PARTNERSHIP



SUMMER 2011

VEAR OF HOPE VEAR OF EMERGENCIES



Each crisis the world sees is unique, but at Islamic Relief USA, we have a single response: It is our duty to provide relief

when we can, where we can, the best way we can. This year's edition of Islamic Relief USA's magazine will show you a year of emergency response efforts, and with this message we also thank those who are vital in making this work happen: all of you. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of millions of people worldwide every year.

This is especially true this year-a year of emergencies. Middle East to giant waves in Japan to 190 mph winds in Alabama to drought in East Africa. In each of these crises, Islamic Relief's donors responded quickly to provide humanitarian assistance.

The political violence in the Middle Eastfrom Egypt to Libya to Syria and Yemen-has created great humanitarian challenges this year. Thousands of people found themselves refugees overnight, and many of those who were able to stay in their homes were pushed further into poverty. Islamic Relief's donors are giving them necessities like food, water and shelter.

Outside the Middle East, when earthquake struck and huge waves crashed onto Japan's coast, Islamic Relief's donors came guickly to the aid of the survivors. Just a few weeks later, when tornadoes swept through Alabama here in the Sincerely, United States, our volunteers and staff members went to Alabama to work with the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army. And this summer, as drought intensified in East Africa, Islamic Relief's donors quickly sent food, water and health care to people who were suffering.

Amid all of the emergencies this year, we have We've seen everything from political instability in the also seen plenty of hope. Islamic Relief also continues to work to alleviate poverty long-term in countries including Pakistan, Mali, Afghanistan and Palestine. Around the world, our donors are fighting malaria, sponsoring orphans, digging wells, building schools, repairing homes, and much more.

> None of the work we do would be possible without you. Your help makes a world of difference.

> Please pray for our current and future work. We are so grateful for our family of donors and supporters-may Allah (subhana wa tala) reward you for your kindness to His creatures. We pray that Allah (SWT) continues to make us positive agents in the world and that together we grow to make the world a better place for all.

Abed Ayoub

Chief Executive Officer Islamic Relief USA

CONTENTS

6. EVENTS 8. HONORS 10. UNITED STATES 12. YEAR OF EMERGENCIES 14. ALABAMA 16. LIBYA 18. EGYPT 20. SYRIA 21. YEMEN 22. PAKISTAN—1 YEAR LATER 26. VISION OF HOPE 28. PALESTINE 32. CHILDREN IN NEED 34. RAMADAN **36. WEBSITE 37. VOLUNTEERS 38. THANK YOU** Managing Editor: David Hawa Creative Director: Ridwan Adhami Editorial: Lina Hashem and Nada Shawish Designer: Ali Hussain Thank you to all who contributed imagery and content from around the world. Photographs © Islamic Relief Photographers : Ridwan Adhami, Shaista Chishty, Seyed Molana, Adam Scarth, Ahmad Tudor

"If you would have seen the work that you have done ... you would feel very good, and I'm sure to this day you are still in their prayers." – Shahid Afridi

Islamic Relief. Actress Hanan Turk (left) and TV personality Mustafa Hosny (below) flew in from Egypt for six fundraising dinners in April and May, and cricket star Shahid Afridi (top) visited from Pakistan for a whirlwind tour of three dinners in three days in May. Thousands of people turned

Relief's efforts. The result will bring life-changing assistance to many people in Egypt and Pakistan.

"The most honorable thing in this world is to help someone in need." – Hanan Turk

ORG

-IRUSA.ORG-

HONORS



CEO appointed to USAID advisory board

Islamic Relief USA's CEO Abed Ayoub has been appointed by the United States Agency for International Aid (USAID) to become a member of its Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA). Comprising 30 private citizens with extensive knowledge of international development, ACVFA consults with USAID and other government agencies on development issues relating to foreign assistance.



IRUSA among 25 largest online fundraising organizations

Islamic Relief USA was among the 25 largest online fundraising organizations in the United States in 2010, according to the Chronicle of Philanthropy, the top news source on U.S. nonprofit organizations. Ranked at number 16, IRUSA was one of only three faith-based philanthropic organizations to make the list in 2010.



