

ISLAMIC RELIEF USA

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— 2020 —

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ENVISION  **A BETTER WORLD**

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Assalamu Alaikum. Peace Be Upon You.



Islamic Relief USA has had the honor of being on the frontlines of humanitarian relief and development for nearly three decades. We’ve worked tirelessly to ensure that the aid and services we provide recognize the humanity and dignity of our neighbors. We are proud to be a leading faith-based relief and development organization that works together with dedicated donors like you to bring relief, opportunities, and hope to the resilient people we serve. And it is precisely because of our wonderful donors that we have achieved so much in helping alleviate the needs and addressing the concerns of vulnerable, marginalized, and disenfranchised populations here in the U.S., and all around the world.

So for an organization that has been around for so long and seen so much, we are rarely caught off-guard. But this year, in 2020, we all were hit with something unprecedented: coronavirus. And it has changed everything for us, except for our mission and our drive to serve. While we will not be able to pray side-by-side with you at the mosque, or see you at an event for iftar, we will continue working together with you to bring aid to those who need it most. Islamic Relief has pledged \$10 million across the globe and here at home to help those affected by COVID-19. By the time you read this, our programs will be well underway. But the need is large, and our partnership with you is more important than it’s ever been!

But the urgency didn’t just start with the pandemic this year: from the beginning, 2020 hit our world hard with seemingly back-to-back emergencies: fires that scorched areas of Australia; floods that drowned villages in Indonesia; earthquakes that shook an already-reeling Puerto Rico; a brutal winter that crippled parts of Pakistan. And every time, Islamic Relief donors like you were there to answer the call of our sisters and brothers. No matter the circumstance; no matter if it is something we are used to or not—YOU, our donors, are ready and willing to help, and we are eternally grateful to you for that.

Your help makes a world of difference. Like it did for Pathé, a husband and father of six children, forced to flee widespread violence in Mali: They had to resort to panhandling in the streets to survive, while trying to find care for Pathe’s daughter who suffered from malaria. Donors envisioned a better world for Pathe, and

acted. You’ll meet Pathe on page 18, and see how much of an impact you made for him and his family alhamdulillah. He even offered this prayer: “Allah (SWT), strengthen their provisions, protect them, and reward them with paradise.” You’ll read how Pathe’s story demonstrates the sincerity and depth of mercy and compassion that exists within our communities.

We’ve also witnessed first-hand the potentialities that flourish when girls and women are offered the right resources and opportunities for an education or vocational training or livelihood. These programs are powerful, and your support gives them life! Your donations effect change for so many like Nabila in Pakistan. If you would have told Nabila just a few years ago that she’d graduate from university—with honors—while caring for her son, she may have told you it was a fairytale. But now Nabila herself supports other young women who want to turn their lofty dreams into realities. Read her story on page six.

Your investment in Islamic Relief is an investment in these amazing people we serve, not only in the direct aid they receive but in the advocacy, interfaith partnerships, and critical capacity building done on their behalf. Your investments are seen in the amazing volunteer core that is the backbone of our organization. It is seen in our own neighborhoods, like in Houston, TX, where our Disaster Response Team (our “blue shirts”) continued to help rebuild the homes of Hurricane Harvey survivors, one after another, well after the initial emergency had settled.

At Islamic Relief USA, we won’t stop until every person we can help has been helped in meaningful, impactful ways. And, under Allah’s (SWT) grace and mercy, even a pandemic won’t stop us, insha’Allah! We may have to adjust our operations, but we will continue to press forward, together with you by our side. This sincere, unrelenting drive, coupled with the support of our donors, is what started it all, after all: Many years ago, a small group of volunteers desired to make changes in the lives of sisters and brothers being crushed by hunger, poverty, conflict, and disaster. They believed in a vision that those same people suffering could instead be living healthy, fulfilling lives. Today, we are proud to be investing in that same vision with you. Tomorrow is as challenging as it’s ever been. However, the vision of a world free of poverty has only become clearer. It can happen. Let’s believe, and envision a better world.

Your brother,

Sharif Aly
Chief Executive Officer
Islamic Relief USA



At Islamic Relief USA, we never lose sight of why we do what we do: to serve people in need around the globe. We share this poem by Tariq Touré, IRUSA Senior Communications Specialist, so you can join us in reflecting on and remembering the lives of those changed for the better by your donations.

Change means a winter night without worry
It is a summer day no longer governed by famine
It is mothers in Niger, sifting their hands through crops
It is a warm blanket spread across the tiny toes
Of infants in the Jordan valley

Change means safely walking your favorite path to school
It is the dignity of a father ending his workday
It is a community celebrated for the light it kindles
It is years where war is washed away with
The sounds of crowding laughter

Change means poverty met with passion
It is our neighbors arriving when all hope seems lost
It is the smiles of survivors' renewed lives
It is water parading out of wells and into fields
Where drought was once king

Change means life is held in its highest honor
It is love that arrives at our darkest hours
It is the sheer power of one kind act
It is what's left after the disaster strikes
When home becomes our hearts

And if somehow it is forgotten
How heavy the weight of the world can be
Remember change means we choose
To carry our part

ENVISION
A BETTER WORLD





WOMEN

Throughout its history, Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA) has played a vital role in promoting women’s empowerment. The organization does this through a series of programs and services it supports in many countries around the world. Programs have focused on enabling women to learn new trades so they can earn money and make a living.

In Albania, for example, a program was created to teach women—many of whom are mothers of orphans—how to raise livestock. Another recent program in that country teaches women sewing and tailoring skills at a vocational school. Some 150 women will benefit from this program.

In Mali, programs were launched to increase enrollment of schoolgirls, as well as to enable women to own land. These programs have helped make substantial differences in their lives, providing them with a greater sense of confidence, income-generating skills, and a strong influential voice in communal affairs.

In Niger, a microfinancing program was launched that provides loans to women who are interested in running a business involving the caring and selling of animals. The program will help some 500 women, many of whom are heads of households that have orphans.

Islamic Relief USA, whose values include social justice, looks forward to continuing support for similar programs around the world.



A NEW NABILA

Despite the death of her husband from an illness, Nabila, a young Pakistani mother, managed to make great strides. Her son became eligible for Islamic Relief USA’s orphan sponsorship program, which provided the family with financial support and enabled Nabila to pursue her education. She eventually enrolled in a university and graduated with honors. Her young son was also able to attend school.

The education she received provided her with income-generating skills she could use practically. Most importantly, it instilled in her confidence and the ability to become self-sufficient.

FARMING FOR THE FUTURE

Women in the rural communities of Niger who work as peanut farmers are especially grateful to IRUSA: Through a special initiative, they now have access to a shelling tool that helps them improve efficiency and production.

