jewish family service of western massachusetts

# New Afghan Neighbors Program:

## Spotlight on Social Services and Emergency Response: An Afghan Cultural Orientation for Providers

Join us as we learn together the best practices to use with our new Afghan neighbors, presented by:

**Zala Ahmad**: founder of HOLD, an Afghan NGO, has over 15 years of experience working in the field of international development, with a focus on education, human rights, and economic development. In 2021 Zala co-founded Safe Path Prosperity, a social enterprise in Afghanistan, employing women in Kabul to sustainably produce washable menstrual hygiene products and educational materials for local distribution. Zala has operated in some of the most remote and precarious areas of rural Afghanistan. Zala earned a M.A. in International Economics and Finance from Brandeis University. She is a Research Associate in the Department of Geography at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

**Rachel Lehr**: earned her PhD in linguistics from the University of Chicago writing a descriptive grammar of Pashto, a minority language spoken in eastern Afghanistan. For more than 25 years Lehr's work has addressed the languages and cultures of central and south Asia, while living and working in the region. In 2000 Lehr helped found the non-profit Rubia, to develop economic opportunities through craft heritage for Afghan women and their families. Lehr has been awarded Fulbright Fellowships in Tajikistan and Norway. She is a Research Associate in the Department Geography at University of Colorado-Boulder. Dr. Lehr has over 20 years of experience in adult education and curriculum development.

### When

**1st Session: Wednesday–5/11/22 at 4:00pm**

**Q&A Follow Up: Wednesday 5/18/22 at 4:00pm**

This event will be held virtually on Zoom.

### Register & More Info

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvce2rrDkrGd3SsROr-Jo8OJZL3x5hx7HXW

### For any questions:

Contact: Massara Almafrachi - m.almafrachi@jfswm.org

Or call 413.737.2601

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