

December 2020

HEMEFund Newsletter



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dear friends and supporters,

I left on Christmas day for Afghanistan and arrived in Kabul on the 27th afternoon. It felt great to be back and be with my friends.

Every time I return to Afghanistan, I am reminded how quickly I got soaked into the modern world of comfort living in America and became spoiled.

It is cold here with no electricity, no warm shower or room. But it is great to be with my friends here. I missed them a lot.

Worsened economic situations due to the COVID led to increased terrorist activities in Afghanistan. It is not just the Taliban, but angry local militants have come out to the streets robbing, bombing, and killing. We start the day with bomb explosions, and gun fights at night break the silence. People fear the dark and do not go outside after the Sundown.

The Taliban and ISIS attacks have become more serious. A peace treaty? The Taliban can't fool anyone anymore. Even those who had little hope last summer say the Taliban will not change.

Roman, Ramish, and Asad welcomed me at the airport. Hugging and rubbing their faces on mine with the joy of seeing each other again. Roman and Ramish told me that they took a "leave of absence" from their homes. It took me a second, but I understood what they meant, and we laughed together. I felt welcomed and at home.



CORE VALUE & EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

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Everyone worked hard in 2021.
Among them, HEMEFund awarded those employees
who have been good examples of **CORE VALUES** to others.

Mina won the **EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD** for 2021.





Dr. Undrakh handed Bilqis the **Integrity** award.



William handed Ramish the **Commitment** award.



William handed the **Employee of the Year** award to Mina, and Roman delivered a special gift to her.

Christmas Cake & Gifts

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Maureen & Dan Oh,
Jung Ah Im,
Irene, Joy, Paul, Nicole, and Mr. Son

Your gifts brought big smiles to our teachers.
Thank you!!



Roman is promoted to Deputy Director

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Roman worked with HEMEFund for four years and proved that he is a committed and compassionate leader.

HEMEFund promoted Roman to deputy director on December 30.

He made himself available 24 hours a day and worked hard selflessly.

He puts the organization's vision and mission first, shows gratitude to supporters, and respects his colleagues.

He is honest and trustworthy.

He is smart, courageous, and willing to fight against corruption.

He is only 28 years old but has a great capacity to grow and lead HEMEFund to where it needs to be

His wife, Mina, is handing the name plaque to Roman



We visited the workplace of **Aziza**, a Class 1 graduate of Kabul VTC.





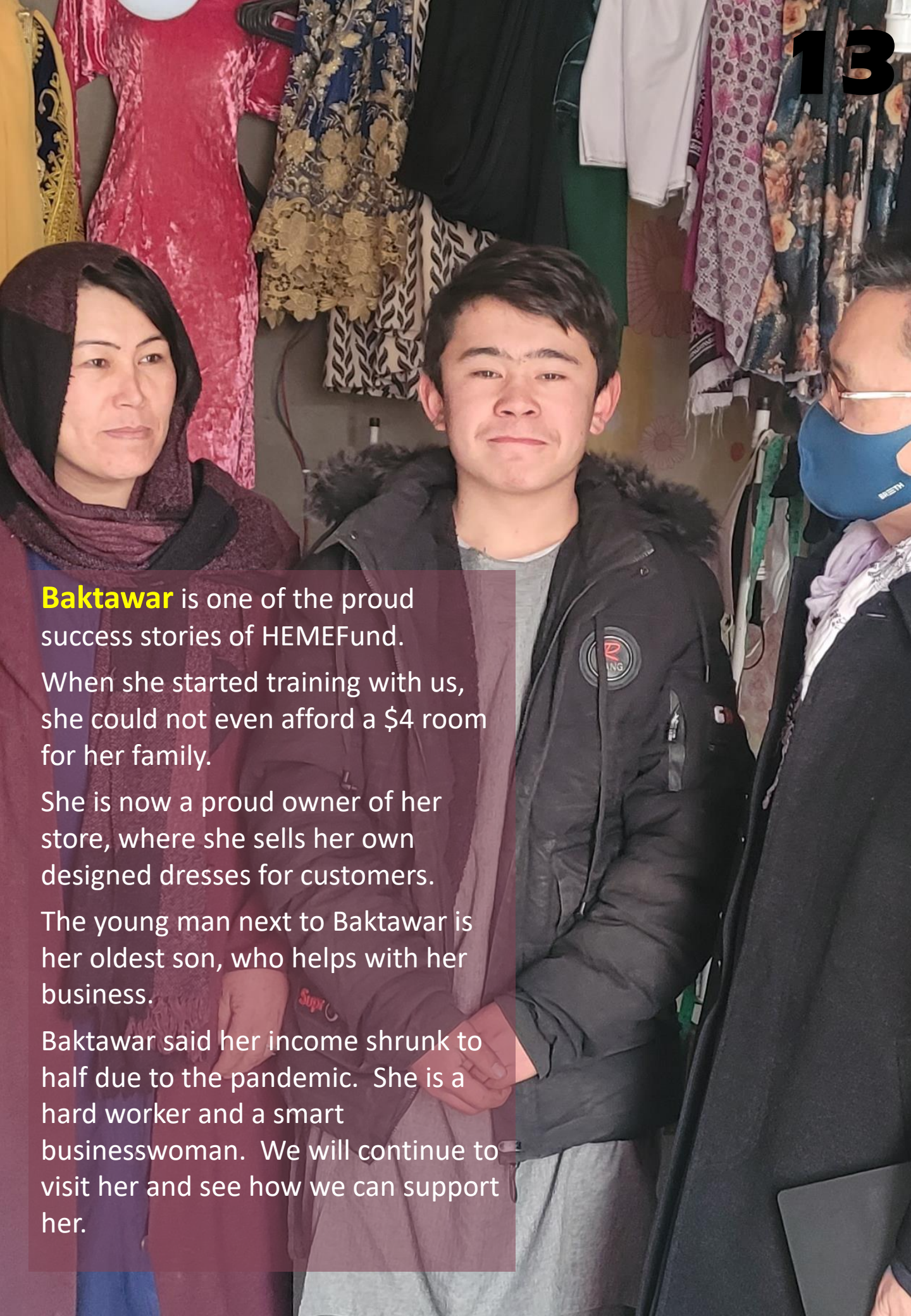
Haji Sayed Asadullah, owner of the factory, is Showing his workplace around.



