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WAW Launches New EXPO 2018:#ByHerSide
Women for Afghan Women announces an inaugural Expo 2018: #ByHerSide as a successor to WAW’s annual gala.

New York, NY, March 12, 2018—WOMEN FOR AFGHAN WOMEN (WAW) is excited to announce its inaugural Expo 2018: #ByHerSide, to held on May 10th, 2018 at 6pm at Espace in New York City at 635 W. 42nd St. New York, NY 10036.

As a successor to WAW’s annual fundraising gala, the Expo promises to be a lively, experiential event—featuring engaging panel discussions, interactive exhibits, a silent auction, and Afghan entertainment and food—that will highlight the transformative power of WAW’s life-saving and life-changing programs in the United States (U.S.) and Afghanistan.

WAW is a grassroots, civil society organization dedicated to securing and protecting the rights of disenfranchised Afghan women and girls, particularly their rights to develop their individual potential, self-determination, and representation in all areas of life: political, social, cultural, and economic.

WAW began in 2001 as volunteer-run to now employing over 750 staff in Afghanistan and in the U.S. Today, the organization has 33 centers, which provide services in 14 of Afghanistan’s 34 provinces, and is preparing to move into a larger New York Community Center to accommodate the growth of its programs.

In just 17 years, WAW has become the largest Afghan women’s organization in Afghanistan and in the world, and has provided protection, safety, holistic care, and empowerment programming to over 31,000 women and children, as well as 150,000 family members, and trained over 333,000 individuals from all walks of life on women’s rights as human rights.

WAW is launching Expo 2018:#ByHerSide to demonstrate the organization’s commitment to stand with Afghan women and children around the world in light of the multitude of challenges they face to their basic security, human rights, livelihoods, and legal status. The Expo will feature live, interactive exhibits and panels with special guests talking about the successes and challenges of WAW's work, as well as the political climates in the U.S. and Afghanistan. The Silent Auction Marketplace will feature products made by WAW clients and other items, such as handmade artwork and jewelry from Afghanistan and exciting vacation packages.

Additionally, WAW’s Executive Director Manizha Naderi will be honored for her 17 years of dedicated service to WAW. In light of the recent announcement that she will be stepping down at the end of 2018, WAW is dedicating this fundraising Expo to Naderi and will be paying tribute to her tireless efforts to promote Afghan women’s rights and empowerment and to turn WAW into the largest Afghan women’s organization in the world.

Early Bird Tickets may be purchased for $220 by March 31st using the promo code: WAWEB2018EXPO. Regular admission will remain on-sale until May 8th for $275.
Press passes can be requested from WAW Communications Manager: mona@womenforafghanwomen.org

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WOMEN FOR AFGHAN WOMEN (WAW) is a grassroots civil society organization dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of disenfranchised Afghan women and girls in Afghanistan and New York. In particular, WAW works to help Afghan women and girls exercise their rights to pursue their individual potential, to self-determination, and to representation in all areas of life—political, social, cultural, and economic. WAW relentlessly advocates for women’s rights and challenges the norms that underpin gender-based violence wherever opportunities arise to influence attitudes and bring about change.