

خانه نو، سرویس خبری برای اهل افغانستان <mark>در امریکا است</mark> نوی کور، په امریکا که د افغانانو لپاره یو خبری خدمت دی

A news service for Afghans in America

NEW HOME is brought to you by Sahan Journal, Afghan Cultural Society, and Center for Victims of Torture. It's reported and written by Hussain Ali Haidari.



# ACS Celebrates International Women's Day

- ACS Celebrates International Women's Day at it's Community Center.
- Housing Stabilization Program for Afghans in Minnesota.
- Afghan Women Organize Protest in St. Cloud Against Taliban Rule.
- Women in Afghanistan are Deprived of Their Most Basic Rights, But There are Ways the International Community Can Offer Support.

## ACS Celebrates Women's Day on March 8th.

Afghan Cultural Society (ACS) of Minnesota will be celebrating International Women's Day on Friday, March 8. Nasreen Sajady, Advocacy Director of the Afghan Cultural Society, says that the celebration is a way for Afghan show solidarity women to amongst each other and women across the globe. Nasreen added the gathering allows women to learn from each other and give each other strength during their resettlement. According to her, creating intimacy and empathy among women is another goal of this program. Nasreen Sajady noted that women in the US should continue advocating to improve the conditions of women in Afghanistan and to elevate the voices of Afghan women.

Meanwhile, Zahra Wahidi, the Women's Mental Health Lead at ACS, says that this program is being held to recognize and gather Afghan women in Minnesota. Zahra Wahidi stated that more than 50 women have registered to attend the event,

which will take place at ACS's community center from 4-6 PM. There will be music, activities, and guests will make Bolani, a dish consisting of flatbread stuffed with potatoes and chives together.

Afghan While women Minnesota celebrate, women in Afghanistan are deprived of their most basic rights. After the Taliban came to power in Afghanistan, women were denied the right to work and attend school beyond the 6th grade. Currently, women cannot even roam freely outside their homes. In the past few months, the Taliban has arrested many women and girls under the pretext of not observing the hijab. In a statement, UNAMA (United Nations Assistance Mission of Afghanistan) criticized the Taliban for these arrests and demanded the immediate release of women from prisons.

Questions or comments?

Leave your feedback at:

651-504-8170

The programs below have been created to support the continued education of women and girls in Afghanistan. These programs are free and held online.

#### <u>Supporting Access to Higher</u> <u>Education for Afghans (HEA)</u>

This program offers free online coursework and certificate programs for Afghans in Afghanistan.

## HEC-DAAD Scholarship for Afghan Refugees in Pakistan

#### <u>Victory Afghanistan - Remote</u> <u>English Classes for Women and</u> <u>Girls</u>

English speakers can volunteer with VA to teach remote English courses to women and girls in Afghanistan.

## Housing Stabilization Program for Afghans in Minnesota.

<u>CAPI USA</u> announced that Afghan immigrants in Minnesota may be eligible to receive housing assistance. These contributions include paying part of the rent and finding suitable housing for qualified applicants.

You could be eligible for this program if your income level is less than the set criteria.

For more information, contact Razia Hashemi at this number: (612-468-0053)

#### Afghan Women Organize Protest in St. Cloud against Taliban Rule.

A group of local Afghan women are protesting Taliban imposed restrictions on women in St. Cloud, Minnesota. "Women must have work and education rights, we want equal rights for women in Afghanistan," said Halima Azadmanesh, one of the organizers. Halima asked other Afghans in Minnesota to participate in this protest. This protest is supposed to start on International Women's Day, Friday, March 8, at 2:00 PM in St. Cloud. There are no women in the Taliban's newly named interim cabinet, and the new rulers lost no time in abolishing the country's Ministry of Women's Affairs on top of the banning them from education and work.

## **Upcoming Events**

From ACS and Our Partners

**Eid al Fitr** 

Sunday April 14th

Time and Location TBD

Mark your calendars for a family Eid al Fitr celebration hosted by Afghan Cultural Society. **Stay tuned for location and registration details.** 

### TC World Refugee Day

Thursday, June 22th

10:30 AM - 5 PM

Centennial Park, Brooklyn Center

"Prepare to be inspired by the stories of refugees who have overcome incredible challenges and made a positive impact in our community. The event will feature a variety of activities, including cultural performances, art exhibitions, and delicious international cuisine."

Register at Eventbrite