



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION U.S.A.

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RUNNERS FOR AGA KHAN FOUNDATION IN BOSTON MARATHON
RACE TO MAKE A BETTER WORLD, RAISING \$61,000 FOR CHARITY**

BOSTON, MA, APRIL 21, 2014 – Today three runners in the Boston marathon raced to raise funds to help end global poverty. The [Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A.](#) (AKF USA) is honored to be a [partner charity](#) for the 2014 [Boston Marathon](#). As an organization inspired by the universal principles of pluralism, compassion and human dignity, the Foundation works to end poverty and strengthen the fabric of civil society, often in places where it has been torn by conflict. The Foundation works for the common good of all citizens, regardless of their gender, origin or religion. For the [AKF Run Team](#), running 26.2 miles through Boston was a chance to demonstrate that commitment.

The three members of the AKF Run Team embodied those values and showed an inspiring dedication to both the Foundation’s work and their training. [Amira Valliani](#), [Richard Prevost](#), and [Sulfyna Murji](#) surpassed their target of each raising \$10,000 for AKF USA projects in Africa and Asia – raising over \$61,000 collectively. The three were selected based on an application process last fall. All three live in Washington, DC. View each runner's video [here](#).

The event marked an exciting culmination for all three runners. “As soon as you got off the airplane in Boston, the energy is electric,” Sulfyna said, “and there is this amazing camaraderie. Everyone is coming together.”

“The entire city is rallying around the marathoners,” added Amira.

Marathon Day itself was humbling and encouraging. Richard expressed it this way: “This is such a special day. It’s a wonderful Boston tradition, where the community comes out in strength. I’m happy to be a part of it.” This year’s event, in particular, he noted, “stays as a positive experience for people of Boston and around the world.”

Late in the day, when all had crossed the finish line after the test of endurance, there was a deep feeling of satisfaction amid the aching muscles. To the AKF Run Team and all their supporters who made the Foundation’s first-ever participation as a charity partner such a great success, with over \$61,000 raised to fund projects to end global poverty, AKF USA extends deep thanks.

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An agency of the Aga Khan Development Network

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About Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A.

AKF USA, established in 1981, is a private, non-denominational, not-for-profit international development organization committed to alleviating poverty, hunger, illiteracy and poor health. AKF USA works to address the root causes of poverty by supporting and sharing innovative solutions in the areas of health, education, rural development, civil society, and the environment. AKF USA is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code.

AKF USA is part of the Aga Khan Development Network (www.akdn.org), a network of private, non-denominational, development agencies around the world, established by His Highness the Aga Khan to empower communities and individuals, often in disadvantaged circumstances, improve living conditions and opportunities. The Network's agencies work for the common good of all citizens, regardless of their gender, origin or religion and its underlying impulse is the ethic of compassion for the vulnerable in society.

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