Greeting Gullamad, the owner of the factory where **Aquila** and **Malzia** work, greeted William.



Mariam is posing for a picture
In front of the wedding dress she made.

A photograph of a woman and a young man standing in a clothing store. The woman on the left is wearing a dark purple headscarf and a matching long-sleeved top. The young man in the center is wearing a dark grey winter jacket with a fur-lined hood and a circular logo on the chest. To the right, a man wearing a blue face mask and glasses is partially visible. The background is filled with various colorful dresses and garments hanging on racks.

Baktawar is one of the proud success stories of HEMEFund.

When she started training with us, she could not even afford a \$4 room for her family.

She is now a proud owner of her store, where she sells her own designed dresses for customers.

The young man next to Baktawar is her oldest son, who helps with her business.

Baktawar said her income shrunk to half due to the pandemic. She is a hard worker and a smart businesswoman. We will continue to visit her and see how we can support her.

Robiba is showing the personal protective gear she made at her factory.





Zakia, Kabul school class 1 graduate,
is working as a sewing teacher at
a local charity.

We appreciated their work
to support the children and women
of the poor neighbors.



Greeting the factory owner where **Habiba** is working.



Parwin is showing a fancy jacket she made at her factory.



Aquila works at "Poshak Istanbul" which is the largest man suit factory/store in Afghanistan.



The owner of the giant company came out to greet William and showed around his company.



They have 290 employees and 85-90% of them are females. Mr. Ali (owner) directed William to the HR department where the manager promised to visit our training centers and work with us to hire our graduates.



Faruzia works at home, sewing clothes for her neighbors.



Sharia works at home and takes care of her elderly mother. She charges \$3-\$5 per clothes she sews and has 3-5 customers a week. Her younger brother is a street worker.

We invited all factory owners and graduates for lunch.

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Factory owners took a tour of our classes.

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How can I know all the pains of the people of this land have in them? I just walk beside them, letting them know that I am with them to share HOPE.

As the economy gets worsened, terrors, armed robberies, kidnapping, and violence have increased.

One doctor lied to a family that their son had contracted COVID19, killed him, sold his organs, and told the family to bury him without touching or seeing the body. Later the COVID19 test result came to the family with a negative result. Then the family found out what happened, but the law was against them. What a painful story I had to hear during this pandemic!

HEMEFund will continue to strive to deliver HOPE to women and children in Afghanistan regardless of the obstacles we may have to face.

Last Last Words...

Global Giving online fundraising was a success. With your support, we raised \$7,700.

However, our needs of raising additional \$70,000 has not yet met. Please continue to pray.

HEMEFund Tailor's ²⁵ Business Startup Kit



If your heart is inspired to help Afghan widows and orphans, please support us. Here is how:

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www.hemefund.org than through PayPal

www.facebook.com/hemefund 100% of your donation comes to HEMEFund.

Venmo @hemefund (no fees)

HEMEFund Worldwide Bank info:

Make check payable to **HEMEFund Worldwide**

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