

# Ramadan Special Mega Edition



## CHINAR's Daleel

Monthly Newsletter  
April 2022

"DALEEL" TRANSLATES TO STORY IN KASHMIRI

## CHINAR launched Community Transformation Project- Parvaaz

During the blessed month of Ramadan (May 30th, 2022), CHINAR International launched its first Community Transformation Project – Parvaaz – in Waltengo, Kulgam. Parvaaz focuses on holistic community development by supporting vulnerable groups – children, youth, low-resource educational institutions and community-based organizations.

Over 650 people were present at the launch including CHINAR board members (Dr. Mushtaq Margoob, Dr. Zahida Shah), CHINAR CEO (Irfan Shahmiri), CHINAR patrons (Ismet Shahmiri), CHINAR staff and scores of Waltengo community members (elders, teachers, parents, grandparents, youth and children).

Waltengo was selected for Parvaaz following a detailed survey conducted several months ago. "This is for the first time CHINAR is launching community transformation at this scale which includes integrated programs for children, youth, education and community," said Mr. Irfan Shahmiri. Applauding Irfan Kathwari Foundation (IKF), he added, "It was the visionary Mr. Farooq Kathwari (Chairman, Ethen Allen USA) who understood the importance of an intervention like Parvaaz and agreed to fund it." Renowned psychiatrist and CHINAR board member, Dr. Margoob stated "Parvaaz has the potential of not only transforming the community of Waltengo, but the opportunity for Waltengo to become an example for recovery, resilience and rehabilitation in disasters around the globe."

As part of the launch, two community learning centers (with 25 children each) and one skill development center (Crewel work) were started. Twenty children from 10 families were also enrolled in the Child Development program. Three community teachers and a field monitor were also recruited.

*Waltengo is a remote village located in the Kund belt of Kulgam which lost two-thirds of its population in twin snowstorms in late February 2005.*



## Ramadan Special Kits Distribution

CHINAR International held a "Ramadan Special Kits Distribution" event for 245 families enrolled in the Child Development Program across 6 intervention districts - Shopian, Pulwama, Kupwara, Doda, Srinagar and Budgam. The kits comprised of monthly essentials including dates, suji, vermicelli packs and other items. The purpose was to ensure that beneficiaries would not face any shortage of food items during the blessed month of Ramadan.



## Eid Special Distribution

CHINAR International organized an "Eid Special Distribution" event for families enrolled in the Child Development program across 6 districts - Srinagar, Shopian, Budgam, Pulwama, Kupwara and Doda. Eid kits comprised of snacks, cookies, and biscuits were given to families and casual clothes to children. It was delightful to see the children smiling as they received their gifts. Ahead of Eid-ul-fitr, CHINAR ensures that all the families celebrate the joyful occasion without craving for basic necessities.



## Learning Circle Meet - Child Development

CHINAR International held a learning circle meet with 10 field monitors working under the Child Development program across 6 districts of Kashmir. The main focus was to discuss challenges faced by the ground team, share learnings from the field and strengthen the monitoring process. The meeting consisted of multiple sessions led by CHINAR staff including the importance of monitoring, family assessments, procurement guidelines, basic computer skills, and selection criteria for business incubation. Each session was followed by an interactive Q&A with the designated project coordinators. To conclude, Irfan Shahmiri, our Global Executive Director had a thorough discussion with the field staff during which they shared their ideas, feedback and future plans.



## E-Labs Resumed

CHINAR International resumed the E-Labs project at Government Higher Secondary School, Amira Kadal with a batch of 35 students in the first week of April. The goal is to develop the seed of entrepreneurship among youth at an early age and train young students in 21st century skills. Prior to August 2019, CHINAR had started three E-Labs in 2 higher secondary institutions of Srinagar district.



## Youth Graduate From Skill Centers

CHINAR International successfully closed a Tilla Embroidery Center at Sarai Dangerpora, Bandipora. A total of 12 young women graduated from the course. All the trainees have mastered the skill and are moving towards self-reliance. Each trainee has earned a total profit of 2000 to 18000 in the last 2 months. CHINAR will provide them with basic start up material and guidance to run the business. Till date, CHINAR has closed 20 skill centers across 8 districts of J&K with a target of starting 10 centers this year.



