



LIAQUAT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES

Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS), formerly known as Liaquat Medical College, is one of the five founding Alumni of APPNA. It came into existence in 1982 in Chicago and has since been one of the most active component societies of APPNA.

Since its inception, it has been actively involved in various community and social services. Many of its presidents have served on the Board of Trustees of APPNA, of which Dr. Imtiaz Arain is currently member. Dr. Murtaza Arain, the tenth president of APPNA (1988-89), provided space for an APPNA office free of cost for several years and has been involved in social services and humanitarian work. Dr. Afzal Arain has traveled extensively at his own expense and provided medical help in numerous countries that were affected by natural disasters. Thousands of handicapped individuals have benefited from his well-known wheelchair program, which is ongoing in collaboration with Rotary Club. Dr. Imtiaz Arain has been the backbone of the first APPNA clinic established in Chicago in 2008. This clinic, while providing medical care for the neediest, has also created an opportunity for externship for young physicians.

The 2005 earthquake in Pakistan was one of the worst natural disasters to hit our homeland. Liaquat Alumni members played a pivotal role in ongoing relief efforts. Drs. Murtaza and Afzal Arain provided on ground services during the earthquake relief efforts. Dr. Abdul Majeed was the main organizer for fundraising under the New York chapter, which helped to raise close to \$300,000. With these donations, Mansehra Rehab Center was adopted and funded for close to three years where the earthquake victims were rehabilitated.

In 2011, disastrous rains and floods affected rural Sindh where hundreds of thousands of people were displaced from their homes. Drs. Abdul Majeed and Khalid Memon raised close to \$70,000 for relief efforts under Social Welfare and Disaster Relief Committee (SWDRC) with the help of its Chair, Dr. Aisha Zafar. Half of these funds were spent for immediate relief by providing food, water, and shelter. With the other half, about 40 individuals affected by these floods were put to work by providing them with motorcycle rickshaws. Many of these individuals are still supporting their families through the use of these rickshaws. This project would not have been completed without the help of Dr. Saima Zafar, President of APPNA 2012.

In 2015, Liaquat Alumni President Dr. Abdul Majeed, with the help of Dr. Khalid Memon and many others, started the Clean Sweet Water Project for the drought-affected Tharparkar area of Sindh. We were able to raise over \$120,000 under SWDRC with the help of Dr. Aisha Zafar. These donations were used to provide clean, sweet drinking water to thousands of needy people in this region on a long-term basis. This work included laying down an 8-kilometer water pipeline and constructing 3 underground water storage tanks, each with a capacity of 10,000 gallons, all in remote areas of Thar. Nearly 7,000 people are benefiting from this pipeline, which was inaugurated on December 22, 2015 by Dr. Mubasher Rana (President of APPNA), Dr. Abdul Majeed and Dr. Amjad Aziz, a Liaquat physician practicing in Hyderabad. This project also included installing 50 water pumps in different villages, mainly in Taulka Diplo (District Mithi) where the underground water is undrinkable.

This year (2016-17) with the Grace of Allah SWT, we are pleased to report the completion of 80 water pumps in remote areas of Thar Desert near Taulka Diplo. This was part of our ongoing Clean Sweet Water Project and was made possible due to the generous donations of our donors who have put their trust in this project for the last few years. We offer our heartfelt thanks to all our donors and hope for their continued support in this endeavor. Our special thanks are to Drs. Aisha Zafar and Khalid Memon as well as Jennifer Wozniak from APPNA office for their hard work. We also would like to thank Muneer Welfare Trust for their wonderful work on the ground and completion in a timely manner.

Insha'Allah, we plan to continue this project and request ongoing support as there is an unlimited need for clean water in many remote areas of the country. One water pump costs approximately \$500.

Online donations can be made at: <https://www.instantreg.com/appnatemplate2/public-donations>

Once at the page, use the "select fund" feature's drop-down menu to select "Thar Water Wells (Clean Sweet Water Projects)" and then make the donation.

May Allah SWT shower His blessings upon our generous donors. Ameen.

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