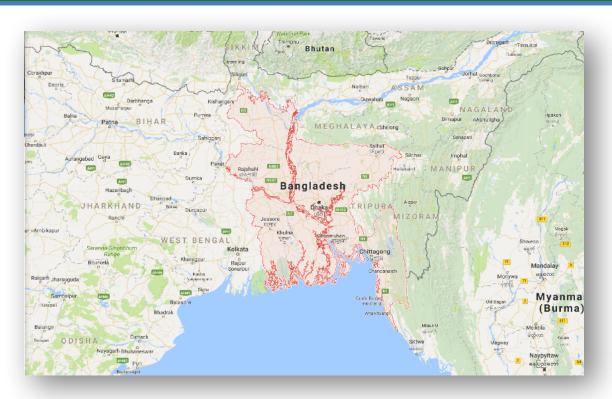


2018 Annual Benefit Dinner

October 6, 2018

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#### An Overview



- 30+ years in operation, longest running organization of Bangladeshi women in US
- All-volunteer organization with 90% of your contributions going directly to needy families
- Hundreds of women, children and families have benefited from our programs focused on literacy, education and leadership.
- SAMHATI has
  - Provided cyclone relief
  - Climate adaptation training
  - Established the first women's shelter in Bangladesh
  - Developed eco-empowerment projects in several villages



#### Jahanara Ali Memorial College Scholarship

- In honor of one of our original members
- Beginning in January 2018, we offered 3 special college / vocational scholarships



Anwara Khatun (Natore), Ranibhavani Mahila College



Beauty Aktar (Laksmichamp), Nilphamari Government College



Asha Moni (Katakhali), Patuakhlai Mahila College



#### Women's Scholarships to Reduce Child Marriage



Bannya, Marzia, Setu, Banani, Shaila – age 16-17, Class 9, Village Chaychar, District Magura Bangladesh has the highest rate of child marriage of girls under age 15 in the world, according to UNICEF

- With Sidney Schuler's support, we are helping reduce child marriage through scholarships to young women and teens in six villages (Rangpur, Magura & Faridpur Districts)
- Each woman receives 4-year scholarships
  - 2 years of secondary school (grades 9 and 10)
  - 2 years of college or vocational training, such as nursing or teacher training

Girls who complete secondary school are 6 times less likely to become child brides.



#### Meet Three Recipients from Rampur, District Rangpur



Reba, age 14, Class 7



Bristi, age 14, Class 7



Munni, age 14, Class 7



# Update on Key Initiatives













# Natore District Program









# Adult Literacy: Over 800 Graduates



- Our 11th year in Natore and seeing great progress and positive changes
- Adult literacy classes are now in three different villages.
- Mostly womer students



### Scholarships to 30 Children (20 girls, 10 boys)









## 75 Women in Sewing Classes

Using 10 sewing machines, and five graduates have been provided sewing machines (on monthly payment plan) to start their own businesses. One woman has started a tailoring and fabric shop.







# Computer Literacy & Certification

- Our very popular computer learning center now has 6 desktops and 3 laptops.
- Offers a 3-month training that is leading to employment for many of the graduates







# Skills Training: Fish Farming









# Bicycles for Girls

Second year of our program to grant bicycles to girls to help them get to school. 12 more bikes have been distributed this year. Effective tool to empower girls and give them the freedom to be more mobile.





# Laksmichap, Rangpur









## Adult Literacy Program

We have 5 adult literacy centers for women which have taught over 775 women to read and write.







# Adult Literacy Centers







# Skills Training for Women

Sewing training for women has started this year. As well as organic vegetable production and poultry training.







# High School Scholarships Continue

We are providing a total of 80 individual high school scholarships in two different high schools.