IRUSA earns eighth 4-star rating

Islamic Relief USA earned its eighth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the United States' largest and most respected overseer of U.S. charities. The 4-star rating—Charity Navigator's highest mark—recognizes IRUSA's sound fiscal management. Only 2% of the rated charities have received eight consecutive 4-star evaluations.



IRUSA recognized by Better Business Bureau

Islamic Relief USA is now accredited by the Better Business Bureau for meeting all of its standards for charity accountability. The BBB Wise Giving Alliance completes comprehensive, in-depth evaluationsofthecharity'sgovernance, fundraising practices, solicitations and informational materials, as well as how it spends its money.



HELPING AT HOME

For Islamic Relief USA, work starts at home in the United States, Islamic Relief helped nearly 65,000 people in 24 states in 2010. Grants assisted a range of community organizations including medical clinics, shelters, educational institutions, food banks and social service organizations. Islamic Relief's Day of Dignity program grew in 2010, and in 2011 we began supporting a program created by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide meals to low-income children during the summer.

- 10 -

Feeding America's children

In 2009, 17 million children lived in food-insecure households, meaning that they did not have reliable access to enough nutritious food. Many of these children rely on school for breakfast and lunch-but in the summer, they do not have this source of food. In summer 2011, Islamic Relief began working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to bring food to some of these children at 30 sites around the United States. A USDA official and Islamic Relief CEO Abed Ayoub officially marked the start of the program with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at a Maryland school (right), while children at the school (bottom right) cheered the launch of the program.







- 11 -

A dose of dignity

Islamic Relief USA's annual Day of Dignity program expanded to 22 cities in 16 states in 2010, providing 17,525 people with items such town - many of them homeless. "Every day is a as food, clothing, school supplies, blankets and toys, while professional physicians offered physical exams, dental care and first aid.

Some of the Day of Dignity events fall during the month of Ramadan, and like many of the volunteers last year, Nahida Ahmed was fasting as she passed out food trays under the blazing August sun in Dallas, Texas. "I can't think of anything better to be doing on a fasting day," she said.

Indeed, the difficulty paled as the volunteers faced the lines of patient local residents in each challenge," said recipient Glenn Black in Dallas, eating meat and rice with an Islamic Relief tote bag full of clothes between his knees. "I need these clothes because it's getting close to wintertime."

As another winter approaches, many more Americans need assistance.

To find out how to help, visit www.IRUSA.org

Saving money, saving dreams

Islamic Relief USA is beginning a program to help struggling Americans develop sustainable livelihoods. With Individual Development Accounts, savings are matched to help them grow. This will allow individuals and families to get back on their feet.

2011 DAWNED AS A YEAR OF EMERGENCIES. Upheaval spread through the Middle East, intensifying the burdens of poverty and unemployment in Egypt and sending refugees flooding across Libya's borders before spreading to Syria and Yemen. Outside the Middle East, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake shook Japan; its destruction paled in comparison to that of the tsunami that immediately followed. American neighborhoods were torn to pieces by tornadoes, with the damage centering in Alabama. And while some areas of the world struggled under deluges of water, east Africa suffered with drought. As Ramadan nears, we pray that 2011—the year that came in like a lion—goes out like a lamb.



YEAR OF EMERGENCIES

EAST AFRICA

In summer 2011, drought once again reached crisis levels in East Africa. Crops died, animals died, and babies and other vulnerable people began to die in greater numbers in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia. With little food available, prices skyrocketed. People left their homes and set out to find water and food ... some walking until they could go no further, and others trading their last possessions for transportation. Many did not make it to their destination. Malnutrition left the weak more vulnerable to illness, and doctors struggled to treat the people who filled their clinics—many of whom needed food and water more than medicine. By mid-July, more than 10 million people were suffering.