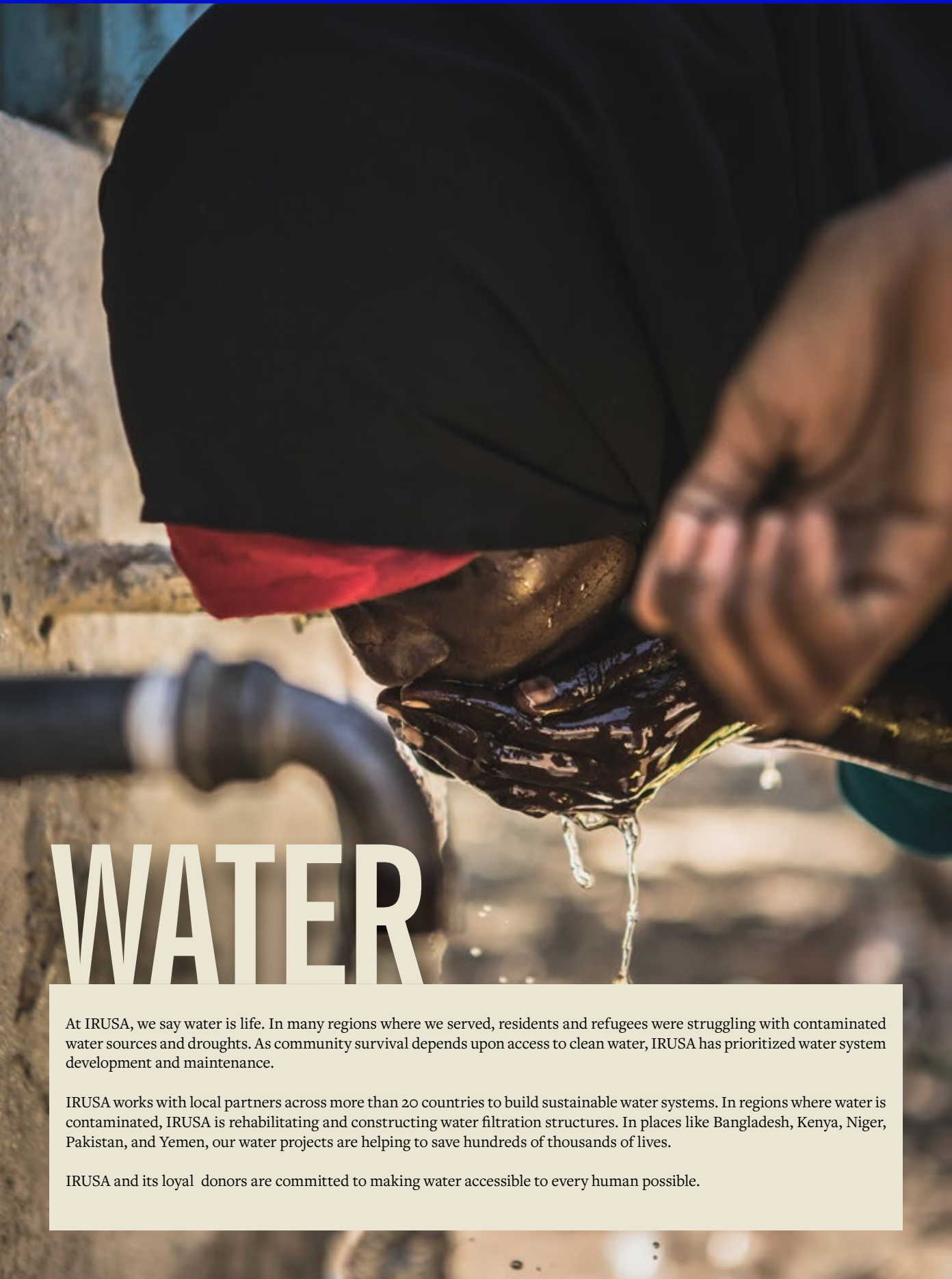
And now that they can shell the peanuts quicker and extract the oil, these farmers are able to sell even more items than they could before: beyond just peanuts and peanut oil, they can now make and sell confections like peanut butter and cake!

The tool has enabled the women to generate a much larger revenue stream, simply because they no longer have to provide the peanuts to somebody else to process the above-mentioned products. Oftentimes, the profits go toward health care, education, and various incidentals.

Programs like these help vulnerable women with essential areas of need, including livelihood, education, and health.



Islamic Relief USA is proud to invest in empowerment programming that brings resources and livelihood opportunities to women like Nabila and to their children, families, and communities. We are deeply committed to bringing access to initiatives like these to orphans and their families to help them change their circumstances for the better. Our orphans programs don’t just help one child; they help the child’s family too, and Nabila’s story gives just one example of the impact of these efforts



WATER

At IRUSA, we say water is life. In many regions where we served, residents and refugees were struggling with contaminated water sources and droughts. As community survival depends upon access to clean water, IRUSA has prioritized water system development and maintenance.

IRUSA works with local partners across more than 20 countries to build sustainable water systems. In regions where water is contaminated, IRUSA is rehabilitating and constructing water filtration structures. In places like Bangladesh, Kenya, Niger, Pakistan, and Yemen, our water projects are helping to save hundreds of thousands of lives.

IRUSA and its loyal donors are committed to making water accessible to every human possible.



HOW CLEAN WATER IS RESHAPING A COMMUNITY

Afsana knew one reality of Bangladesh: People like her would most likely live in cramped and impoverished encampments. Her family relocated after the partition of India and settled in a camp in Bangladesh. As a parent, still living in a camp, she wants to give her children a brighter future.

IRUSA began a comprehensive community support project there to build an infrastructure for families in encampments that would ultimately improve their quality of life. The project focused on livelihoods, education, sanitation, and most importantly, water access.

Today, clean water can be drawn by community members from eight different areas, thanks to the effort. Prior to the project, just drawing water was a gamble for their health. Now, it allows people like Afsana to worry less.

CLEAN WATER FOR HAPSITA AND HER FAMILY

Hapsita, who lives in Chad with her five children, had no reliable clean water. Her village had one manual water pump - not sufficient for all residents.

Oftentimes, Hapsita and her children would have to walk for at least two hours each way to find water. Often it would be polluted.

Through IRUSA's water and sanitation programming, donors supported the installation of clean water systems right in Hapsita's village.

Now they have quick access to clean water, better sanitation facilities and generally improved hygiene.

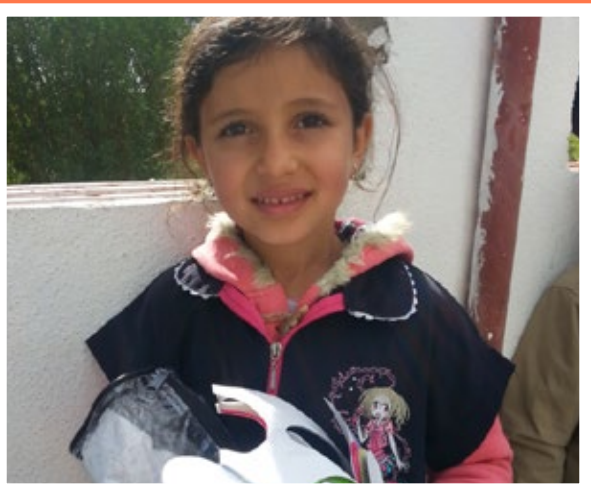
CHAHAD COULD NOW TELL HER MOM SHE DRANK FROM THE FOUNTAIN

Little Chahad used to hide from her mother that she had been drinking from the water fountain at school, which was in terrible condition.

For some students, the lack of clean water meant they wouldn't go to school altogether.

Islamic Relief USA donors learned about the difficulties facing young students in Tunisia, and moved to bring clean water access and hygiene training to her school, and 57 schools throughout the country.

Now, Chahad and other students enjoy clean, refreshing water during their school days.





HEALTH

We can never forget how much of a privilege it is to be able to get adequate medical services. In regions where healthcare is readily available and routine doctor visits can be made, communities naturally suffer less from medical crises. While we believe that a world can one day be created where everyone regardless of circumstance can be serviced properly for their health needs, IRUSA understands the reality of millions of people.

The truth is that year-after-year, we are researching and developing the most impactful and efficient ways to provide medical support to communities under duress. The simple day-to-day access to a physician or medical professional can mean a world of difference. It can stop elderly women from going completely blind. It can help fathers get critical dialysis treatment. For malnourished children, it means a chance at being nursed back to health.

IRUSA's ability to introduce cutting edge and strategic health care has increased the ability of regular people suffering from crises to stabilize their lives. Most of all, it has saved lives.

R
WORLD



IMPROVING HEALTH IN YEMEN

Growing up in a conflict zone is challenging beyond imagination. But in some places, the challenge isn't the violence that comes with the conflict, but it's maintaining good health. In Yemen, which is considered the world's worst humanitarian crisis, over 2 million children under the age of 5 are malnourished. The conflict has made it difficult, almost impossible, for a lot of families to get food. In addition, the spread of cholera has also caused severe dehydration and malnutrition in many children. Now they face the coronavirus. While hospital capacity is limited, Islamic Relief is working in different governorates to rehabilitate shuttered hospitals or provide medical aid to existing hospitals in order to save lives. Many resources have now been shifted to pandemic prevention.

For those who are fortunate to reach the hospital in time, the treatment is life-saving. Although there still is a lot of need, Islamic Relief is able to reach families in the most difficult times.

We continue to provide medical aid in Yemen through your support of children with acute malnutrition, as well as pregnant and lactating women.

REFUGEES RAISE HEALTH AWARENESS IN BANGLADESH CAMPS

Momtaz is a refugee from Rakhine State in Myanmar. She decided to take advantage of the opportunity to help her fellow refugees become healthy. As a trainee, she received comprehensive training that included theoretical, practical, and clinical demonstrations, field visits to community clinics outside the camps, and a two-week intensive program that equipped her with the skills she needed to help community members build awareness around health.

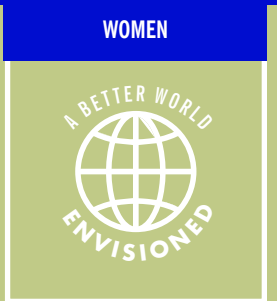
As a community health worker supported by Islamic Relief USA, Momtaz said she gained the confidence to help fellow refugees learn the proper techniques and get the adequate screenings to help them stay healthy: "I feel respected in the community and would like to continue working as a community health worker."



