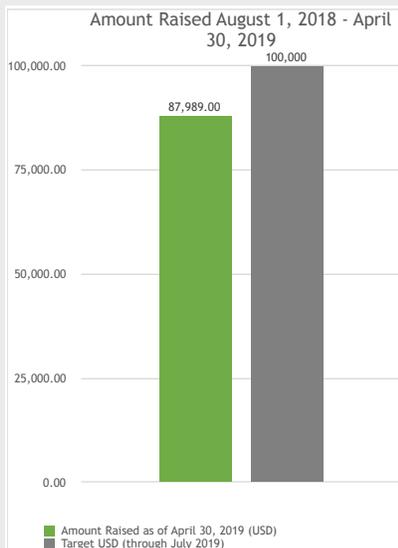


Fundraising Progress

This quarter we raised 4,950 USD (3780 GBP). Thank you to all who donated!

Thank you to the trustees of the **Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust** for granting ECI a **1000 GBP grant** to support our work at Window of Hope private care home in Kabul for 2019. Their support is critical and much appreciated.

Thank you to **UCLA's United Afghan Club** for selecting ECI as the recipient of its annual charity banquet.



Enabled Children Initiative

Updates

ECI is excited to introduce its new **Advisory Council**, consisting of individuals who have championed ECI, supported our fundraising, advocacy, or programmatic work, and who we would call on for guidance and advice. We welcome **Diana Bowen, Isabel Hodge, Shahin Mafi, Sadat Mansoor Naderi, and Ilaha Eli Omar** to our Council. We believe the leadership experience of these individuals, combined with their genuine affection for the special children we work with, will add great value to ECI.



In April, **ECI Director Lael Mohib**, and **ECI Advisory Council member Ilaha Eli Omar** were invited by **Shabana Basij Rasikh** to speak at **SOLA, the School of Leadership Afghanistan**, as part of their annual lecture series. Both ladies spoke about the work of ECI, and led a broader discussion about disability rights in Afghanistan.

SOLA recently admitted its **first student with a disability, 12-year old Shah Bibi**, who lost her arm and eye 6 years ago when she picked up a landmine. This is Shah Bibi's first time attending school, thanks to the efforts of Advisory Council member Ilaha



Omar, who facilitated her admission. The discussion with these young, future leaders also brought to light the importance of speaking publicly about disability rights.



Snapshots

ECI Director Lael Mohib and ECI Advisory Council member Ilaha Eli Omar visited with the children at WoH and took a field trip to Qargha Lake. The children laughed, played, and danced in the fresh spring air.



ECI welcomed **four new children** with special needs into their care. ECI was contacted by **MSF Afghanistan** when the children were abandoned at their hospital in Helmand. The children, pictured below, include Marwa, 5, Hamed, 2, Omar, 4, Osman, 5.



In April 2019, ECI initiated the **Frozan Fund, a new special fund for emergency assistance** to families with special needs children who are in a desperate situation. For many families in Afghanistan, particularly those living in poverty, raising a child with special needs



can be an overwhelming responsibility, and some in the most desperate situations resort to abandoning their children. The Frozan Fund helps **keep families together**, and provides immediate assistance while families get back on their own two

feet. Funding is used to pay for rent and food, school supplies and clothing, and also to provide small grants for families to invest in income generation. The fund was named after **Frozan Haidari**, the housemother at Window of Hope private care home, funded by ECI. Outside of her work at WoH, Frozan has been using her own savings and time to help families like these in her community.

Recently, ECI was able to purchase **desks for the children of the Mirza Gul family**, who all became amputees after discovering an unexploded rocket in their yard. ECI has also been providing an in-home teacher for the children, who are unable to attend regular school.

