**Why I want to organize Afghan Girls Leadership Workshop?**

My mom's tribe, Afshar tribe, were blind attacked overnight in Afshar mountain of Kabul, Afghanistan two decades ago. Everyone escaped to a different direction. Most of the people could not save their life, and those who were able to survive, lost all their connections. Two years ago, we heard of my mom's aunt who had been traumatized and has lost her mind after that incident and she does not know of anyone close to her from that time. My mom’s aunt told my mom that, “it was impossible to not step in a human corpse” while they passing the subways trying to get out of war zone.

My mom's generation is the last generation of her tribe. I have never met any one of my mom's relative let alone anyone, who is from the Afshar tribe, although have heard of some in Herat province and neighbor country Iran. I always tried to believe that it is impossible to wipe out an entire group of people and there must be more Afshar (a person who is from Afshar tribe) who I will meet. Now it seems that if the remaining people are disconnected in a way that they cannot meet in a lifetime, it is the same as if they have lost everyone.

I grow up in Kabul City of Afghanistan. One day when I was fourth grade coming back from school I was almost raped in a subway. (I published my story in AWWP- <http://awwproject.org/2015/06/the-man-who-thought-i-was-weak/>- for encouraging other girls to stand up for themselves) My father spent lots of time working for us and our education, that he got sick and had strokes four times. We struggled through, poverty, solitude, security and instability. Although My biological family is in pretty satisfactory state nowadays, I always feel I am a member of the family which includes every person in the community; and we are struggling to survive, let alone thriving. My actual family is my community, andthe people who live around me, wherever i am.

A year ago, I came to America not to escape from living in a developing country, but rather to learn how I can heal my people's pain from decades of war. I feel responsible for all of those left behind who continue to face the bomb blasts and blood.

I am doing this program to save ourselves, our parents, our siblings and if possible our next generations life. My family and I want to stand up and defend ourselves, even if we are not as large as group of our opponents are, even if our way is not clear, and perhaps not even touched yet. We are ready to start from scratch in order to defend ourselves, and we believe this program is the first step.