HEALING HIDDEN WOUNDS: PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT IN LEBANON

For Kamar, a Syrian mother of two, an Islamic Relief psychosocial support program saved her life. She managed to escape Syria alive, but like so many refugees, everything she had previously lived for had been shattered. She suffered from severe Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Major Depression Disorder (MDD)

Islamic Relief intervened with sessions of psychotherapy. Through a combination of therapy and temporary medication, she was able to manage her trauma and regain control of her anxiety.



FUTURES

IRUSA's humanitarian journey began by responding to multiple crises happening. We saw genocide, famine, and natural disasters crush innocent lives. When the call was put out to aid our brothers and sisters around the world and at home, countless caring people answered. IRUSA was in its infancy then, and since those first outpourings of assistance, we've been able to help millions every year by recognizing their dignity and aiding them in their darkest hours.

Today, IRUSA is still in the fight for those experiencing hardships. In over 44 countries now, families are being aided through heartbreaking conditions. The ability to move into new frontiers of development work has been a priority and goal from the very beginning. IRUSA works to build and implement long-term programming that helps vulnerable populations recover after a disaster. Innovation is the cornerstone of our strategic process. Through cutting edge microfinance programs, we are walking hand-in-hand with entrepreneurs into opportunities that otherwise wouldn't have existed. To combat climate change, we have partnered to harness solar power. Lastly, IRUSA understands the profound impact a quality education can have, especially for women. As we continue looking to the future, IRUSA knows that those best educated will be more equipped to participate in the progress it has to offer.

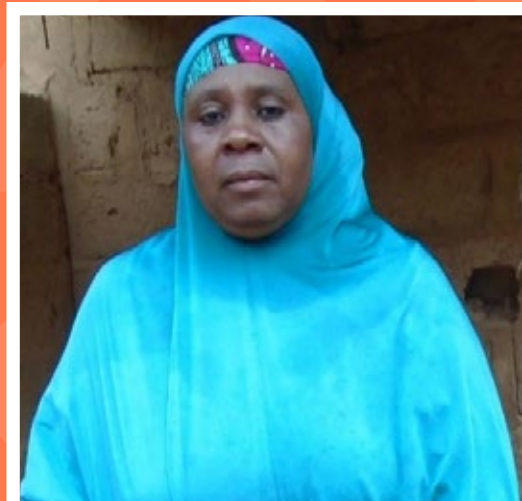


POVERTY TO PROFIT

Poverty to Profit is a program that helps blossoming entrepreneurs, many of whom are women, be supported one-to-one by donors. It is one of the first microfinance projects of its kind. Entrepreneurs apply for an interest-free loan in Pakistan to help set up and grow their business. They raise funds to cover the loan so that it can be used again and again once the loan has been repaid. Over 99% of loans are repaid in full. You can assist entrepreneurs like Shahana, who is a mother of five who works as a tailor in her rented house. A loan of 40,000 rupees would enable Shahana to rent a shop in the main market where she can truly display her work.

KARIMA BUILDS A FUTURE

Karima is a widow living with six children. They have a two-room flat and fortunately have access to electricity and potable water. Three of the children attend school. Since the death of her husband, she has had challenges in surviving with no income source. Islamic Relief USA enrolled Karima in the new livestock program. She and others were trained in intensive animal fattening. She sells her animals now at a profit.



FUELING FATHERHOOD

Qazi, a father of six, is a skilled embroiderer. He has put his talent to use for some years now and is an enrollee of the Poverty to Profit program.

Today, he happily employs five people, and will be looking forward to getting investment assistance with buying accessories, such as fabrics and gold embroidery thread.

When he receives his loan, he plans to establish his own embroidery shop and take orders in bulk and develop a sustainable and growing business.





EMERGENCIES

In the fall of 2019, flooding in countries like the Bahamas, Mali, Sudan, India, and Niger displaced numerous families. Record rainfall in Niger left the country on the verge of a cholera epidemic. A torrential downpour in Mali left thousands without sources of food. Additionally, over 100,000 homes across Sudan have been wiped off the map by flash flooding.

In Pakistan and India, killer floods wreaked havoc on families in need, many of whom have experienced them before. The emergency response included the distribution of vital supplies to families in need of immediate relief, as well as long-term plans to help flood-prone areas prepare for the future.

Islamic Relief USA, through its Disaster Response Team (DRT) provides assistance to residents in areas hit hard by natural disasters, such as Puerto Rico, Texas, North Carolina, and an island region of South Carolina. IRUSA has also raised money for areas devastated by earthquakes, wildfires, and tornadoes.



TRIUMPH AFTER SURVIVAL

"As soon as we felt the earthquake we started running. My family and I ran to protect ourselves," said Linda. Linda was just one of the close to 3.2 million people on the small island of Puerto Rico. A string of earthquakes had been rocking Puerto Rico since December 2019, but the strongest one hit on January 7, at a magnitude of 6.4.

The island had already experienced a tragedy after Hurricane Maria hit in 2017.

DRT responded quickly to do damage assessments and distributions with a coalition of interfaith partners. Many residents were living in both informal and formal camps because they were scared to go back inside their homes in case another earthquake struck. Linda was one of those residents. She was a camp leader of her neighborhood and helped to distribute aid as government trucks and aid agencies arrived. Islamic Relief USA was able to give her camp a canopy so more people can stay dry, cool, and have a place to stay during these difficult times. As the ripple effect of earthquakes still continues in Puerto Rico, the items distributed—generators, tents, hygiene kits, among other essentials—make it a little easier for people like Linda to live through the disaster.



COMPASSION IN A PANDEMIC

Who would have thought that a microscopic organism would take over the world in such a way to put everyone in panic?

By early March, COVID-19 had spread across the United States like wildfire. The pandemic caused people to stay at home, offices to close, and essentially forced a shutdown of the country.

But more than anything, people needed to practice social distancing and proper hygiene to stop the disease from spreading. Islamic Relief USA responded to local shelters, social agencies, and more with simple things as hygiene kits, which is critical.

"Thank you so much to Islamic Relief USA for thinking of us during this time. This is a high crisis time for everyone, particularly the vulnerable population that we serve. Kits like these....are more needed than ever. It's things that the rest of the population may take for granted, but it is so critical for what we do here and to what the population here needs," said Liz from Progress Place, one of the social service agencies we delivered kits to.



EDUCATION

Education has long been considered the ticket out of poverty and to a higher standard of living. Studies have shown a strong correlation between the more formal education one obtains and a higher income/net worth.

In addition to helping one's knowledge base and earning potential, education provides many other benefits. It helps economies, participation in government, and promotes respect and social cohesion.

Islamic Relief USA has supported education programs in countries where certain segments of the population have traditionally lacked access to it.

In Afghanistan, Islamic Relief USA's support of home-based education programs for women strives to make progress both in learning and improving households.

The program, for which Islamic Relief USA has dedicated \$1.4 million, seeks to teach reading skills to illiterate Afghani women. It is expected to help 8,000 beneficiaries in the country's Nangarhar, Bamyan, and Balkh provinces.

Islamic Relief USA will continue to make education a priority among its long-term and development-based projects, which includes building and equipping schools, offering literacy classes, and training teachers.



ACCESS TO RESTROOMS CHANGE EVERYTHING

Did you ever think a bathroom could lead more children to come to school? A clean bathroom is normal for us, but for many around the world, it's a blessing. Imagine bringing your own water to school just to use the bathroom, or clean your hands, or even to drink. For children in Tunisia, this was a reality before the bathrooms at their school were renovated through the support of Islamic Relief USA.

Now, children in the school can come without having this worry. Through this water and sanitation project in Tunisia, Islamic Relief USA plans to construct 355 bathroom facilities in schools throughout Tunisia.

One principal even noticed that more children are coming to school because there is better access to sanitation facilities. Something so simple as a bathroom can improve education for these children.

A SECOND CHANCE AT AN EDUCATION FOR LAILA

Laila wasn't able to read. This was not unusual, given the traditions and customs regarding women's formal education. This made it very difficult to know what medicine she was taking and to dial phone numbers to contact friends and relatives.

"I became very sad," she said.

But alhamdulillah, as an adult, she got a second chance—given to her by IRUSA donors. She heard about Islamic Relief's home-based education program for women in rural Waras, Afghanistan, and she signed up. Some 900 women took classes at the same time, across 36 villages.