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# Free Health Check Ups

Free health
checkups – over
1700 children and
adults participated
in the program this
year







## Health + Hygiene Awareness

Health – hygiene awareness sessions are also very well attended with 60 adolescent girls there







# Hygiene Products for Girls





## Bicycles for Girls in Honor of Seema Momen





# Katakhali Village Program









#### Medical Clinic with Full-Time Doctor





- The Health Center staffed by a doctor and assistant provides services to 27,000 people
- 2,500 patients were treated
- Focus on preventive care, immunizations, etc.
- A new lab allows for basic diagnostic testing on-site





# Scholarship Recipients



- We continue to provide scholarships to 30 middle and high school kids each year which helps keep them in school
- We have 80 graduates of this program
  - 7 have government jobs
  - 45 in the private sector





# Pre-School / Play Group for Younger Kids

In 2013, we started the first pre-school / play group with many of younger children in the village – ages 2 to 4 – participating and receiving a nutritious snack every day. We have now also funded a community library.







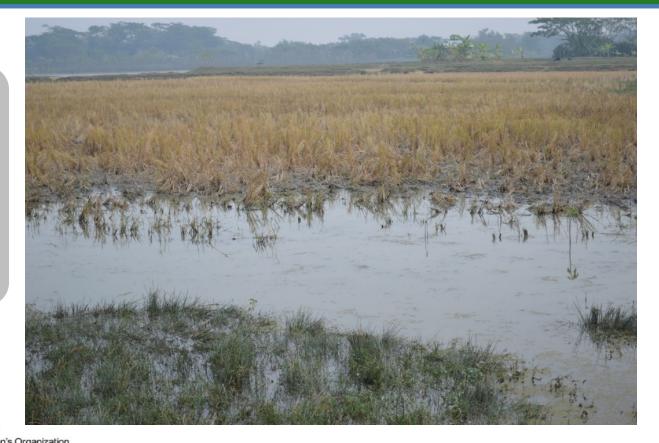
### **Nutritious Snack for Pre- Schoolers**





# Climate Impacts on Agriculture

November December
2017 untimely
rain during
harvest ruined
crops and
killed farm
animals





## Climate Adaptation: Coconut Nursery

146 coconut plants have been grown over last 2 years.
Coconut plants along shore help avoid soil erosion and storm surge.







## Video Training to Document Climate Change







# Photo Exhibition: Inspiration for Training







### Letter-Writing Workshop for Self-Advocacy







# Adult Literacy + Skills Training







Since 2000, the mainstay of our program has focused on adult literacy classes in Katakhali.



## New Modhukhali Cooperative





The new cooperative in adjacent Modhukhali village is doing well – 30 women taking literacy, sewing and other income generation skills



# Skills Training + Income Generation

Organic climate adaptive farming to address salination of the soil from cyclones







### Noorjahan Bose's 80th Celebration - March 14!



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# Need to Raise: \$65,000

```
$75 = one-year scholarship to keep a middle/ high school child in school
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$100 = adult literacy or vocational classes
```

\$1,000 = funds climate adaptation training for 10 villagers



## Thanks for Your Support!

#### **2018 Host Committee**

Mustafa and Naheed Chowdhury, Sharmeen and Uzair Dossani, Rose Hayden, Laneyse Hooks, Mehmood Kazmi, Sangeeta Mookherji, Beth Pile, Grace Kibue Sharp, Jyoti Tulsi, Satwant Tulsi

Benefit Chairs: Cima Ali and Alema Siddiky / Auction Chair: Jhinuk Hasan-Fulton

#### **Platinum Level Donors**

**Featured Performers** 

**Azmat Ali** 

Mustafa + Naheed Chowdhury Ronald Creamer Sidney Schuler

**Dance Performance by Droopad** 

#### **Gold Level Donors**

Jaseem Ahmed \* Cima Ali \* Dale & Julie Bennett \* Anita J Bose \* Yasmin Choudhury \* Nariz & Nasreen Dossani \* Steve Escobar, Anthony Gerrits & Erlene Gochuico \* Joyce Gresco \* Mastafa Haque \* Melanie & Mark Jacobsen \*Dr. Rumana Kazmi \* Iqbal & Nasima Mansur \* Susan & Patrick Nevins \* Rukhsana & Aquilur Rahman \* Lonna Shafritz \* Arthur Schroeder \* Mary & Tim Stahl \* Jiwantot Tulsi \* Anne Landrum/Renaissance Charitable Foundation



# Thank you!