Islamic Relief has worked in east Africa through past droughts, and was prepared to respond quickly as this crisis mounted. Islamic Relief's worldwide offices sent teams with food, water and health care. Islamic Relief is continuing to work in the region to provide longer-term solutions such as more secure water sources, irrigation projects and livelihood development programs. The goal is to help make communities less vulnerable to the harsh environment around them.

JAPAN

In March 2011, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake struck Japan—and that was only the preview to the larger disaster. The ensuing tsunami devastated towns and villages along the country's northeast coast, washing away homes and infrastructure, and damaging a nuclear plant. When the waters receded, more than 24,000 people were dead or missing.

With 150,000 evacuees scattered in numerous evacuation centers, Islamic Relief's worldwide offices worked through local partners to deliver fresh foods such as vegetables and rice, as well as canned and pouched foods like noodles to centers in the cities of Ishinomaki and Sendai. Rescue workers also delivered blankets, warm clothing, 1,000 debris removal kits and 1,000 hygiene kits, which included face masks.

Islamic Relief volunteers also assisted in the removal of debris, which marked the first step for survivors trying to rebuild their lives.

- 13 -

ALABAMA

{ SURVIVING THE STORM }

"As a local Red Cross volunteer from Alabama, I just want to publicly acknowledge the great contributions your volunteers have made down here. I spent the day yesterday with five IR workers doing damage assessment in rural parts of the state and helping unload a tractor trailer load of supplies in Alexander City. The IR volunteers worked hard and were an absolute pleasure. **Thank you all!**"

- RED CROSS VOLUNTEER

"We covered over 300 miles, of just assessing homes, assessing the damage... the worst of the damage is where you see streets of just continuous debris and there's essentially nothing salvageable."

President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency in April, when dozens of tornadoes leveled entire neighborhoods as they ripped through the midwestern United States, killing hundreds of people and leaving thousands homeless. Central and northern Alabama were hit hardest, when winds pushing 190 mph ravaged these areas.

Islamic Relief USA staff and more than 60 IRUSA volunteers traveled to Alabama to assess damage and provide relief to victims. The IRUSA team worked with the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross to collect and distribute food, cleaning supplies, water, hygiene kits and personal necessities to families who had lost nearly everything. They also staffed health clinics and shelters and arranged for the distribution of toys, bringing children a bright spot amid all the destruction.



BYA

In the months after Libya erupted in violence and turmoil, more than half a million people fled in search of safety, many of them crossing the borders to Tunisia and Egypt. Islamic Relief was one of the first humanitarian organizations to intervene, tailoring the response to the changing demands on the ground as the crisis deepened.

16

providing support to Libyan refugees, with food and hygiene kit distributions in Tataouine and Dehiba, benefiting more than 8,000 families per week. Islamic Relief managed a camp in Choucha for the United Nations High Commissioner for additional camps cared for refugees in Remada and Ras Jdir. Refugees poured into these camps, exhausted, bewildered and unsure of where to go next. Islamic Relief teams provided each refugee with food, shelter and hygiene supplies. For many of those who were not Libyan, Islamic Relief facilitated repatriation to their countries of origin.

On the border with Tunisia, Islamic Relief began The results are clear on the faces of the children at the Remada camp, where Islamic Relief provides morning school sessions for students from prekindergarten to eighth grade. They laugh and talk as they mill around, waiting for school to start. Then suddenly, it's time, and they rush Refugees, sheltering up to 15,000 people at a time; to line up. With a smile, an Islamic Relief worker calls out "Yalla, yalla, yalla!" and they're off to school. With this sense of normalcy, they can, for a moment, forget they are refugees.





EGYPT

Millions of tourists each year travel to the Great Pyramid in Giza, Cairo. Once there, a family of four spends 240 Egyptian pounds—about \$40—to enter the site to soak up history for a few hours.

About an hour south of the pyramids, in Ayyat, Umm Hilmi had less than that amount of money each month—all month. It had to pay for all expenses for five family members.

And then a political uprising in early 2011 brought Egypt's economy to a virtual standstill and living conditions for Umm Hilmi and many other Egyptians became even worse. Shops closed and trucks could not get through streets to deliver food. As supplies dwindled, prices rose. Tourists went home, and so did foreign investors. Unemployment skyrocketed in towns like Ayyat.