"I came to the class and now I am very proud that I can read, write, and do math, which I never could do before," she said. Education is very important for girls and women: they can understand their rights, improve their lives, and have full participation in important decisions on social affairs."



HUNGER

Hunger and food security are the bedrocks of work in the humanitarian space. Recently, climate change, natural disasters, and unending conflict have brought indescribable blockages to food supplies around the world. IRUSA's ability to maintain rapid response infrastructure, placing food parcels into the very hands of survivors of natural disasters has literally saved the lives of millions. IRUSA has also worked to become a frontrunner in developing sustainable programs in agriculture/agribusiness so regions can practice self-determination.

When the lack of access to food grows to the level of famine, it can spiral out of control. Malnutrition can lead to disease as immune systems are more likely to operate poorly. In places like Yemen, IRUSA is presently working alongside our interfaith partners to deliver food aid to some of the most hard-to-reach areas. In Niger, women farmers are being supported with the opportunity to grow crops consistently enough to feed their own villages. Across dozens of countries, IRUSA is aiding the fight to end hunger.



THE SWEETNESS OF A SMALL CELEBRATION AMIDST THE SUFFERING

Ablah is intimately familiar with agricultural practices. She grows olive trees, as well as lettuce, cucumbers, tomatoes, parsley, and radishes on her land her land in the West Bank.

Ablah is a mother of four. Having no source of income, Ablah wanted to build a greenhouse to grow produce. She notes that a greenhouse made sense to build in the rural community where she lives.

"We keep in frequent contact with local traders about our crops. For example, if they know that I have two boxes of cucumbers, they would come immediately with the pickup trucks to buy them. It is a small village. We call a grocer and they collect the produce from the greenhouses every other day and send it to Nablus and Qalqilya."



PATHÉ PUSHES ON

Pathé and his family fled after violence became rampant in his hometown in Mali. In their new city, while they were much safer, Pathé's family now had to contend with few to no resources and the threat of disease. His daughter was hit hard with malaria, and they begged for food daily.

Islamic Relief USA donors helped Pathé, his family, and others through financial support and food aid distributions. Pathé got proper treatment for his daughter and finally could feed his family.



AGNES KEEPS HOPE

Because of IRUSA's food parcels, Agnes was able to cook Nsima (hard porridge) and have rice and sugar to make a splendid meal.

This wasn't Agnes' first food parcel. She was previously helped with meat for Qurbani. She said, "It helped a lot and you are also sponsoring orphans here in our community and my grandchild is in the sponsorship program."

She said, "I am very much thankful for the pack because it will help in our Ramadan diet and I will be glad if the support continues."





ORPHANS

In IRUSA's first engagements in disaster, one stark reality stood out amongst many others; we traveled through warzones, areas crushed by floods, and communities on the brink of famine and saw many orphans left to fend for themselves. Our orphans' programs provide the necessary resources for youth experiencing emergencies to be able to find essentials such as proper food, health care, and education.

IRUSA stresses education for orphans because, in far too many regions around the world, children and young adults are being locked away from the opportunities the future will have to offer. The orphans our donors support in attaining an education and skills necessary to earn livelihoods in careers like agriculture, entrepreneurship, and information technology, have made awesome strides.

One of the most critical aspects of IRUSA's orphans' projects is the emphasis on family support. Many times orphans are living among other family members who also are in dire need of resources. By developing a model that supports caregivers as well as orphans, it has greatly enhanced the ability of entire families to survive. Caregivers who take on the responsibility can now get help attaining meaningful livelihoods that ultimately aid the orphans they have chosen to look after.

Our compassionate community of donors has kept the tradition alive of caring for children that need our love. What they give cannot just be measured in numbers. IRUSA's orphans' programs represent hope for people left invisible to society.



NAZIA RISES

Nazia became orphaned very young and had to learn quickly how to survive. As she navigated the trauma of losing both of her parents, she came up against another challenge: coping with mental illness and physical disabilities.

The school she went to forced her out because her mental health was deteriorating.

IRUSA donors saw the promise in Nazia and supported her path to wellness. Nazia was able to finally see a mental health specialist and received the diagnosis she needed. For a full year, Nazia did everything she could to feel better through the treatments and counseling sessions she received.

Now, Nazia is rising again and is paving her path to becoming a teacher someday so that she can inspire children to believe that nothing is impossible.

A FAMILY OF ORPHANS MAKING THEIR WAY, TOGETHER

Shaima barely remembers her father. He passed away when she was only 2 years old, leaving her mother, Um Abdullah, to care for her seven children, including Shaima.

Their family lives in the Gaza Camp in Jordan. It is one of the largest Palestinian refugee camps in the country.

But Shaima has been able to excel in her education thanks to the compassion of IRUSA donors who've given her resources to push through. She finished at the top of her graduating class this year.



A HEALTHY FAMILY IS A HAPPY FAMILY

Khetam is a widow and a mother of seven orphans. She is suffering through various medical conditions, including cancer and multiple sclerosis. Through the Islamic Relief medical fund, she was able to get her treatment and follow-up scans. But more than that, she is now able to care for her children more easily.

Despite the circumstances of living in the Gaza Camp in Jordan, Khetam remains positive for her children, and like any mother wants the best for them in the future.





AROUND THE WORLD

The compassion of our family of donors and volunteers who've put countless time, effort, and resources into humanitarian aid, has allowed Islamic Relief USA's work to span across continents. We proudly partner with communities in over 44 countries around the world. To achieve this, we have had to implement projects and programs that shield the most vulnerable victims of disaster and conflict in the most efficient and dignified way. Also we work tirelessly to bring the long-term development needs of these same communities in the scope of our planning and processes. Across continents we are working to ensure that water, food security, women and young girls empowerment, poverty reduction programs, medical care, and many other essentials are available for millions of people.



ACROSS THE MIDDLE EAST

Many nations within the Middle East are undergoing great changes and challenges. IRUSA is partnering to empower countless families, with a special dedication to women and girls, across countries like Iraq, Jordan, Tunisia, Lebanon, and Yemen. In emergency zones like Syria and Yemen, our projects are providing urgent medical aid, food supplies, and shelter to refugees and those in need.

MIDDLE EAST

YOUR AID BY THE NUMBERS
2014-2019

 22,177,148
PEOPLE SERVED

 12
COUNTRIES

 932
PROJECTS



SAFIA'S RELIEF

Safia experienced her own house in Yemen being struck by ricocheting bullets. She lives in the house with several daughters and grandchildren.

Conditions in the city are very unsafe and people are living in extremely dire conditions. Food is almost impossible to get given the conflict.

Fortunately, Islamic Relief USA helped answer the call. She was provided an emergency basket of rationed goods that will help support Safia and her large family for a month. Such support is made possible by loyal donors.

EUROPE

YOUR AID BY
THE NUMBERS
2014-2019

 **2,776,431**
PEOPLE SERVED

 **8**
COUNTRIES

 **225**
PROJECTS

ACROSS EUROPE

This is the continent where the concept of Islamic Relief USA was developed. A group of idealistic college students from England raised money to provide life-saving assistance for people in Bosnia, which was in the middle of war. Since then, the organization's presence across the continent has grown to include investments in livelihood programs designed to foster self-sufficiency and to enable the people we serve to develop the skills necessary to generate income.

ASIA

YOUR AID BY
THE NUMBERS
2014-2019

 **10,428,089**
PEOPLE SERVED

 **12**
COUNTRIES

 **603**
PROJECTS

ACROSS ASIA

From flood relief projects in Pakistan and India, rooftop gardens designed to curb climate change in Bangladesh, and assisting refugees who've been displaced from surrounding nations, Asia remains a focal point of IRUSA's mission in assisting the most vulnerable populations.



ZELIMKHAN'S RELIEF

In 1997, Zelimkhan, became disabled after losing his right leg in an explosion while gathering fruit in Chechnya. With the area short on doctors and medical equipment, the young man had his right leg amputated. Nonetheless, he was eager to find a job. What he found was even more profound; an innate ability to assemble computers provided by his friend's business. He soon opened his own computer business, but it shut down because of high rent. That is until Islamic Relief USA stepped in and provided a business training grant, which enabled him to keep his business open and obtain more computers. He is grateful for the support.



AQUIB'S RELIEF

Aquib is a brilliant student who suffered a personal setback when his father died from a brain hemorrhage. It was a devastating loss for him and his family.

However, Aquib is an example of someone who has overcome adversity. He aspires to be an engineer and performs well in all his academic subjects.

Much of this is possible thanks to an orphan support program from Islamic Relief. Besides school, he also attends private tuition to keep up with the studies. His mother is grateful for the organization's assistance.

