

ZAKATNEWS

FALL 2022

CLIMATE DISASTERS HIT
NEAR & FAR

7

FIVE PATHS TO SADAQAH
JARIYAH

20

ZAKAT FOUNDATION & THE MOKHA
INSTITUTE PARTNER TO EMPOWER
YEMENI COFFEE FARMERS

28



Our Mission

Zakat Foundation of America fosters giving to alleviate the immediate needs of poor communities and to establish long-term development projects that ensure individual and community growth.

Our Vision

Zakat Foundation of America is unique among humani-tarian organizations in advancing zakat as a vehicle for social change. Zakat Foundation channels the egalitarian spirit of zakat into a global vision of social development that transcends national boundaries, and stands as the foremost authority on interpreting zakat as a factor for positive change.

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Letter From The Executive Director

Dearest Friends,

As salaamu alaykum; peace and blessing be unto you.

It has been a busy quarter, and we wanted to take time to chronicle our achievements and our upcoming projects to our beloved donors, supporters, and tireless volunteers. We hope the stories and information here illustrate to you the work we have done, but most importantly, that we couldn't have done it without YOU. We have spent a large part of the last few months working to deliver aid to those affected by extreme weather events that climate change has exaggerated. Climate change affects everyone; it is not something that we can turn a blind eye to. We are caretakers of God's gift of the Earth. The Quran reminds us that "greater indeed than the creation of man is the creation of the heavens and the Earth" (40:57).

As climate change worsens, extreme weather events will worsen too, affecting the most vulnerable among us. We must ensure those who represent us in politics are passing laws that will help curve climate change, and we must do our part at home. We have also been working at home and worldwide to ensure those in food deserts and those affected by natural or economic disasters have enough nourishment to survive. Thanks to your donations, we delivered food packages this past Ramadan and Udhiyah/Qurbani. We were able to respond to the victims of Hurricane Fiona and those in Afghanistan and Pakistan with food and clean water – praise be to God.

And thanks to your donations, we are responding to our brothers' and sisters' medical needs in places like Mauritania and Mali. In Mali, we have again launched our Pink October campaign to educate and screen over 3,000 women. In addition to the Pink October screenings, in Mauritania, we have also partnered with a local medical facility to bring needed dialysis to patients there in the hopes of improving their quality of life and their life expectancy, inshaAllah.

We are also happy to report on our partnership with The Mokha Institute and the success of its inaugural coffee auction. This partnership is one of a kind, and the auctioning of the coffee from Yemen will go a long way to bolster the Yemen coffee trade and help build the livelihoods of Yemeni coffee farmers.

Lastly, we have started working on delivering over 1 million tons of coal this winter to help warm those who have lost so much. It is virtually impossible to keep your family warm when you have lost everything to natural disasters or political turmoil. But we will need your help to reach this goal of 1 million tons because the harsh winter conditions are too cold to face alone.

InshaAllah, until next time.

Halil Demir

Halil Demir
Executive Director



When disasters strike, the most vulnerable suffer

No country, no government, no male, no woman, and no child is impervious to climate change's effects. As the earth's temperature increases, it will melt glaciers, such as the world's largest glacier in the mountains of Pakistan, which will cause flooding in the valleys below. And as the temperature increases, it will also increase the temperature of the oceans; as the oceans warm, the amount of water that evaporates into the air will increase. When more moisture-laden air moves over land or converges into a storm system, it produces more intense precipitation – meaning heavier rainfalls and far more intense storms.

As the monsoon seasons, hurricanes, snowstorms, and even average rainfall become more extreme; the most vulnerable will suffer. The situation is lethal for those who have not recovered from the last storm, those who are already food insecure, those who are sick or have a mobility disability, and those who have already been driven from their homes and are now refugees.



