

Hello everyone and a very belated happy Memorial Day,

Two weeks ago Team 11 marked our six month of operations. To date, we have distributed over \$30,000 in assistance to more than 35 families, and through our networking, have redirected thousands of dollars more in visas, passports and other aid to our people. In the past two weeks, we have also expanded our operations to include NMRG Team #20, and their 58 men, women and children. No small amount of credit is owed to the hundreds of donors and other volunteers who have come to the assistance of the NMRG members, interpreters and family that our organization serves.

I delayed the monthly newsletter so that I could confirm recent developments. As of this week, we are now operating in collaboration with the Moral Compass Federation; a coalition of Afghanistan-specific non-profits with a military special-operations background similar to our own. The operant word of this partnership is "federation": **The day to day activities of Team 11 will remain unchanged.** MCF (<https://soaa.org/afghanistan/>) and its parent-nonprofit, the Special Operations Association of America, enhances Team 11's credibility and expands our networking capacity; vital for spreading awareness and providing a buffer in the event that emergencies arise.

As many of you know, the six months of this organization's existence have not been easy...

All of our people are actively hunted by the Taliban. One has been missing for two months. Another was detained and tortured into compromising 4 other families, and one of the women we are assisting will pass away in the next few weeks due to esophageal cancer. Next month we will also add one more to our numbers; "Sam" (who might recall if you follow our updates) and his wife are expecting another child. Ordinarily, this would be cause for celebration, but in a country stricken by famine, caring for an infant is a daunting prospect; in Afghanistan, 13,000 newborns have died of malnutrition since January.

With the situation in Ukraine overshadowing news in Afghanistan, fundraising is slowing; we are still seeking whatever assistance is available, whether it is donations, leads or volunteers. Anything can help, especially with rising food prices likely to compound problems in the near future. There is no more direct way to contribute to people in Afghanistan than through our organization: I personally fund operational costs and marketing is provided pro-bono (A huge thanks to Trent, Jake and Aidan). This means that every single donate cent outside of bank transfer fees finds its way into the hand of an Afghan refugee.

Despite everything that has happened, Team 11 is still making steady, inexorable progress. We have families in Pakistan waiting to receive their visas to the US, and several more are getting deeper and deeper into the Special Immigrant Visa Pipeline. We have even expanded into a small state-side venture: in collaboration with Occidental College, we are in the process of repurposing life-cycled computers and sending them to recent Afghan Immigrants. With a little luck, we hope to expand this project to encompass multiple Los Angeles area schools.

The way ahead is long and exhausting, but we'll still be here grinding away. It is your support that allows us to do so.

Until next month,

Tom

Paypal Giving Fund: <https://www.paypal.com/US/fundraiser/charity/4468897>