

*Here's how your support makes OBAT special!*



## **ASPIRE- Your Monthly News & Updates**

**March 2016**

*Lots of good stuff is happening at OBAT and you are behind it! Aspire is now being released monthly to keep you informed of the never-ending good news and the changes you are creating.*

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### **Free medical camps**

To celebrate the International Mother Language Day, on February 21st, OBAT's Think Tank in collaboration with Bangladesh Medical Student's Society (BMSS) and South Asian Youth Society (SAYS) hosted a free medical camp. The camp was held in two locations, OBAT's English School in Mohammadpur and BLS School in Mirpur. Workshops were also held for students on health and hygiene awareness. About 700 people received a free medical checkup and exam.



A student being examined

### **Dhaka students get accepted at prestigious Queens School**

An English School in the camps was the first milestone OBAT achieved eight years ago by establishing the Dhaka Elementary School. Eleven of its students have now been accepted by Queens School which is a prestigious private institution, to continue their education in the sixth grade. The Vice-Principal of the Queens School had earlier visited the Dhaka School to ensure that the students met their standards. They questioned them about concepts in Math and English. According to the Vice-Principal, "he never thought that



Former Dhaka School and now Queens School students

the camp school kids could be so smart and well-behaved and could speak English." In a later visit made by the OBAT staff to Queens School, they found that these young students have made a smooth transition and have adjusted well in their new school.

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## Tech training for OBAT staff

A wave of positive changes has been sweeping OBAT Bangladesh, as COO Immad Ahmed has been hard at work in the camps, instituting changes and streamlining processes for a better functioning organization. At February's end, he conducted a training session of all the project officers who arrived in Dhaka from various cities. Training included teaching staff the use of Google Docs in order to make updated and accurate information available to the Bangladesh and US office at all times. This will also ensure proper monitoring and record keeping of the projects. Reporting templates, the new employee handbook and the employee performance review process were among other areas covered by the training.



OBAT's COO, Immad Ahmed, training the project officers

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## Would you like to help us during Ramadan?

If you observe Ramadan, like most followers, you host an iftar or two. Iftars, as you know, are an opportunity to earn reward by bringing people together to break their fast. This auspicious occasion can become more rewarding by inviting guests to participate in a good cause and showing them a way to supplement their fasting and prayers with acts of kindness. Some of our friends around the country have been hosting OBAT awareness or fundraising iftars and you can do the same in your community as well. Get in touch with us at [contact@obathelpers.org](mailto:contact@obathelpers.org) to find out how an at-home or mosque iftar can garner support for OBAT and how we can help you to organize an event. Multiply your blessings- It's as simple as sharing a meal with your friends.



Iftar at ISNA headquarters in 2015 hosted by Indianapolis friends of OBAT

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## Join us for an inspirational evening if you live in the Bay Area!

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of OBAT Helpers invites you to a night of enlightenment and inspiration. Visit this link to register: <http://obatsf.eventbrite.com/>

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## OBAT is a 2015 vetted organization!

We are so proud to receive this badge from Global Giving! Thank you for all your support for this project. Check out our preschool project on their website: <http://bit.ly/1Pl7qth>



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