In many parts of Egypt, where poverty and unemployment are chronically high, the upheaval endangered the survival of many families like Umm Hilmi's—people who had already been living on the edge. Islamic Relief launched new programs to help. First, a food distribution provided two months' worth of food to 2,000 of the most impoverished families. Then a new family sponsorship program was launched to provide comprehensive care for additional families, providing them with food, health care and education. When Islamic Relief came across Umm Hilmi, she had no food in the house, and no money to buy any. Islamic Relief workers handed Umm Hilmi one of the boxes of food, and her face lit up with excitement.

"We thank Allah (swt) for everything Islamic Relief has provided," Umm Hilmi said as she handed her children rice, lentils, oil and pasta to put away.



"Islamic Relief has helped give us hope for the children's future. Thank you." – Umm Hilmi

SYRIA



YEMEN



Since May, thousands of Syrians have fled Lebanon and Turkey, and are living with host escalating political violence in Syria. The majority families or in tent communities. Islamic Relief of Syrian refugees, mostly women and children, distributed food and hygiene kits to refugees and found shelter in neighboring countries, primarily will be distributing more food during Ramadan.

world, Yemen was hit hard by political instability this year. Before the crisis, more than 200,000 Yemenis had left their homes and were internally displaced in their country, according to a 2010 U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees report.

Already one of the poorest countries in the This year, tens of thousands more Yemenis joined the category of internally displaced persons. Islamic Relief has been working with displaced people in Yemen since 1998. Teams increased relief efforts in 2011, distributing food, equipping community kitchens and distributing hygiene kits.

PAKISTAN

YEARLATER

Homes dotted the banks of the river close to Lunda village. The river was their friend-it sustained their lives. Until the day it turned against them. Following torrential rains, the river broke its banks, flooding everything in sight.

It was summer 2010. In one of Lunda's mud houses was the Musa family, expecting a new member to join the family within days. They watched in fear as the water rose. As the water level rose at an alarming pace, the family ran out toward safe, high ground. Within minutes, the water was up to their necks. The Musa family managed to escape alive. A medical team reached them, and baby Fawadullah was born safely.

As Fawadullah approaches his first birthday, he does not know the poor mud house his family used to live in-he is growing up in an earthquake- and environment of hope for a better future.

flood-resistant brick home built by Islamic Relief. He has clean, fresh water to drink, sourced from the flood-resistant well that was recently built, and he will learn to use the new latrine. He can go to a newly built medical center when he is sick and enjoy the child-friendly spaces created within the village. His family has received essential items for the house as well as the means to earn a living without having to rely upon others.

A year after the devastating floods, thousands of children like Fawadullah are growing up in an

Now, Islamic Relief has begun a rehabilitation phase. This integrated program is rebuilding villages and helping people rebuild their lives. Here's what the program involves:

Shelter

Construction of houses for 2,000 familieshouses strong enough to withstand floods and earthquakes.

Water

A complete water system consisting of flood resistant wells that are deep enough to prevent contamination.

Aariculture

Tools, seeds and livestock so farmers can once again cultivate their land. Non-farming families receive seeds and training so they can establish their own gardens of essential crops.

Education

Reconstruction of a school so all children can continue their education.

Health

A new health clinic to care for all villagers. Fully trained medical staff also will make home visits surrounding villages.

Household Items

Essential items distributed to each family-pots, pans, plates and glasses in the kitchen; mattresses to sleep on and mosquito nets to sleep under; and more items such as plastic sheeting, sun shelters, cleaning materials and jerry cans for water.

In July and August 2010, the skies opened on Pakistan, pouring water that rose higher until it overwhelmed four states and 21 million people. It was the worst flood in the country's history.

The water swept through entire provinces, reducing villages to rubble. It killed thousands of people, and left millions homeless. The year's crops-almost ready for harvest-were destroyed, and stagnant water covered the fields where farmers needed to plant seeds for the following year's crops. The chaos of the floods was followed by the silent sweep of waterborne diseases that felled victims with cholera and diarrhoea.