## Learning Circle Meet - Small Business Support

CHINAR International organized a learning circle meet with unit holders under Small Business Support. The meeting was held in presence of Global Executive Director, Irfan Shahmiri and drew a total of 26 participants. The objective was to provide an open forum to young businessmen where they could share experiences and learnings with each other. It was an encouraging session for the participants as they learnt about the struggles and challenges faced by their cohorts in running the business. Small Business Support was launched last year under CHINAR's Youth Development program to assist youth in starting their own businesses, becoming self-sufficient, and bridging the unemployment gap. A total of 18 units are running successfully across 5 districts of Kashmir division, with a plan to scale up to 50 units this year.



## Learning Circle Meet - Community Learning Centers

CHINAR International organized a learning circle meet for volunteers and field staff working on the ground. The meeting was attended by 38 people including Community Learning Center teachers, remedial education staff, field monitors and CHINAR's staff from the Srinagar office.

All participants shared their experiences and learnings from the field, challenges they faced and the plan going forward. Facilitated by Global Executive Director, Irfan Shahmiri, the meeting stressed the role of effective monitoring and creating child friendly spaces.



## Pre-launch Ceremony of Parvaaz

Prior to the launch of Parvaaz project in Waltengu, the CHINAR team made the final assessment of the village in order to select potential beneficiaries eligible for support and to outline the holistic community transformation plan. The trip included baseline data collection, meeting with school heads and community mobilization.

After the final assessment trip, a thorough situational analysis of Waltengo was presented to staff, board members and local volunteers to understand the challenges on the ground. The session was led by CHINAR board member, Dr. Margoob, who discussed the trauma, pain and sufferings faced by the people post snow avalanche in 2005.

A short documentary, which highlighted the miseries of people living in Waltengo was also screened at the event.

CHINAR CEO, Irfan Shahmiri and Senior Manager, Javeed Ahmad shared the high level holistic plan. CHINAR patron, Ismet Shahmiri and CHINAR board member Dr. Zahida Shah were also present at the event.

In addition to CHINAR staff, the event was also attended by field staff from intervention districts.





**HELP KASHMIR  
DONATE GENEROUSLY  
OUR ZAKAT-ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS**

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

35 USD/MONTH OR 2,700 INR/MONTH (PER CHILD)  
420 USD/YEAR OR 32,400 INR/YEAR (PER CHILD)

**LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT - GUARDIANS**

1000 USD ONE TIME OR 75,000 INR ONE TIME (PER FAMILY)

**SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT - YOUTH**

2,000 USD ONE TIME OR 1,50,000 INR ONE TIME (PER YOUTH)



**FOR DONORS IN INDIA**

**HDFC BANK**

**TO MAIL A CHECK**

**J&K BANK**

Acc. Name: Child Nurture And Relief  
Acc. No: 50200009598784  
Branch: Barzulla Chowk  
IFSC Code: HDFC0001739

PAYABLE TO:  
**CHINAR INTERNATIONAL**  
Woodhouse, Baghat, Srinagar  
J&K- 190005

Acc. Name: Child Nurture and Relief  
Acc. No: 1112 0101 0000 1911  
Branch: Polo view  
IFSC Code: JAKA0POLOVW  
MICR: 190051059



**FOR DONORS IN USA**

**CAPITAL ONE BANK**

**TO MAIL A CHECK**

Acc. Name: Child Nurture and Relief  
Acc. No: 4670292073  
Routing No: 255071981  
Swift Code: HIBKUS44

PAYABLE TO:  
**CHINAR INTERNATIONAL**  
590 Grove Street,  
Unit 341  
Herndon, VA 20171



**CONTACT US**

info@chinarinternational.org



**TO DONATE ONLINE**

**CHINAR WEBSITE (ALL PROGRAMS):**

[bit.ly/CHINAR-R22-WEB](https://bit.ly/CHINAR-R22-WEB)

**\*\* FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER:**

[bit.ly/CHINAR-R22-FB](https://bit.ly/CHINAR-R22-FB)

**\*\* PAYPAL:**

[bit.ly/CHINAR-R22-PP](https://bit.ly/CHINAR-R22-PP)

**\*\* No transaction fee**