AFRICA

YOUR AID BY
THE NUMBERS
2014-2019

 **16,445,071**
PEOPLE SERVED

 **16**
COUNTRIES

 **633**
PROJECTS

ACROSS AFRICA

Islamic Relief USA's projects in Africa are vital. We support both long-term and emergency aid in countries suffering from natural disasters, water shortage and contamination, food insecurity, and political crisis. Our projects in countries like Niger, Somalia, Mali, and Ethiopia seek to achieve long-term stability, increase education, and mainly change the quality of life of people in need.

AMERICAS

YOUR AID BY
THE NUMBERS
2014-2019

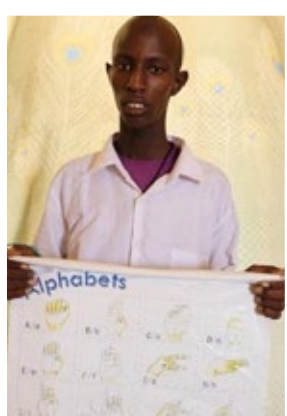
 **1,374,983**
PEOPLE SERVED

 **7**
COUNTRIES

 **763**
PROJECTS

ACROSS THE AMERICAS

Food assistance. Access to health care services. A helping hand during natural disasters and emergencies. Islamic Relief USA has been a valuable contributor, providing resources and services to many regions of North America through grants, events, and emergency aid packages. In South America, IRUSA established a footprint a few years ago, when it provided assistance in the wake of a devastating earthquake in Ecuador.



SIYAAT'S RELIEF

Siyaat has a hearing impairment and, until recently, never attended school. Yearning to get an education, he refused to herd the cattle he had been doing to support the family and urged his mother to take him to school like the other children. His mother brought him to Garissa School for the Deaf. He is one of the learners utilizing the speech therapy box. Now, he is learning basic sign language to communicate with more people. He wants to be a doctor.



BASHER'S RELIEF

Before coming to the United States with his mother, Basher was tortured in Syria, leaving him paralyzed from the waist down. He was the first person served in IRUSA's refugee resettlement program in North Carolina, an initiative that focuses on refugees who have the most difficulty settling because of medical conditions or psychological trauma and low English proficiency. Refugees received rent assistance and case management—guiding them through the services available and filling in gaps.

Basher successfully completed English lessons, enrolled in college, and has a 4.0 grade point average. He and his mother have also moved to a new home with the help of IRUSA. Moreover, physical therapy has helped him take his first steps up stairs.

COVID-19 ISLAMIC RELIEF RESPONDS

Viruses, like COVID-19, affect us all. Whether we have the virus, know someone who does, are practicing “social distancing” as a preventative measure, or are monitoring the spread of the pandemic across the globe, we are all immersed in information about coronavirus right now. **We must remember that this is not a disease relegated to a certain race, religion, country, or group—we are all susceptible and we are all in this together.**

That’s why Islamic Relief USA is doing its utmost to provide you with information and resources that may shed light on the virus and related health care, the situation facing our most-vulnerable communities, like refugees and our low-income neighbors, and on how to stay calm amid much of the chaos.

The Islamic Relief global family has pledged a \$10 million emergency

response to help our neighbors and families across the world affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19). As part of the response, IRUSA specifically is dedicating \$1.9 million of that to help right here in the United States.

IRUSA’s Coronavirus Emergency Response:

Covid Protection: Provide communities, individuals and hospitals with facemasks and other protective products.

Hygiene Kits: To help individuals and families maintain a hygienic and healthy household.

Food Aid: Provide food assistance to families who are food insecure.

Emergency Funds: Provide financial support to at-risk families and individuals.



350,000+
PEOPLE SERVED



27+
STATES



30+
COUNTRIES



50,000+
POUNDS OF
FOOD AID



35+
FOOD PANTRIES



\$500,000+
FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE



50,000+
FACE MASKS



20,000+
HYGIENE KITS



70,000+
COVID PPE

USAID AND FEMA IDENTIFY ISLAMIC RELIEF USA AS CRITICAL PARTNER IN COVID-19 RELIEF



Seasons of Giving

RELIEF FOR UMM MUHAMMAD

Umm Muhammad is a widow looking after eight children. Her family, like so many other families, have fled because of conflict in their homeland. They now call a tent home.

"Because I have no money to buy or store food... sometimes the children ask me for food we don't have and I begin to cry."

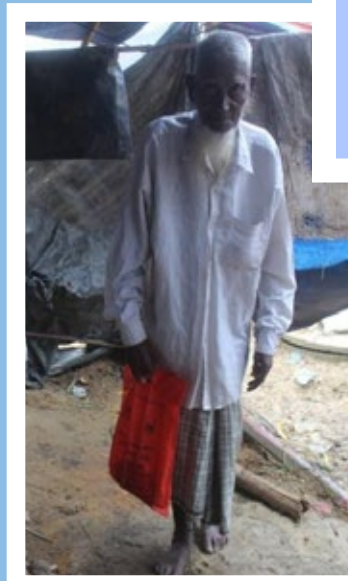
The food pack she received from Islamic Relief USA helped relieve her food-related stresses. And it made her family very happy.

"I can now cook meals for my children like chickpeas, lentil soup, and my children love rice."

NAZIR'S GREATEST PLEASURE IN TOUGH TIMES

One of the things 65-year-old Nazir still enjoys doing for his wife is cooking. Nazir takes pride in it. His wife has been extremely ill and he himself is battling severe asthma. When he received his Qurbani meat it allowed him to prepare something special, especially when many other days there is very little to cook.

"The last time we were able to have meat was two months ago. Eating meat is like a dream for us," Nazir said.



vol•un•teer

A person who freely gives of her or his time and energy to help those in need.

“Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.”—Unknown

The famed boxer, activist, and philanthropist Muhammad Ali once said, “Service for others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth.” His message captures the spirit of service that is at the heart of IRUSA--and that radiates from our volunteers.

Volunteers are truly the backbone of Islamic Relief USA. From the efforts of a handful of volunteers, who, in the early 1990s, gave their all to raise awareness and support for humanitarian work, IRUSA's volunteer core has now grown to 17,000+ individuals, dedicated to serving humanity by contributing their time, effort, talent, and more to further the mission of Islamic Relief USA.

From deploying to disaster zones to help survivors, to rebuilding destroyed homes; from ushering guests at events to donating their skills to help tackle office projects; from hosting iftars in their homes to wrapping toys for Eid; from creating fundraising pages to support important causes to preparing meals at shelters to serve people suffering from homelessness to packaging more than 800,000+ meals for those living in hunger in 20 countries around the world...and all of that was just some of what they did in 2019--the sheer magnitude of the impact IRUSA volunteers make on our efforts, our communities, and our world is inspiring.

We are proud and humbled to work together for a better world with these amazing individuals, who come from all walks of life, age groups, and talents, masha'Allah! And while our volunteer work in 2020 has to take new shapes and forms amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we know the noble and effervescent spirit of our volunteers will shine even brighter as we use innovative ways to continue serving our sisters and brothers in need.



IRUSA SERVES AND CELEBRATES MLK DAY WITH A RECORD EVENT

At Islamic Relief USA, we celebrate the legacy and humanitarianism of Dr. Martin Luther Jr. with a day on, not a day off, and for our 2020 effort, our volunteers showed up to serve in a big way.

It was a blustery yet sunny Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020—the day before the official MLK holiday. The call from IRUSA's Volunteer Department was to come together at the Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA, to pack meals for those living in hunger. More than 400 volunteers showed up, filling the school's fieldhouse, ready to break records. It became one of the largest volunteer events Islamic Relief USA has ever hosted.

The spirits were high. IRUSA's National Volunteer Manager had to yell to be heard above the crowd: "We have close to 400 volunteers here that came out in the cold," he said. Pointing to the rows upon rows of tables behind him, he added, "Every table is full with people packaging these meals!"

Some 100,000 meals were prepared and packed that day in that city alone! But our volunteer core is nationwide, and so were the efforts: People from Steelton, PA, to Long Island, NY, to Chicago, IL, came out that Sunday to be a part of this landmark effort. All told, some 175,000 meals were packed

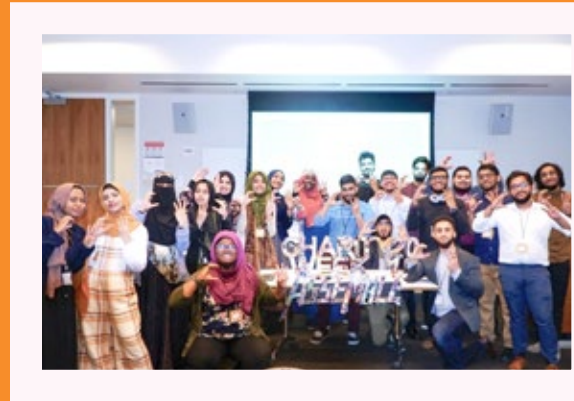
by dedicated, hard-working people who worked together for hours on end to make the seemingly impossible happen.