- 24

With a permanent office in Pakistan for nearly two decades, Islamic Relief was able to respond immediately with lifesaving assistance.

Workers handed out food and hygiene kits to families as rescue boats pulled stranded survivors to safety. Teams set up shelters. Mobile clinics drove in and treated long lines of injured and ill men, women and children. New water treatments plants began pumping out safe, clean water. In all, the emergency supplies brought relief to more than half a million people.





2. Agricultural tool kits 3. Water wells and pumps 4. Family homes 5. Drainage systems

VI SION OFHOPE

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Shamsa Tanveer is 7 years old. When she was very young her father died of a heart attack; but her struggles began even before that...

> Shamsa, Age 7 Rawalpindi, Pakistan



Shamsa was born blind. Her brother and one of her sisters are also blind, which left their mother and older sister struggling to feed the family on about 10 cents a day they earned folding thousands of little envelopes out of old magazines.

Shamsa is now sponsored by Islamic Relief's orphan sponsorship program, and a new world has opened for her. In addition to receiving food, clothes and medical care, she is now attending school, where she has learned to read Braille.

Not only has Shamsa benefited from the sponsorship, but also her entire family as the daily pressure of providing the next meal has been eased from Shamsa's mother.

Islamic Relief's orphan sponsorship program currently supports over 25,000 children like Shamsa; more than 7,000 of them are sponsored by U.S. donors. This gives the orphans an opportunity to grow and prosper.

Shamsa's favourite subject is English. As she leans over her Islamic studies book, her fingers trail lightly across the page and the sounds come gently from her mouth: "*Bismillah al-Rahman al-Raheem ...*"



— HERE'S A LOOK AT SIGNS OF HOPE IN PALESTINE ————





— 28 ·

Kidney Dialysis at Abu Al Qasem



The Askar Camp School

Land Rehabilitation for Farmers

Land is precious in Palestine, where many people rely on agriculture as a primary source of income. Islamic Relief has begun a two-year project to help farmers in three areas of the West Bank rehabilitate miles of land for farm use.

By building terraces, clearing the land of rocks, providing seedlings to farmers, constructing water cisterns and building agricultural roads, this project provides Palestinians in the West Bank with the resources they need to access their land, cultivate it and grow.

- 29 -



Kidney Dialysis at Abu Al Qasem

In Palestine, medical care often requires extensive, complicated travel. For patients who require regular treatment—such as kidney dialysis patients—this adds up to time and money that many cannot afford to spend. A new kidney dialysis unit at Abu Al Qasem hospital in the West Bank will make vital care more accessible for kidney patients in Yatta village and surrounding areas.

The Askar Camp School

In the Askar Camp, children used to travel approximately three miles on foot, across a main highway, to get to class. Now, Islamic Relief has completed the construction of the Askar Camp School, a new, more accessible campus for more than 500 students. The school features high-tech amenities including a modern science lab to help give the students a world-class education.

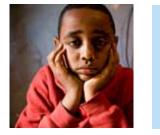
"The Askar School is a great example of quality work," said Yusuf Abdullah, regional operational manager at Islamic Relief USA, who visited the school for its grand opening in February 2011. "It's state of the art. It was just amazing. It's going to have a huge impact."

- 31 -



CHILDREN IN NEED









TO CARE FOR CHILDREN IN NEED AROUND THE WORLD, ISLAMIC RELIEF BRINGS THEM CLEAN, SAFE WATER; HEALTH CARE SUCH AS MALARIA PREVENTION; EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES; AND ORPHAN SUPPORT.

WATER EVERY 20 SECONDS, A CHILD DIES FROM WATER BORNE ILLNESS. THAT'S 1.5 MILLION PREVENTABLE DEATHS A YEAR.

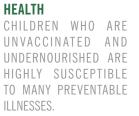






EDUCATION NEARLY 70 MILLION CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD ARE KEPT OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE OF POVERTY, DISCRIMINATION OR LACK OF RESOURCES.





