

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Women for Afghan Women Responds to Devastating Earthquake in Herat, Afghanistan with Emergency Relief for Impacted Populations

(New York, NY) October 9, 2023 – (New York, NY) October 9, 2023 - On Saturday, October 7, two powerful 6.3 magnitude earthquakes hit the Herat Province in Afghanistan with devastating consequences. The earthquakes were followed by strong aftershocks that have already claimed the lives of over 2,000 people.

<u>Women for Afghan Women (WAW)</u> has already mobilized resources to respond to the crisis. WAW's Afghanistan staff are already on the ground assisting families in need of urgent humanitarian relief. Its teams have already distributed blankets and tents in the areas affected by the earthquakes, and the organization has committed to providing families with humanitarian aid packages, including food, hygiene packages, and cooking kits.

The organization expressed its condolences and solidarity with the people of Afghanistan following this disaster, which has caused unimaginable loss of life and has left thousands injured. Homes and infrastructure have been completely destroyed, leaving countless families without safe shelter. This tragic natural disaster only adds to the suffering of Afghans who are already suffering the consequences of grave political instability and economic insecurity in their country.

WAW encourages the international community to support all the Herat earthquake relief efforts and are asking our supporters to contribute to WAW's Afghan Earthquakes Emergency Relief Fund to sustain its efforts to meet the needs of the people of Herat and to address the gravity of this humanitarian crisis.

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Women for Afghan Women (WAW) is a grassroots, non-profit organization dedicated to securing and protecting the rights of disenfranchised Afghan women and girls in Afghanistan and New York, particularly their rights to develop their individual potential, to self-determination, and to be represented in all areas of life: political, social, cultural, and economic. WAW advocates for women's rights and challenges the norms that underpin gender-based violence wherever opportunities arise to influence attitudes and bring about change.

www.womenforafghanwomen.org