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INDO-PACIFIC

MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA, AND CENTRAL ASIA

March 10, 2024

Islamic Relief USA  
National Office  
3655 Wheeler Avenue  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Dear Friends,

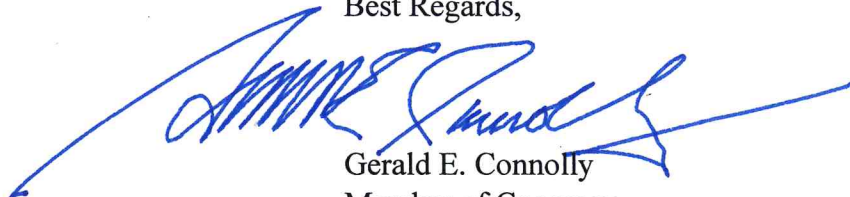
Asaalaamu Alaikum and Ramadan Mubarak! I am honored to once again join Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA) to welcome the beginning of Ramadan. This is a time of reflection, sacrifice, and spirituality for Muslims across the world, including hundreds of thousands in Northern Virginia and the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area.

Today, we join together to appreciate the important work Islamic Relief has done to alleviate poverty, hunger, and suffering around the world. IRUSA has provided support for nearly 200 community and social service organizations across the nation, providing food for the hungry, health care for the sick, and legal and communal support for refugees. They are here for our most vulnerable neighbors and have been a positive presence for over twenty years.

It is no secret that tensions are high right now. Amid rising instances of Islamophobia, I am proud to stand with IRUSA and the Muslim community to condemn religious bigotry of any kind. IRUSA's history of interfaith collaborations, working with various Christian and Jewish organizations to ensure humanitarian needs are met, serves as a testament to the solidarity and passion that drive their anti-hunger work. Islamic Relief USA continues to serve our community in Northern Virginia, and I applaud their efforts to create a safer and more secure world.

I would like to commend the invaluable civic engagement and immeasurable contributions of Islamic Relief USA and to thank you for your commitment to serving anyone in need.

Best Regards,



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress  
11<sup>th</sup> District, Virginia