For anyone supporting by watching IRUSA's social media streams of the Meal Pack Out events that day, the energy was infectious.

And it didn't stop there. The next day, on MLK Day 2020, IRUSA's staff worked to round out the weekend's efforts to more than 200,000 meals for our vulnerable community members.

This is how IRUSA's volunteers and staff honor the legacy and service that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. embodied and encouraged: "Everybody can be great ... because anybody can serve," he said, adding, "You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

We couldn't agree more.



CHARITY WEEK - UNITE OUR POWERS

Charity Week is an annual event driven by a volunteer powerhouse from around the world to raise support to help orphans and other vulnerable children through Islamic Relief.

Founded in the United Kingdom some 16 years ago, the campaign has expanded to include young volunteers across seven countries, including the

United States. Here, Charity Week is lead by Muslim Student Associations (MSAs) in several states across the U.S.

Every year, the Charity Week leads pick a theme to inspire the effort; in 2019, that theme was Unite Our Powers, drawing its inspiration from the popular Marvel Comics series. "This year's Charity Week theme is 'superheroes,' which is a fitting description for our dedicated volunteers, of whom we are incredibly proud," said Naser Haghamed, Islamic Relief Worldwide's CEO. He added, "Our lifesaving and life-changing programs would not be possible without them."

While the Charity Week efforts culminate in one week of dedicated canvassing, social networking, events, fundraising, and more in October, it takes a whole year of planning to put it all together.

And the efforts of these young, inspiring volunteers is amazing: Over the course of its 16 years, Charity Week volunteers have raised more than \$11,000,000 to serve children in need!

[LEARN MORE AT CHARITYWEEK.COM](https://www.charityweek.com)

IRUSA DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM - PROJECT RECOVERY

When disaster strikes across the country, Islamic Relief USA's Disaster Response Team, a group of dedicated staff and volunteers, is among the first groups on the ground to help survivors. But the relief work doesn't stop once the emergency dwindles down. IRUSA's DRT (or "blue shirts" as they are popularly known) stay for the long-haul to help during the recovery process too.

In comes Project Recovery, an initiative serving survivors of Hurricane Harvey in Houston, TX, who still are in need of home repair, including drywall installation, mudding, painting, trim work, and flooring. Volunteers would sign up for one-week assignments to help rebuild these homes.

In 2019, Project Recovery volunteers gained access to an IRUSA dormitory, attained specifically to house those helping while on site. The dorms can house dozens of people, helping create a spirit of teamwork and

camaraderie, while emphasizing the mission of service to those in need.

"We are truly grateful for our volunteers and their commitment to service," said Araif Yusuff, Disaster Response Team manager. "Recovery is a long process that can last for years. We need to continue to support communities, such as Houston, that are recovering from disasters for as long as we can because the road to recovery is a difficult one." He added, "I am truly proud of IRUSA's volunteers because their commitment to provide assistance and to answer the call to serve on an ongoing basis is truly inspiring."

Currently discontinued due to COVID-19 precautions.



ARE YOU READY FOR AN

Adventure?

2019 was Islamic Relief USA's second year in joining the international challenges along with the Islamic Relief family. Together they joined in different countries for challenges that included biking, hiking, rafting, trekking, climbing, and even zip lining. But these international trips are not just about the adventure, but about working towards a cause.

Together, these challengers raised close to \$150,000 for water projects in various countries across Africa.

Challenges are about individuals in the community standing up and coming forward, saying "I can." They believe in the needs of those most in need. The international challenges are meant to be difficult, both

physically and spiritually draining. It's not meant to be a vacation. It brings people together from all around the world for one common cause.

Islamic Relief USA participated in the Morocco desert trek, the Bosnia cycle challenge, The Rise of the Ottoman Empire: cycling in Turkey challenge, Machu Picchu challenge, and the Andalusia Challenge. For the first time ever, IRUSA led the largest international team challenge trip in Machu Picchu in November of 2019 with almost 100 participants.

Spain

Andalusia Spain is one of the most visited areas in the world. It's a place filled with art, history, and most of all spirituality. The entire area is full of places that excite your eyes, your mind and your soul. It was the perfect place for a challenge, for the mind, body, and soul.

There were three days and 155-kilometers of biking from Zuhierros to Alcala La Real to Granada, it was unlike anything that I have experienced in my lifetime. I was mesmerized at the journey that the Muslims before me had taken to persevere their deen. Despite the beautiful scenery my muscles were painfully sore and sitting on the bike at times became extremely difficult. Whenever things got tough I remembered why I

decided to take this challenge. It's hard for me to imagine what it must be like for people in parts of Africa that don't have access to clean water and all the struggles they go through everyday just to survive. Back in America I can drive in any direction where I live and walk into a grocery store. I thought about all my supporters that were counting on me to finish the challenge.

On our last night, we took things slow and shared moments of reflection on a beach in Al Pujarra. After four straight days of being constantly on the move, it was nice to have some time to unwind before our return trip back home.



Bosnia



Morocco

I thought the desert was just sand dunes, but quickly realized that it was rocky, mountainous, flat, hilly, vast, and much more. Our trek was challenging, no doubt. We covered a lot of ground within a short amount of time and camped along the way. We lived in the desert for four days, away from the comfort of our daily lives. And, surprisingly, being detached from the world made me more physically, spiritually, and emotionally connected.

But our journey was not just for our own purposes. There were about 20 of us from the US, UK, Italy, and Spain—all different ethnicities, ages, and



backgrounds. Our purpose was a shared one: to raise money for Islamic Relief's water projects for vulnerable communities in various countries in Africa.

Our journey had obstacles, but after four days of trekking, those obstacles vanished. We weren't just raising funds; we were creating an experience of a lifetime. People came together for an important cause, felt challenged, pushed themselves to their limits, and were reminded of the challenges that many face around the world.

Peru

If we told you we could bring strangers half-way around the world to climb endlessly and walk on the edge of cliffs all while depending on each other just so we could support life-saving water projects, would you believe us? In the beginning there were doubts about what, when, and how it would even happen but the Peru challenge did what all IRUSA challenges have been successful at doing, it brought people together when it mattered most.

Being suspended countless feet in the air was on the menu as well. And as you can see, once the fear of falling fades, you realize that conquering fear is just a process we all can take part in. Many

portions of the challenge featured some sort of seemingly insane obstacle, but the impact it had on the friends and family who donated can't be measured in dollars. Watching someone go above and beyond will never not be inspiring.

The bonds created during the Peru challenge are an integral part of what makes these engagements more than special. For days on end the challengers were forced to look to one another for strength, security, inspiration, and joy. One of IRUSA's key values is custodianship. Peru saw strangers arrive, and then saw friends for a lifetime leave committed to caring for each other.

TEAM CHALLENGES



Join us [IRUSA.ORG/TEAM](https://www.irusa.org/team)

FOR A BETTER WORLD ADVOCACY

As the country's largest Muslim humanitarian and development organization, Islamic Relief USA has developed a non-partisan advocacy platform to provide a voice for those in need.

Without advocacy, policy decisions that affect everyone around us, including you, will be made without our input.

To effectively advocate, IRUSA builds and participates in a wide range of coalitions with officials and organizations. We work to ensure lawmakers and government officials are educated about issues affecting the populations we serve and strive to educate and empower the general public to make informed decisions.

We provide the necessary resources to people and organizations required to develop the capacity to build locally, so that large scale change can be implemented by advocating on behalf of themselves and their constituents.

IRUSA frequently works in coordination with other faith-based organizations, government agencies, and NGOs to ensure our advocacy efforts are more impactful.

In order to facilitate our advocacy work, we proudly carry-out hundreds of advocacy meetings, draft and sign-on to coalition letters to lawmakers and senior government officials, employ a full-time staff to engage the Congress, executive departments, think tanks, academia, and many more.



Islamic Relief partner offices visit Capitol Hill.

VISITORS FROM IR KENYA HIGHLIGHT TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT OF US SUPPORT

Donations from Islamic Relief USA supporters, as well as US government funding, play a vital role in programs that are overcoming interfaith conflict and lifting people out of poverty in some of the world's most difficult and dangerous places.

