



Newsletter Contents

- [Student News](#)
- [Congratulations Shehrbano](#)
- [Updates from the Field](#)
- [Partnership with Foundation for Social Change](#)
- [What We Are Reading](#)
- [How You Can Help](#)
- [Staff Update](#)
- [Thank You](#)

Dear **Sacha and Kirk**,

We hope this email finds you happy, healthy and enjoying fall. We wish to encourage you that although the relations between the governments of the United States and Pakistan are currently strained; the American and Pakistani people (through Marshall Direct Fund) continue to prove that cooperation is not only possible, but that it is the only way to build a brighter future for all of us. Best, Silbi

National Council Founding Members

- Tony & Terri Caine
- Shelly & Golda Friedstein
- Courtney & Karen Lord
- Bob & Soledad Hurst
- Robert & Lexie Potamkin
- Tom & Catherine Reagan
- Patrick & Mary Scanlan

Thank you to all who have supported MDF financially and otherwise. To become a National Council Member or to donate please visit [us here](#). To view all MDF supporters visit [us here](#).

Coming Soon

If you or anyone you know lives in Chicago, DC, NYC, Houston or London and would be interested in participating in an MDF event, please [contact us](#). We have exciting plans to be in all cities in the coming months.

Student News



Young female students enjoy dancing together in celebration of the Eid Milan party at the MDF school celebration.



The young boys show off their dancing moves at the MDF school party celebrating Eid Milan.

Click on the images to watch videos of the MDF students.

Welcome

We are excited to welcome **Jane Harris - Program Coordinator Intern**. Click [here](#) to learn more about our team.

Learn More About Pakistan

Do you want to learn more about Pakistan?

Our [resources page](#) is a collection of articles and reports vital to understanding education in Pakistan today.

Join MDF Online

You can read [our blog](#), become our [Facebook fan](#), or follow us [on Twitter](#)!



Congratulations Shehrbano

MDF Board Member wins *Human Rights Award*

Pakistani journalist and daughter of former Punjab governor

Salmaan Taseer, **Shehrbano Taseer**, received a **Human Rights Award** during an annual award dinner in New York City on Saturday, October 22, 2011.

Human Rights First honored Shehrbano “for her courage in carrying out her father’s legacy of religious tolerance.” She has published a series of op-ed pieces calling for change in Pakistan, and has openly criticized those who glorify her father’s murderer, said the press release.

Please click [here](#) to read the full article ***Promoting Religious Tolerance***



Updates from the Field



As another school year has begun, the students enrolled

d in the Marshall Direct Fund schools are settling in for another academic year. We are delighted to announce that we have maintained a great retention rate for both students and staff. We are constantly streamlining processes and protocol for support and reporting between the Pakistani & United States staff.

Recently the students were taking part in the **Eid Milan** party, an important holiday for the Muslim population. For the



holiday the students dress up in vibrant colored outfits and celebrate with food and music.

Later this the month the students will be taking their midterm examinations. Please join us in wishing every student good luck on their exams!

Remember, a little bit goes a long way for these children. Your donations have made this work possible. With your contributions we have been able to provide things like: new uniforms with a warm sweater and a pair of shoes, high quality books for an entire school, tuition and nutritional meals throughout the school year. Thank you MDF donors.

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Partnership with *Foundation for Social Change*

Marshall Direct Fund is proud to announce our new partnership with the **Foundation for Social Change**. The Foundation works with corporations and NGOs around the world to create programs that define how *doing good is good for business*. It is not charity. It is not philanthropy. It is not impact investing. It is just doing the right thing for the world.

Next year MDF will be bringing Foundation for Social Change's innovative **eLife curriculum** to women and girls in Pakistan and Kashmir to provide them with further economic opportunities.

Executive Director, Silbi Stainton, recently attended the 2011 Global Conference for Social Change and Women & Girls Education Summit that Foundation for Social Change and the United Nations held in New York City. There was a lot of excitement in the air about the role women and girls can and must play to bring peace and economic development to the world at large and how public-private-NGO partnerships are just the way to make it happen.

What We Are Reading

Love is the New Currency: Creating a New Measure of Wealth, by Linda Commito

What does it take to feel hopeful and inspired in uncertain times?



These are stories of encouragement, hope and inspiration. In Love Is the New Currency Commito has gathered the best of what makes us human and it's hard not to want to live up to it. A great read for anyone who doubts the power of a kind act.
~ Susan Richards,

*New York Times best selling author of **Chosen by a Horse***

No matter where we turn, we hear stories about how bad it is "out there." Linda Commito's *Love Is the New Currency* is a book about how good it is "in here" — inside the circle of love, compassion, and human connection that is created when we open our hearts to each other. Commito has been on a passionate quest for about three years to document stories of people who are making positive changes in simple, yet extraordinary ways. In this book, she explores what everyday people are finding hopeful in their lives and what they are doing to create it.

The sixty-six stories in *Love is the New Currency* call us to envision what's possible by shifting our perceptions about money, values, and what it truly means to be wealthy. Regardless of circumstances, we can each make a difference in the world as we discover our own *currency of love* and share it

with others. Such wealth can never be taken from us and increases in value the more it is given away. We may find that we are richer than we ever could have imagined.

How You Can Help - Matching Donation Opportunities

Your donations can still be matched by 50% thanks to the **Safer World Fund**. Your donations will support **Vocational Training for 100 Women** in Pakistan. Marshall Direct Fund provides mothers with skills for producing clothing and embellished goods in order to launch successful businesses, send their children to school, and lift their families out of poverty.



What is the issue, problem, or challenge? According to the UN, 74% of Pakistan's 180 million people live on less than \$2 a day, and over 8 million of the 20 million school-age children are not in primary school. Impoverished youth are extremely vulnerable to recruitment into extremist organizations like the Taliban. Now more than ever mothers need access to education, training and economic opportunities.

How will this project solve this problem? We provide women with the necessary training, equipment, and materials in order to support themselves and their families. When women and girls earn income, they reinvest 90% of it into their families and communities.

Please [click here to support Marshall Direct Fund](#).

Staff Update

Jane Harris - Program Coordinator Intern

Jane Harris is a student of International Affairs at the University of Colorado at Boulder with a regional focus on Europe as well as the Middle East and North Africa. Her studies center on international development, human security, and public policy. Jane's interest in policy is not limited to the international arena. Her research and experience focuses on bringing a global perspective to the local level; both domestic and international.

Welcome Jane to the MDF Team!

Thank You

International Relief & Development

International Relief & Development (IRD) Pakistan awarded MDF as the recipient of donated office equipment last month. The donation included desktop computers, laptops, desks, chairs & filing cabinets. The donation's worth is estimated to be close to \$20,000 in value, however the generosity is priceless in the current economic climate. The items will be spread out between the schools, administrative offices and the vocational training center based on need and availability.

And of course a special thank you to all of our supporters. Without your support none of this would be possible. You are game changers in the field of international security. Your mission is a challenging one, but you carry on knowing it is the only way to build a more just and secure world. As Hamilton Wright reminds us - *"Don't be afraid of opposition. Remember, a kite rises against, not with the wind."*, all worthwhile achievements take place in a challenging environment. It is the challenge, and the human will to overcome it, that makes great achievements possible.

Please visit our website at www.marshalldirectfund.org.