

URGENT ACTION NEEDED -- Supporting Our Afghan Colleagues: Battle Buddies
Suicide attempt at Camp As Sayliyah last night. Residents have been told nothing.

From Shawn VanDiver, President and Founder, #AfghanEvac, 25 Sept. 2026

Hi friends and colleagues,

I am writing with hard news and a real ask.

Last night at Camp As Sayliyah in Doha, an Afghan woman who has lived at the camp with her children for roughly three years attempted to take her own life. Residents report she is in critical condition. Senior camp staff confirmed the attempt to me this morning. Dozens of residents reached out to me overnight and asked me to speak out about this, so I did.

The video is here: <https://www.instagram.com/reel/Ddt03m5u7Hv/>

We are not sharing her name or details about her family. Please honor that.

You know the numbers.

- 1,039 Afghan allies are at the camp,
- 72 percent women and children,
- 150 of them family of U.S. service members.

What you may not know is where they are emotionally right now. The reported closure date is five days away. We expect it to slip, but nobody has told the residents anything. They lie awake wondering whether they will be pulled out in the night and put on a plane to Kabul.

On Wednesday, Secretary Mullin and Director Edlow told Congress, in so many words, that these allies are not coming here. Camp staff and residents describe depression and psychological distress everywhere, including among the kids.

Here is what I have learned from the people inside. They are not asking us to fix everything by Monday. They are asking whether anyone out here still sees them.

So I am asking every organization in this coalition to make noise about Camp As Sayliyah this week, loudly and publicly, so that it reaches Doha. Specifically:

- **Post about CAS today.** A statement, a video, a story, a quote from a resident you know. Use the numbers above. Tag your members of Congress. Residents follow all of it.
- **Say it to them directly.** If you have relationships inside the camp, send a message. If you do not, record a short video of your team, or your congregation, or your

veterans, saying "we see you and we are not going anywhere." Send it to us and we will make sure it gets in. Nothing you produce this week will matter more than that.

- **Move your people to Congress.** The White House is finalizing the FY2027 refugee determination this week and Afghans are not in it. Point your networks to afghanevac.org/count-them-in. More than 3,000 letters have gone to the Hill since September 8. Let us double that before the determination is signed.
- **Ask your members of Congress to speak publicly.** A statement or a floor speech this week, and a call to State demanding written communication to the residents on the timeline and next steps.

Please use the attached social graphics (or create your own) and we've drafted some language below.

Solidarity graphic

To the 1,039 Afghan allies at Camp As Sayliyah: we see you. We have not forgotten you. We are not going anywhere. #CountThemIn #CampAsSayliyah afghanevac.org/count-them-in

Your Story graphic

If you live or work at Camp As Sayliyah, reporters want to hear from you. It can be anonymous, and your name is never shared without your permission. afghanevac.org/your-story #CampAsSayliyah

General CAS post, for partners to adapt

1,039 Afghan allies are held at Camp As Sayliyah in Doha. 72% are women and children. 150 are family of U.S. service members. They were promised America and have been told nothing. Tell Congress: Count Them In. afghanevac.org/count-them-in #CountThemIn

Shorter, for X

1,039 Afghan allies. 72% women and children. 150 U.S. military family members. Held at Camp As Sayliyah, told nothing. Congress: #CountThemIn. afghanevac.org/count-them-in

Do not wait for a coordinated effort. Post today.

Thank you for standing with these families. Five years in, you are still here. They need to know it.

Coverage worth reading

- **RFE/RL, today.** A former U.S. Marine is searching for his brother inside the camp as the closure date approaches. A State Department official tells RFE/RL the U.S. has

"kept its promise to Afghans" and is looking for "a new life outside of Afghanistan" for those who remain. That is the administration's position in its own words.

<https://www.rferl.org/a/afghan-refugee-camp-qatar-closure-us-visas/33863540.html>

- **The New York Times, April 2026.** The administration considered sending more than 1,000 Afghans at Camp As Sayliyah, including U.S. military family members, former Afghan special operations personnel, and interpreters, to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The plan was shelved after public outcry. Residents have not forgotten it. [NYT link]
- **The Wall Street Journal.** A broader look at how the camp came to hold more than a thousand vetted allies with no path forward, and what the closure means for them. [WSJ link]
- **ABC News, June 2026.** An eight-minute report built around a 15-year-old girl at the camp who says she "cannot escape," including the family's account of being threatened by camp officials after she spoke to reporters.
<https://abcnews.com/International/escape-afghan-girl-held-us-military-base-limbo/story?id=133763418>

Thank you,

Shawn VanDiver

President and Founder, #AfghanEvac

Signal / Cell / WhatsApp: [+1-619-756-9518](tel:+16197569518)

Let's connect: [X](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#)

AfghanEvac Online: [Website](#) | [X](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#) | [TikTok](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

#AfghanEvac is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Our EIN is 87-3921693 and [donations](#) are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

P.S. You can sign up for regular Monday updates at <https://updates.afghanevac.org>

#AfghanEvac administers a coalition of private, non-profit, government, and all-volunteer organizations focused on deconflicting communications, effort, and systemic issues across the full enterprise of efforts focused on helping Afghans evacuate and resettle safely, swiftly, and within the bounds of the law. We do not directly provide services to or evacuate individuals and assume no liability for any of the services or data provided by our coalition members. #AfghanEvac provides certain services for the benefit and convenience of its coalition members. These services are provided on an "AS IS" basis WITHOUT ANY WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, WHETHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THAT THE

SERVICES WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED, SECURE, OR ERROR-FREE.

#AfghanEvac is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and contributions are tax-deductible for income, gift, and estate taxes. Our EIN is 87-3921693.

To the **1,039 Afghan allies** at Camp As Sayliyah

**We see you.
We have not
forgotten you.
We are not
going anywhere.**

ما شما را فراموش نکرده ایم.

Four years after you stood with us, we are still standing with you. Veterans, families, faith communities, and hundreds of organizations across America are raising their voices for you this week, and we will not stop until you are home.

Stand with Camp As Sayliyah.

Tell Congress: Count Them In.
afghanevac.org/count-them-in



#CountThemIn #CampAsSayliyah

AfghanEvac is not a law firm and does not give legal advice. Talk to a qualified immigration attorney about your own case.