That was the message of representatives from Islamic Relief Kenya and Islamic Relief Worldwide as they visited the United States in mid-July 2019 to meet representatives of USAID, the Kenyan embassy, and various officials on Capitol Hill.



Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-18, Texas) receives an award from Islamic Relief USA for the support she has shown for IRUSA's Hurricane Harvey Recovery project.

CONGRESS JOINS ISLAMIC RELIEF USA FOR POST-RAMADAN EID CELEBRATION

Members of Congress, along with more than 100 guests, helped celebrate Islamic Relief USA's IRUSA Ninth Annual Capitol Hill Ramadan Eid Reception, which took place on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at the Rayburn building in Washington, D.C.

IRUSA was blessed to receive extensive Congressional support for the event. In addition to visits and remarks by Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-13, Michigan), Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-8, Illinois), Rep. Dan Kildee (D-5, Michigan), and Rep. Hank Johnson (D-4, Georgia), more than 30 lawmakers wrote letters of commendation for IRUSA. Booklets containing the letters were distributed to the guests. The event was coordinated by the IRUSA Public Affairs Department, headed by Christina Tobias-Nahi, and Jihad Saleh Williams.

Guests from a variety of public and private sectors feasted on a variety of finger foods while networking. The guests were from houses of worship, fellow non-governmental organizations, and staffers from Congressional offices.

"We all come here upon a common identity," said Imam Talib Shareef of Masjid Muhammad. "We're human first. God takes us back to that light."

Shareef encouraged guests to go beyond interfaith dialogue by engaging in interfaith action.

Kildee expressed his gratitude to Islamic Relief, which helped deliver clean water to residents in Flint, MI., which was the subject of national headlines after lead was discovered in its public water system.

"It says something to the people of Flint that other people care about them," he said.

In the spirit of Ramadan, Kildee said he fasted one day in order to "stay in solidarity" with his Muslim constituents.

He added that it is unfortunate that Islam is frequently mischaracterized, especially on social media and blogs, in order to fulfill "a narrow agenda."

"You give honor to humanity, to Islam," he said. "You tell the true story."

Rep. Krishnamoorthi also praised IRUSA, saying "You're living out your faith."

He urged attendees to vote, get involved in public life, and run for elective office.

Toward the conclusion of the event, IRUSA gave Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-18, Texas) an award for her efforts in disaster relief. Her district, which is comprised of Central Houston, was heavily impacted by Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

The visiting delegation included Naser Haghamed, CEO of Islamic Relief Worldwide, Obaid Rahman, Country Director of Islamic Relief Kenya, and Gloria Kivuva, Communications Officer for Islamic Relief Kenya.

"We had hoped to take a staff delegation from Congress to visit a remarkable solar-powered irrigation project in Kenya, funded principally from the US," explains Jihad Saleh Williams of Islamic Relief USA. "But the project is in a very insecure area, so we decided to bring Kenya to Capitol Hill instead of taking Capitol Hill to Kenya."

US federal funding has supported eight Islamic Relief projects in the past four years: six in Ethiopia and the others in Kenya and the Central African Republic (CAR).

The visiting delegation highlighted the benefits of two ongoing projects—an irrigation project in Kenya's northeastern Mendera region, and a partnership with Catholic Relief Services and World Vision in CAR that helps impoverished families start new businesses while bringing Christian and Muslim communities together to overcome conflict.



ISLAMIC RELIEF USA GALA CELEBRATES TEAMWORK AND COMMUNITY

The power of building bridges is hallmarked by IRUSA's Partnership Gala.

Celebrating the work made possible through alliances with other organizations, Islamic Relief USA IRUSA hosted its third annual Partnership Gala on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019 at the Georgetown Marriott in Washington, DC.

The theme of 2019's gala, "Building Bridges, Creating Community" was aptly symbolized by individuals from different faith-based groups and other entities crossing a small garden bridge to reach the podium and collect their awards.

In 2019, IRUSA recognized organizations it worked with and to who it awarded some of its Silver Anniversary grants. For example, one group, Peace Catalyst, which focuses on building relationships between Muslims and evangelical Christians used the funds to organize "The Big Table," which was described as one of the largest potluck lunches in the country, if not the world.

Clips of that event—along with those featuring work by One America, which rebuilt homes in Puerto Rico that were destroyed by Hurricane Maria—were played to an audience of about 150 guests.

"It takes two sides to make a bridge; hope and help," said Imam Talib M. Sharif.

Sharif Aly, chief executive officer of IRUSA, said it's only through teamwork that meaningful changes are made in the lives of the most vulnerable people.

"Our efforts can only do so much," Aly said. "We can't do it alone. We need others. We need to work together."

Without cooperation, Aly said, "Those voices would not be heard to the magnitude they need to be heard."

Khaled Lamada, chairman of IRUSA's Board of Directors, said it was through the critical support of the different faith-based and humanitarian organizations that enabled IRUSA to successfully provide sustainable assistance and foster tolerance in communities.

That collaboration, he said, showed that groups can look beyond each other's race, religion, and political affiliation and make positive changes.

"This is a true celebration of the tremendous work and impact in helping the most vulnerable," the chairman said.

The Rev. David Beckman, president of Bread for the

World, a longtime working partner of Islamic Relief USA, highlighted IRUSA's significant role.

Donald Lassere, executive director of the Muhammad Ali Center, was also honored as the evening's keynote speaker.

"They work where most relief agencies can't work," he said. "They just reach out to everybody."

Beckman also mentioned the "dutiful" role IRUSA has played in advocating the federal government to play a more active role in reducing poverty and hunger.

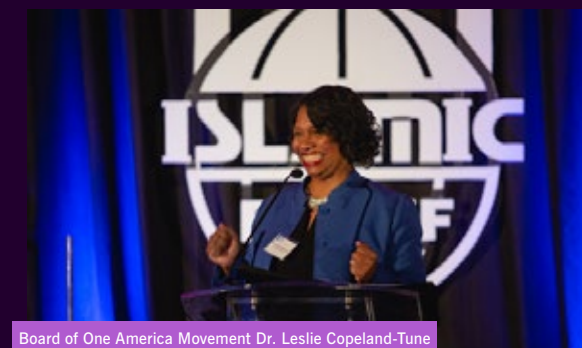
"I'm most grateful the folks at Islamic Relief are my friends," he said.



IRUSA CEO Sharif Aly, IRUSA VP of Community Affairs Azhar Azeez, Congressman Krishnamoorthi, IRUSA President Anwar Khan



IRUSA President, Anwar Khan, presents the Lifetime Achievement Award to Bread for the World President, Rev. David Beckmann.



Board of One America Movement Dr. Leslie Copeland-Tune

PAKISTAN CELEBRITY TOUR BRINGS ORPHANS PROGRAMS TO THE FOREFRONT

When Wasim Akram walks into a room full of fans of his legendary career in cricket, there's a charged silence that ripples across the crowd. Whispers saying "That's him, that's him" drizzle from front to back and finally he bestows everyone with his grand smile allowing everyone to remind themselves that he's human.

This year Wasim was an honorable guest at IRUSA's Pakistan Celebrity Dinner tour, and his presence brought what it usually brings, donors who believe in uplifting Pakistan and people who love reminiscing about the incredible plays he made as a phenom in cricket.