Emergency Relief

Preventing mosquito-borne diseases with Sudan flood relief

The effects of climate change can be seen in recent rainfalls that caused flash flooding and landslides in Sudan. Torrential rains have affected thousands, and authorities declared an emergency in six of the hardest-hit provinces in the country. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said at least 258,000 people had been affected by the flooding.

One Sudanese man said, "We woke up to water entering the homes and got out what we could. Every hour, we hear a house has fallen, a sewage system has collapsed, or a wall has come down. There is nothing left."

At Zakat Foundation of America, it is our solemn duty to channel your Zakat and Sadaqah aid into emergency provisions for those in urgent need of relief. When the people of Sudan were in need, we were there.

Thanks to your donations, Zakat Foundation of America responded by providing temporary shelters, safe and clean drinking water services, health and personal hygiene aids, sanitization requirements, and mosquito fog machines. While mosquito fog machines may seem odd, it is essential to remember that mosquitos breed in standing water and can carry and spread the Zika virus, West Nile virus, Chikungunya virus, dengue, and malaria; these machines can help protect already vulnerable people from becoming seriously ill.

"Our roots in Sudan run deep. Since 2007, we have truly seen the beauty of the people in Sudan during our work. We will never abandon the Sudanese, especially during their time of need."

— Halil Demir, Executive Director Zakat Foundation of America



Hurricane Fiona hits Puerto Rico hard

In September 2022, Hurricane Fiona hit the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico this was the first hurricane to make landfall in Puerto Rico since September 20, 2017, when Hurricane Maria struck and left thousands dead and triggered a blackout that lasted months for many of the island's more than 3 million residents.

Hurricane Fiona wiped out all of Puerto Rico's power and caused over \$2 billion in damage to the electrical grid. The winds and heavy rain from the hurricane washed away homes, roads, and bridges. Around a million people were left without access to potable water – water that is safe to drink and has been treated for microorganisms, bacteria, toxic chemicals, and viruses.

Seeing the suffering of our brothers and sisters, Zakat Foundation of America was there to aid them in their time of need. We delivered clean drinking water services, health and personal hygiene aids, sanitization requirements, and food aid. We could not have done any of this without your generous donations.

Pledging half a million dollars in aid to Pakistan

In August, monsoon rains fell as they usually do in Pakistan. This year, though, the damage was worse than anyone had expected. According to Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the rainfall was 500% above average in the southern Sindh and Balochistan provinces.

Over 33 million people have been affected by the floods. Over 1 million homes have been damaged. Two million acres of crops have been destroyed. The damages have affected over 800 health care facilities. Through the grace of Allah and your generous donations, Zakat Foundation of America was there and ready to respond; working with our local partners on the ground, in 14 days, we were able to get aid to over 43,000 beneficiaries – alhamdulillah.

We delivered medical supplies and hygiene kits, which they are in dire need of due to the loss of health care facilities. We provided tents and floor mats to help with the temporary shelter, food, and clean drinking water. But more importantly, we are delivering hope to those who have lost so much. And as anyone who has lived through catastrophic flooding will tell you, once the water is gone is when the real work begins. With so much destruction to farmland and crops, more than 1 in 9 children under five admitted to health facilities in Sindh and Balochistan flood-affected areas are suffering from severe malnutrition. Lack of clean water and standing water has started to lead to widespread skin and eye infections, malaria, typhoid, and dengue fever.

Zakat Foundation of America is still on the ground and working on getting further aid to those affected by this flooding. Our pledge to the people of Pakistan runs deep. Beyond assisting with emergency aid, we are on track to break ground for the Humanity Hospital and Medical Center in Lahore. This Humanity Hospital & Medical Center will provide compassionate, comprehensive health care focusing on heart-related diseases. This hospital will serve every patient with dignity, regardless of their ability to pay for services. The Medical Center will hold a service-over-fees model.

With an experienced, capable team on the ground, and with land already purchased, we are ready to build this hospital in the center of Lahore, Pakistan, with your help. Learn more at zakat.org.