— 32 —











Tiemoko Kone sees the sun peeking out between straw stalks and he knows he should rise, perform his morning chores and dress for school, but that won't happen today: Tiemoko has contracted malaria, again.

For 16-year-old Tiemoko, whose family was unable to afford medical care, a malaria outbreak was once untreatable. Now, thanks to the support of an Islamic Relief donor, Tiemoko has better access to treatment.

He remembers the day eight years ago—a few weeks after his father's death—when an Islamic Relief aid worker visited Tiemoko in his village in Mali to relay the news of his donor's support.

For Tiemoko, the support he received during his illness fostered hope and inspiration. He wants to become a doctor and heal others.





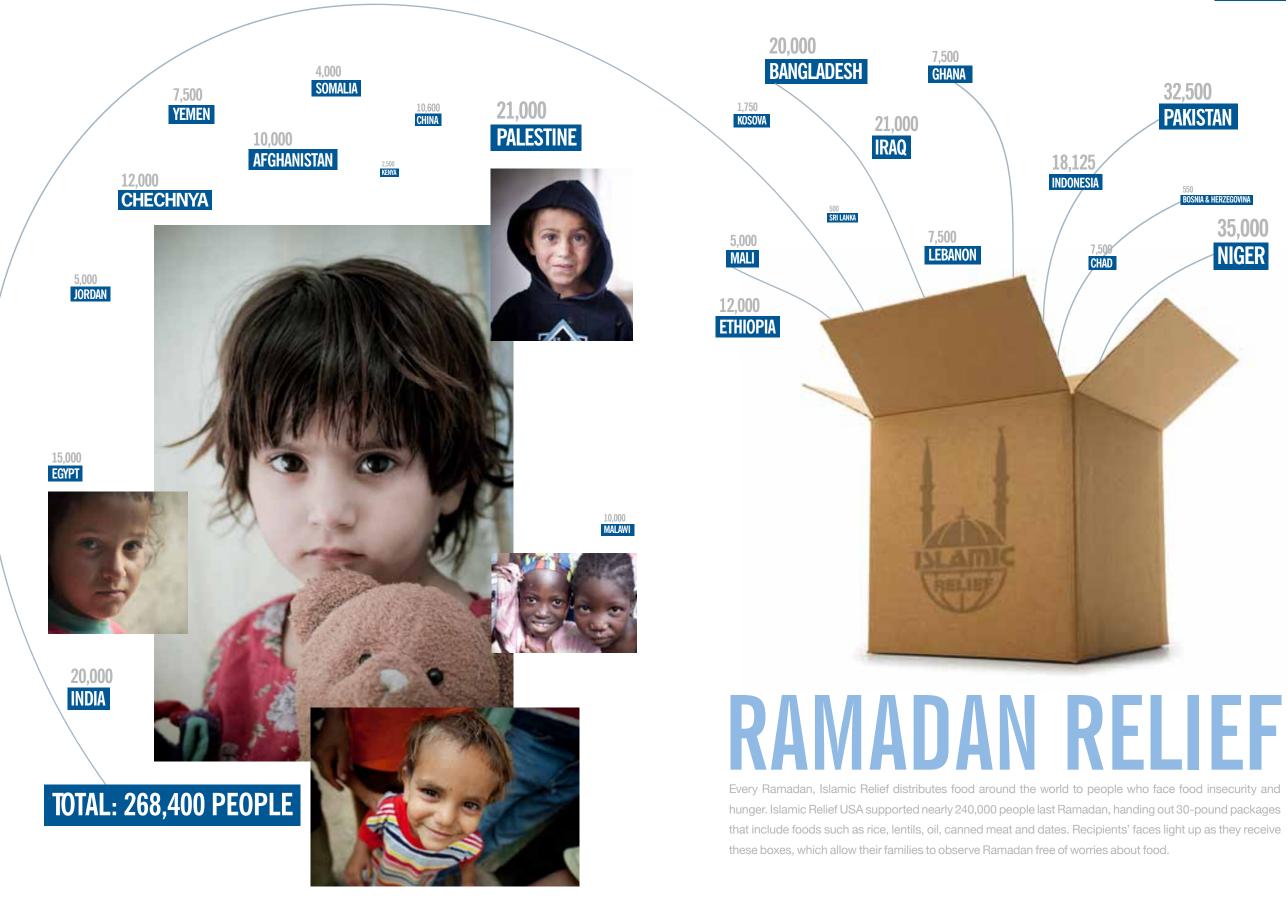


ORPHANS 143 MILLION CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD ARE ORPHANS.