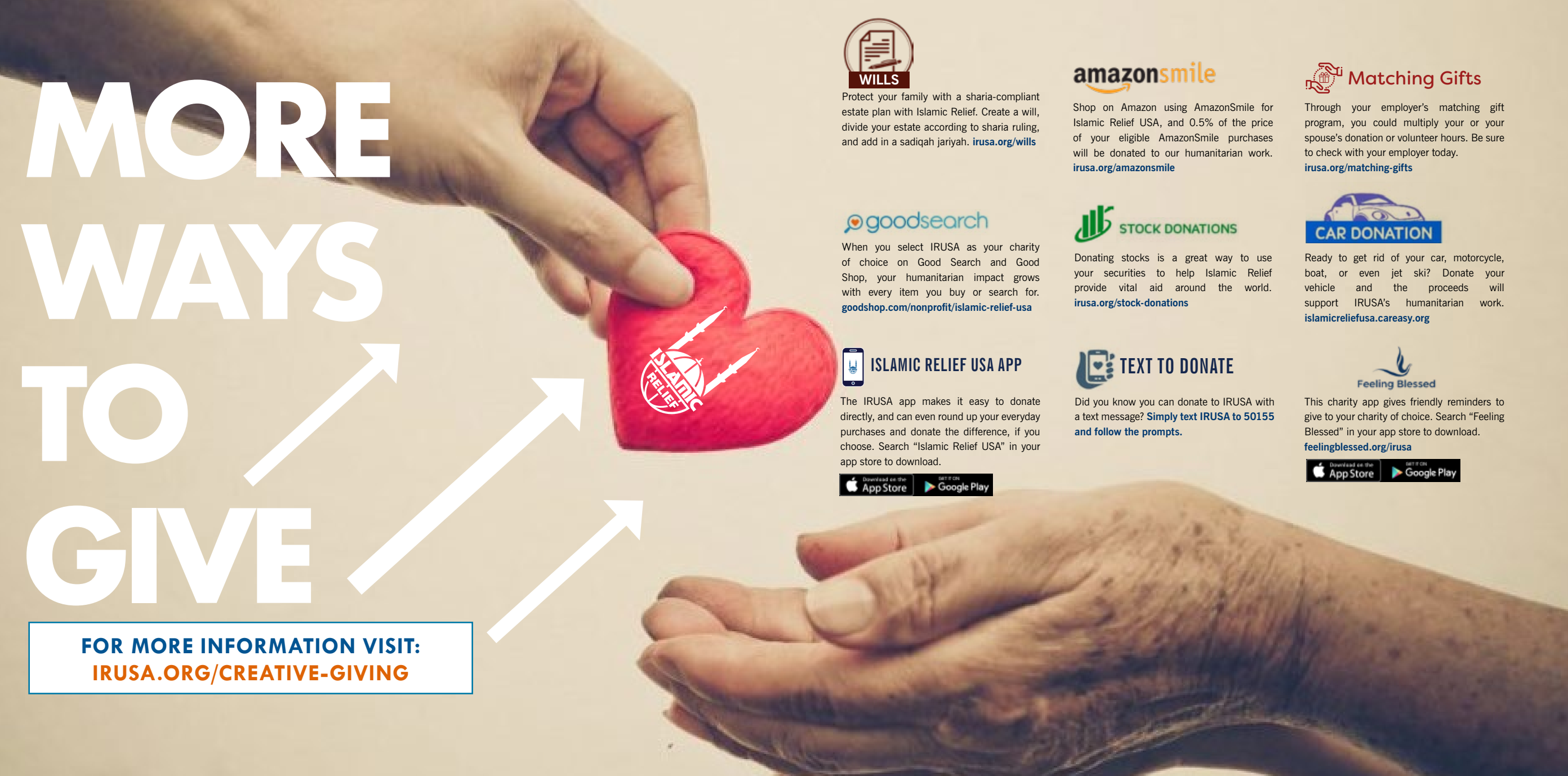
However, Wasim himself was starstruck by a young sister Alina Afzal, whose story represented what can happen when strangers come together to support those who aren't fortunate enough to have an entire family back them. When she was only in first grade, a generous donor from the United States began supporting Alina through Islamic Relief USA's orphan sponsorship program.

Alina started receiving a monthly stipend that supported her throughout her education and childhood. The sponsorship meant far more than just a monthly dollar amount. It symbolized opportunity, care, and hope. Alina is enrolled in her third year of medical school to become a physical therapist. She speaks about her dream to become a doctor with such confidence, it's as if it's already happened.

Thanks to brave souls like Alina we saw the possibility that lies in generous acts, and Wasim showed guests how excellence can bring hearts together for a cause.



IRUSA's Pakistan Celebrity Tour reaches out to hearts and minds while bringing stars to the forefront.



MORE WAYS TO GIVE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
[IRUSA.ORG/CREATIVE-GIVING](https://www.irusa.org/creative-giving)



WILLS
Protect your family with a sharia-compliant estate plan with Islamic Relief. Create a will, divide your estate according to sharia ruling, and add in a sadaqah jariyah. [irusa.org/wills](https://www.irusa.org/wills)



Shop on Amazon using AmazonSmile for Islamic Relief USA, and 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases will be donated to our humanitarian work. [irusa.org/amazonsmile](https://www.irusa.org/amazonsmile)



Matching Gifts
Through your employer's matching gift program, you could multiply your or your spouse's donation or volunteer hours. Be sure to check with your employer today. [irusa.org/matching-gifts](https://www.irusa.org/matching-gifts)



When you select IRUSA as your charity of choice on Good Search and Good Shop, your humanitarian impact grows with every item you buy or search for. [goodshop.com/nonprofit/islamic-relief-usa](https://www.goodshop.com/nonprofit/islamic-relief-usa)



Donating stocks is a great way to use your securities to help Islamic Relief provide vital aid around the world. [irusa.org/stock-donations](https://www.irusa.org/stock-donations)



Ready to get rid of your car, motorcycle, boat, or even jet ski? Donate your vehicle and the proceeds will support IRUSA's humanitarian work. [islamicreliefusa.careasy.org](https://www.islamicreliefusa.careasy.org)



ISLAMIC RELIEF USA APP

The IRUSA app makes it easy to donate directly, and can even round up your everyday purchases and donate the difference, if you choose. Search "Islamic Relief USA" in your app store to download.



TEXT TO DONATE

Did you know you can donate to IRUSA with a text message? **Simply text IRUSA to 50155 and follow the prompts.**



This charity app gives friendly reminders to give to your charity of choice. Search "Feeling Blessed" in your app store to download. [feelingblessed.org/irusa](https://www.feelingblessed.org/irusa)



“

THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PEACE BE UPON HIM) SAID:

“When a person dies, all their good deeds come to an end except three: Ongoing charity (Sadaqah Jariyah), beneficial knowledge and a righteous child who prays for them”

(An-Nasaa'i)

”



WILLS • DONOR ADVISED FUNDS • TRUSTS

The purpose of IRUSA Waqf is to perpetually sustain the mission and work of Islamic Relief USA. The principal of the Waqf fund is kept intact and invested in a shariah compliant manner while the returns are used to fund Islamic Relief USA's humanitarian efforts around the globe. Islamic Relief USA established this endowment so that we can continue to carry on our important work in the years to come. You can make a significant contribution to further our mission- and it's easier than you might think.

TO LEARN MORE: [IRUSAWAQF.ORG](https://www.irusawaqf.org) • [INFO@IRUSAWAQF.ORG](mailto:info@irusawaqf.org)



IRUSA'S NEW CHAIRMAN SHARES A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE AND BELIEF IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

Assalamu alaikum. Greetings of peace!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am writing to thank every one of our supporters who has helped work towards Islamic Relief USA's tremendous progress in recent years. Without your tenacity, innovation, and commitment to excellence, our organization would not have experienced such significant growth; it would not have emerged as a faith-based leader in the humanitarian and development sector.

Your support has meant life-changing service for people all over the world. And that support has never been as important as it is today. We are living in very interesting times, when our world is gripped by the coronavirus pandemic. It has affected us all in one way or another. I extend my prayers to you and your loved ones during this time, and I humbly ask that you keep us in your prayers as well.

We remain committed to working for a better world, and we will lean on our more than 25 years of experience and growth to propel us forward in the most efficient and effective ways possible within the scope of these new circumstances.

Every minute of our work, every moment of sacrifice, effort, and training has prepared us to do so, and we appreciate your continued partnership as we move forward. As this is my first letter in IRUSA's landmark Partnership magazine as chairman, I want to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Khaled Lamada for his outstanding leadership and service on the Board of Directors over the past five years. Through Dr. Khaled's leadership, IRUSA has been able to overcome a wide array of challenges and has continued to make an immense and meaningful impact on the lives of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

I also want to take this chance to thank IRUSA's staff and volunteer core, under the leadership of CEO Sharif Aly, whose ambition and drive has brought together a team of dedicated and hard working people for a common cause--it is because of all of you and your teamwork that IRUSA has achieved the many great things it has thus far.

It is a great privilege and honor to be entrusted with the responsibility of serving as IRUSA's chairman of the Board of Directors. As I embark on this critical role, I will work alongside my fellow board members to further propel IRUSA on its trajectory of growth and impact, and on advancing our imperative humanitarian mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this incredible organization that helps alleviate the hardships and challenges of millions of people across the world. I look forward to working with all of you to help drive IRUSA into its next level of success. May Allah (SWT) bless our efforts and allow the organization to continue to evolve. With Allah's permission, we will continue to bring hope in uncertain times.

Jazak Allah Khayrun.

Sincerely,

Hamadi Bengabsia
Chairman of the Board

