



**AGA KHAN FOUNDATION**  
*An agency of the Aga Khan Development Network*

**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SAN ANTONIO MOVES TO BUILD BETTER FUTURES  
AT AGA KHAN FOUNDATION WALK | RUN**

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, OCTOBER 11, 2015.** Today, 2,100 San Antonians moved to invest in long-term solutions to improve the quality of life for communities worldwide at the annual [Aga Khan Foundation Walk/Run - San Antonio](#) at Mayor Maury Maverick Plaza. The event was an initiative of the [Aga Khan Foundation](#) (AKF) to raise awareness and funds for programs that work with communities around the world to build better futures.

The event raised \$325,000, which reflects the enthusiastic outpouring of support from walkers, runners and sponsors across the metro area including national sponsor, The Coca-Cola Company. 100 percent of net proceeds from the event go directly to projects supported by the Aga Khan Foundation.

The Aga Khan Foundation Walk/Run attracted wide community support from civic leaders and officials. At the opening ceremony, State Senator José Menéndez acknowledged Aga Khan Foundation's impact globally, saying to enthusiastic crowds, "By making long-term investments, building lasting institutions and cultivating an active civil society, AKF is ensuring that your philanthropy is felt for generations to come. By training future entrepreneurs, you are creating and sustaining a future economy. You are all creating waves of financial progress in countries that need it the most. ... Aga Khan Foundation programs are designed to multiply change."

San Antonio Mayor Ivy R. Taylor, expressed her appreciation to the organizers, sponsors and community agencies supporting the Foundation's work, noting, "The example provided by the Aga Khan Foundation is inspirational because it is about partnerships. It is about community coming together in order to empower those who are not in an empowered position."

Among other dignitaries speaking at the opening ceremony were San Antonio Chief of Police William McManus; National Account Executive for The Coca-Cola Company, Mike Parsons; and Chairman of Aga Khan Foundation Volunteer Team for Southwest Region, Dr. Suleman Lalani.

One of the most inspiring features of the event was the Village in Action where youth demonstrated the impact of the Aga Khan Foundation's programs. Through a series of exhibits that relayed inter-connected stories of families living in remote communities, visitors experienced how investments in education, teacher training, microfinance, and hydropower electric power make a difference in building better futures.

The Walk/Run attracted a range of participants eager to help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia improve their quality of life. Contributions make a tremendous impact in creating locally driven opportunities for girls in Afghanistan to attend school, farmers in Mali to feed their families, and mothers in India to lead healthy lives. These are the cornerstones of a thriving community.

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Aga Khan Foundation cultivates deep partnerships with local businesses, nonprofits, governments and community leaders to harness the best from people of all walks of life. Working with our partners, we make long-term commitments to innovative programs that improve the quality of life, from early childhood education to green space preservation. Visit our blog to learn more about what we do, at [www.akfusa.org](http://www.akfusa.org).

To learn more about the event, visit <http://akfusa.kintera.org/SanAntonio/>.

Run and Walk events for Aga Khan Foundation will be held in at least 11 major U.S. cities this year. Since 1995, the Foundation's activities including the annual Walk and Golf events have attracted nearly a half million participants and raised \$75 million for poverty alleviation projects supported by the foundation.

The Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) is a private, not-for-profit international development organization committed to breaking the cycle of poverty in some of the poorest regions of the world. The Foundation helps communities around the world to build better futures by creating institutions like hospitals, making long-term investments to the most innovative programs, and cultivating strong local leadership. AKF is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

AKF is a member of the Aga Khan Development Network ([www.akdn.org](http://www.akdn.org)), one of the world's leading poverty solutions networks, established by His Highness the Aga Khan. The Network empowers communities and individuals, often in disadvantaged circumstances, improve living conditions and grow opportunities. The Network's agencies work for the common good of all citizens, regardless of their gender, origin or religion. Its underlying impulse is the ethic of compassion for the vulnerable in society.

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