

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND GROWTH

Categories: WASH/ Hygiene Assistance/ Refugee Assistance/ Community Building

BE A PART OF THE PROJECT: PARTNER WITH JEN AND CONTRIBUTE

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WASH

The Formation of a Water Management Committee



Above: Mr. Mohammad, Mr. Maza and Mr. Muhammad with JEN staff.

In Kurram District of FATA, or Federally Administered Tribal Area, JEN is helping create water supply facilities in areas where refugees are returning to. In addition to creating water supply facilities, JEN is creating “Water Management Committees” so that the villagers can continue to maintain the facilities after JEN’s exit.

We held an interview with villagers Mr. Mohammad, Mr. Maza and Mr. Muhammad from Stary Pkhay village to discuss the changes in the village after the formation of the committee. According to these men, before the committee there was a lot of inter-community struggles, and often times community members were not willing to sit down to discuss solutions. Some men even lost their lives from arguments escalated into fights.

Mr. Mohammad said that now villagers are willing to sit down together to discuss issues and seek solutions. Mr. Maza said that community elders

Community Building

Children Participate in the Health and Hygiene Walk

In Kurram District, FATA, JEN has an ongoing project to renovate the water supply facilities in the area destroyed during the conflict, conduct hygiene sessions for elders and arrange a water, sanitation and hygiene campaign for children so that they understand the importance of hygiene in their everyday lives.

We saw that the children, who once suffered a great deal during the conflict, were very happy and excited about the campaign. They even carried around their hygiene brochures everywhere they went. These are the children who will pass on our message on hygiene to future generations. This hygiene walk with the children was held in the streets of Nijab Kalay village and attracted elders and more children. Elders and stakeholders greatly appreciated our efforts to improve the locals’ health.



Above: Children at the hygiene walk pose with their new brochures.

Hygiene Assistance

Impact of Personal Hygiene



Above: Shagufta on the right after learning about hygiene.

Three year old Shagufta recently returned to her hometown, Dangar Godo in Central Kurram, Pakistan, with her parents after long displacement. She was displaced from her home when she was only a breast-feeding baby, and therefore, during her stay in an internally displaced person camp, she did not receive proper schooling. As a result, she never learned proper hygiene practices, and her parents were not aware of these practices as well. Like many other children, Shagufta faced intense diarrheal diseases. Never learning how to maintain proper hygiene most likely would have affected her health even more, preventing her from attending school.

Personal hygiene is an important aspect of JEN's current project, and JEN is conducting hygiene awareness sessions in 7 villages in Central Kurram. We have seen improvement in hygiene practices among the children. When we first met Shagufta, she said, "I was feeling weakness and dizziness all the time. I usually felt tired when I did anything."

After receiving proper information on good hygiene practices, Shagufta practiced these behaviors every day. Her father commented on her daughter's new habits; "My daughter learned lessons from the JEN team that those who don't wear shoes can be exposed to worms living in the dirty that can lay eggs inside the human body. We are very thankful and pray for JEN for taking care of us and our children's health and education."

Refugee Assistance

Being an Internally Displaced Person: Mr. Bobrai and his family

South Waziristan Agency, SWA, has 3 subdivisions: Ladha, Serwoki, and WANA. The first two are conflict areas, and WANA is a safe, non-affected area. Those living in Ladha and Serwoki fled to different parts of the country due to conflict in 2008-09.

Mr. Din Bobrai is a resident of Baddar Village, Tehsil Tiarza of South Waziristan. He has 4 daughters and 5 sons, and the eldest son is 15 and works as a conductor in Karachi. The total of his daily wages and his son's income adds to a monthly income of Rs 10,000 or 16990 yen. Due to the conflict, he and his family migrated by foot to Tehsil Shakai of South Waziristan agency. The journey took one day and night to reach Shakai, and since then he and his family have been living in a tent for 5 years.

The situation worsened after the death of a Wazir tribal commander of militants group in December 2012. This initiated an influx of internally displaced persons of about 5,000 families from WANA to District Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, and Karachi. Mr. Bobrai and his family were part of the migration and settled in Lang Basti Kacha Village of Union Council Miran. He lives in a tent in a village near his relatives and receives food from WFP.

He said, "I lost all my assets in my home village from the conflict, and in a sense my family and I are permanently destroyed. It is impossible for me to recover my assets even for 2 or 3 generations. It is better to live as a refugee despite not being able to return to my home. My son and I are the only supporters of our family, and my sister, who is blind, lives with us because her husband died. I also need to pay for her medical expenses." There are still many IDPs waiting for assistance from humanitarian organizations and government institutions.

DONATE NOW AND HELP THE CAUSE!

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