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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSLIM AND CATHOLIC WOMEN UNITE TO EDUCATE AFGHAN GIRLS
Girls' Education a Key to Peace; Popular Afghan Musician Ehsan Aman Performs; "Girl Power, Afghan Style!" Gala Set for Oct. 7, 2010 in Boston

Wellesley, Mass. (September 20, 2010) – Patti Quigley of Wellesley, a Catholic woman widowed in the September 11 attacks, and Razia Jan, an Afghan philanthropist, Muslim, and former Duxbury businesswoman, continue their collaboration to establish and support the free education of girls in Afghanistan through the Razia's Ray of Hope Foundation, <http://raziasrayofhope.org>, by hosting a gala fundraising event in October. Funds from the event will support the Zabuli Education Center located in the village of Deh Subz, a hard-bitten suburb of Kabul, Afghanistan. The Zabuli Education Center, opened in 2008, provides schooling, educational materials, and a free lunch for girls who cannot travel safely into Kabul, where classes for girls are more common.

The gala will be held on Thursday, October 7, 2010 at the EpiCenter, Artists for Humanity, 100 West 2nd Street, Boston. Cocktails are at 6:30 pm and an Afghan dinner at 7:30 pm. Noted Afghan musician Ehsan Aman will perform for the event. One of the Zabuli Education Center's fourth graders, Nadia, will travel to Boston from Afghanistan to attend the event.

The evening's theme is "Girl Power, Afghan Style!" "These girls are depending on us," Quigley said. "They want to learn, and they know that an education will help them find a happy and healthy life."

"They have nothing," said Jan, from Kabul. "Nothing but their families and the clothes on their back. We give the girls their books, materials, and qualified teachers to give them a future. We even give them a meal, with fresh milk, and a safe, modern place to clean up and be ready for school each day. There is no charge to the girls or their families."

Follow Razia's Ray of Hope on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/RaziasRayofHope>
and on Twitter: @RaziasRayofHope

Tickets for the event are \$100 per person, available at <http://raziasrayofhope.org> or call the Foundation at 781-431-7894. Razia's Ray of Hope Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls in Afghanistan through community-based education.

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For more information, or to schedule an interview with Patti Quigley or Razia Jan, please call Patti Quigley at 781-771-1219, or e-mail patti.quigley@raziasrayofhope.org.