOR BENEFACTORS

Much as we would like, having nearly 1,500 donors makes it difficult to recognize and acknowledge everyone. While we appreciate each and every one of our supporters, this list contains our major benefactors for 2016

Abdul and Salma YaqubII
Abdul Kadar MemonII
Abdul R. & Zeenat ChaudhryN
Adeel & Naila AhmadII
Afzal U. & Asma AhmedW\
Ahmed AtharCA
Anwar HussainGA
Aqueel & Hina KouserTN
Arshad SyedT>
Ashraf & Meher LakhanyIN
Eijaz SamadWA
Ejazur & Aziza RahmanVA
Farah Effendi & Craig NovyIN
Ghufran & Afsheen AhmedTX
Hamid Mahmood & Tayyaba RehmanWA
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Naeema Malik	
Niaz & Shiba Haider	NJ
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Raheel Khan	CA
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Rezwana Khan	CA
Rizwan Samad	WA
RS Foundation	Canada
S. Jamil and Sofia Ahmad	WA
Sajid Hussain	CC
Salsabil Charitable Corp	
Shadia Jalal	
Shahid Hussain	
Shahid Mansoor	LA
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Syed M. Oqail	
Tariq Iqbal	CA
Toqueer UI Hassan	M
Yasmin & Ismail Bobat	IL
Zafar & Unbareen M. Imam	TX

THANK YOU

We appreciate YOU!

RS Foundation, HCI International and the Gemmer Foundation, for being extraordinary partners and generous grantors.

All the big-hearted individuals and volunteers across the world, who support OBAT with their time and resources to make countless lives better and brighter.

The Board of Directors, Advisory board and the US and Bangladesh team for their invaluable role in making OBAT an organization of impact and excellence.

Brian Needles (www.bneedles.com), for the design and layout of this report.

OBAT Media Productions, a group of talented young students studying in OBAT's projects, who captured the photos for the annual report.

Saima Hassan for, the content writing and layout of this report.

This is what we think of YOU- tell us what you think of US by visiting: bit.ly/ReviewOBAT and sharing your personal story of OBAT.



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