- 33 -





34

35

GET INVOLVED

WWW.IRUSA.ORG

Dynamic, interactive, user-friendly-these are just some of the ways to describe Islamic Relief USA's new website.



"IRUSA.org is often the first impression people have about our organization and the work we do," says Reem El-Khatib, IRUSA communications specialist, *"and considering that hundreds of thousands of visitors check out our site, that first impression is very important."*

The refreshed homepage is perhaps the best way to get a glimpse of the latest information from IRUSA. The page features recent news, case studies, Twitter feeds and much more.

Three new ways to donate online are also made available right on the homepage donors can choose to make direct deposits, to sponsor an orphan or to donate a designated amount automatically on a monthly basis. The URL, irusa.org, remains the same but the portal has had a makeover that was directed by you: yes, YOU. When asked for suggestions about how we can enhance our website, our IRUSA Facebook friends said they wanted more up-to-date information, more ways to donate and more options for sharing information.

You wanted more. We listened, and, now, we've delivered.

The robust content is organized into six main categories:

- EMERGENCIES
- WHAT WE DO
- WHERE WE WORK
- GET INVOLVED
- NEWSROOM
- ABOUT US

Also new: Through irusa.org, you can now participate in team fundraising—you and your friends can get together to run, climb, bike, organize a car wash or donate birthday funds to help IRUSA alleviate suffering for millions of people around the world. Learn more and sign up in the "Get Involved" section.

"We want to represent our mission and our community of donors, volunteers, staff and beneficiaries well in everything we do," adds El-Khatib. "This new website certainly helps us work toward that goal."

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the backbone of the Islamic Relief USA family. More than 3,000 remarkable individuals have offered their time and energy to help IRUSA.

"It's gratifying to volunteer for IRUSA because I am surrounded by a team of wonderful and passionate people who are devoted to helping the needy all over the globe," says Naela Bashar, a volunteer who assists the IRUSA operations staff.

"The contributions that Naela makes to IRUSA ensure that our day-to-day functions are running smoothly—that is an important job that allows IRUSA staff to focus on getting relief efforts to the people who need it most as quickly and efficiently as possible," says Nazia Hossain, IRUSA national volunteer coordinator.

Volunteering opportunities also exist outside of IRUSA offices: many volunteers assist at fundraising events, and in some cases, volunteers also are trained to provide relief efforts in the field.



Looking for other ways to help? Spread the word about IRUSA efforts—including team fundraising challenges—to your social media networks and join the IRUSA communities on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. **More information is available at IslamicReliefUSA.org/Get-Involved.** Most recently, more than 60 IRUSA volunteers from around the United States traveled to Alabama in April to assist with relief efforts after tornadoes tore through the state, decimating communities and devastating lives. Volunteers were trained by the American Red Cross to perform a variety of functions.

"My team, along with members from the American Red Cross, covered more than 300 miles, assessing homes, assessing damage and providing that information to the Federal Emergency Management Agency," said Rika Prodhan, a volunteer who assisted in Alabama.

Vital support provided from volunteers like Naela and Rika has inspired IRUSA to dedicate an entire department to providing human resource services for volunteers: this new Volunteer Management Office has already been certified by the President's Volunteer Service Award Program to allow IRUSA to award our volunteers for their activities and hours of service.

You too can play an essential role in helping alleviate suffering around the world. Volunteer for Islamic Relief USA, and turn your extra time into good deeds. Connect with us at IslamicReliefUSA.org/Volunteer to apply.

- 36

THANK YOU

