

December 2013

Dear Friends of the Tom Stone School Project and Direct Aid International,

While the snow blankets the northern landscape and we cozy up to the fire, I can't help but think of the Afghan school children putting aside their long walks to school until next spring when warmer and brighter days will bring them back. It has now been seven years since Tom was killed in Afghanistan and we have four schools completed to honor him. I wish to thank you all who have donated and provide you with an update on the most recent school.

Our fourth and latest school is located in the village of Barikak. It was originally planned for Kalo in Bamian Province but this location turned out to be unsuitable and it was relocated. The completion of the school was delayed because the new road to town had not yet been built. The school is now finished and pictured here. The building contains five rooms for eighty-five students. Approximately half boys and half girls, grades one through six. Grades seven through twelve must attend a school further away if they are able to travel the distance.

We are so grateful for a very generous donation received in the spring of 2013 from the Harry L. Willett Foundation. This contribution has opened the doorway to beginning work on four more schools to honor Tom Stone.

As always, I offer my hand in gratitude for your faithful support. If you would like to contribute to the work that Jonathan Hoffman is so committed to continue, checks can be sent to the DAI address below. Direct Aid International is a 501-c-3 nonprofit and your donation is tax deductible.

May peace be with you as we draw this year to a close and greet a new one full of possibility.

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Blessings,
Rose Loving