Destructive earthquakes to deadly flash floods in Afghanistan

Afghanistan has been reeling from natural disasters this year, including earthquakes and flooding. Thanks to your generous donations, Zakat Foundation of America has been there to help those in need, delivering aid like medical supplies, temporary shelters, and food. In June 2022, a 6.2-magnitude earthquake rocked the provinces of Paktika and Khost in Afghanistan; it was the deadliest earthquake in Afghanistan since 1998. Thousands of homes were destroyed, thousands of people were severely injured, and 25 villages were decimated. Homes, schools, and hospitals were wiped away.

And just as the people were starting to put their lives back together, the country was struck with flash flooding and landslides. This flooding caused damage to 329 small dams and 441 major water channels, which exasperated the flooding and damage caused by the earthquake.

Alhamdulillah, Zakat Foundation of America was able to get aid to more than 6,000 people when they needed it most. People like Mardan, an 87-year-old farmer who is hearing impaired. Mardan has a family of nine and is the only source of income for the family. He said, *"I lost everything. My house and farmlands were destroyed. We, myself and my family, live in one tent. Can you imagine how hard it is to have 10 people living in a single tent?"*

And 12-year-old orphan Shukria. *"I wish my father were alive, or I had older brothers to support our family. Right now, our mother is the only breadwinner of our entire family. She sometimes does not earn anything or sometimes earns very little. She cannot provide us with food, let alone support our education," she said. "We sometimes even cannot go to school and must help our mother in her work to earn enough money to buy food and eat for that day."*

Upon receiving an aid package, she stated, *"Thank you to Zakat Foundation of America and its donors for their support. These blankets will keep me, my mother, and my sisters warm in our tent this winter."*

And there was Sadaqat, a 28-year-old farmer who is the sole income for his family, but he struggles to work due to the paralysis he has in his leg. When the earthquake struck, he lost his house, and the flooding turned his fields into a "muddy swamp."

He said, *"The floods have severely hit livelihoods in our village where most villagers depend on agriculture – either selling livestock or farming. We lost a year's worth of harvest to the deluge in a matter of hours. I lost my wheat stock, which was enough for almost five months of food for our entire family. Now there's nothing left for us." After he got an aid package, he said, "Thank you to the donors of Zakat Foundation. This wheat and bottles of cooking oil will help my family for a while, but winter is coming; we don't have anything – not even bedding. I do not know how we will live or keep the children warm."*

A winter too cold to face alone

This winter, Zakat Foundation of America is working to send over 1 million tons of coal to families like Sadaqat's and Shukria's who are desperate for warmth.

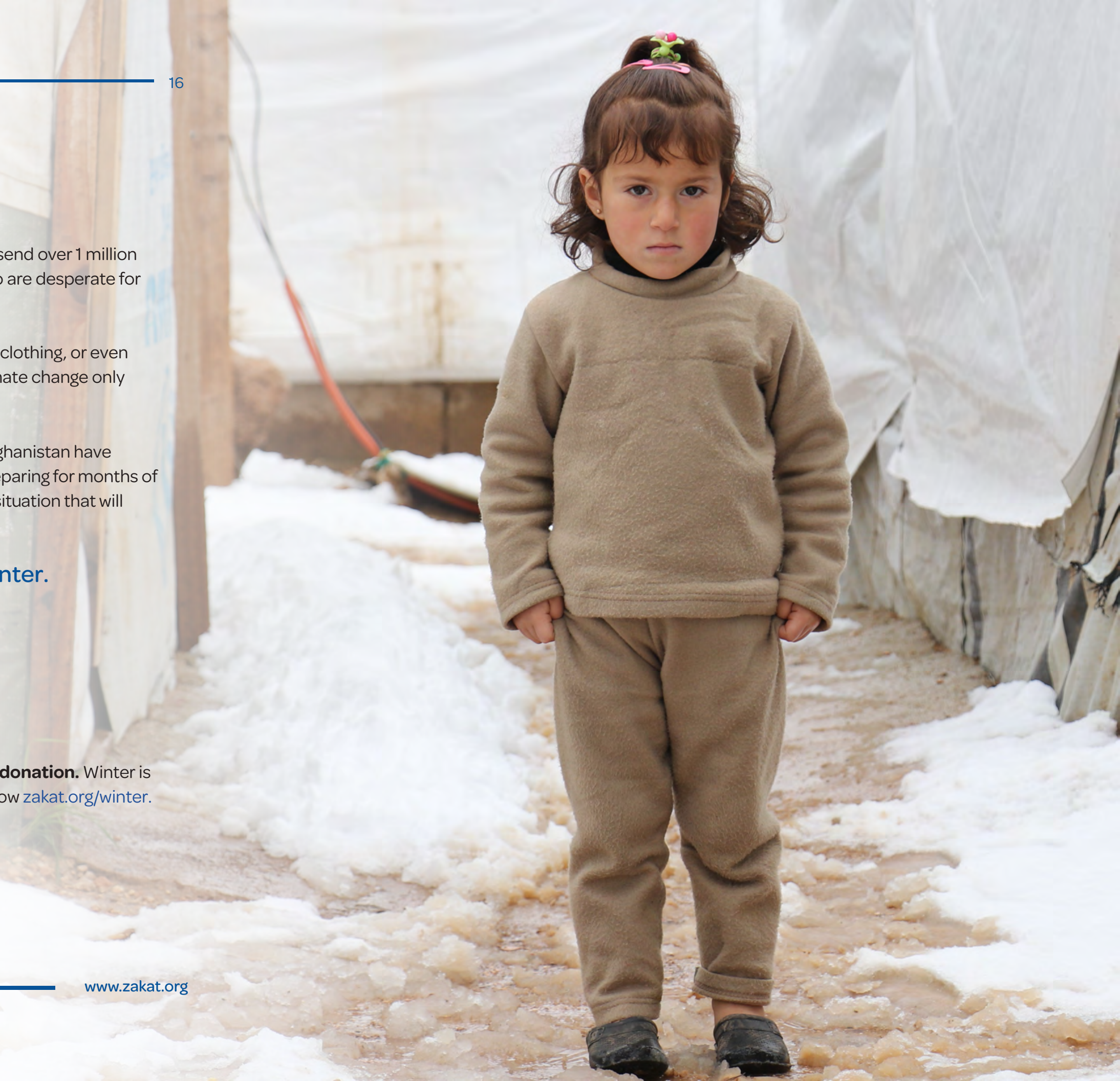
For millions worldwide, not having a heat source, warm clothing, or even proper shelter in the winter months is a reality, and climate change only exasperates the harsh winter conditions.

The unpredictable weather patterns in Pakistan and Afghanistan have destroyed their homes and crops, and now they are preparing for months of temperatures that will be at or below freezing. This is a situation that will endanger the lives of millions of people.

Join us in helping those suffering this winter.

1 family for \$175
3 families for \$525
5 families for \$875
10 families for \$1,750
20 families for \$3,500

It's not too late to give your **year-end tax-deductible donation**. Winter is around the corner and refugees need your help. Give now [zakat.org/winter](https://www.zakat.org/winter).



*Every living thing,
God made from water.
Water gives the gift of life.*

The gift of water
that flows from
your generosity
has benefitted
325,394 people.



🌊 Sadaqah Jariyah

Charity Ever-Flowing

Open the way to everlasting reward for your loved ones

LAST SEPTEMBER, THE bereaved family of beloved father Lutfi Abubaker put their foreheads to the ground in divine thanks for the special door of continuous blessings Allah had just opened into their departed father's grave. Suddenly, untold prayers were surging through it, piling into Lutfi's scales of good in the Hereafter.



The doors of the Hajj Lutfi Mutlaq Abubaker Mosque they built in his name in Aworano, Ghana, as a sadaqah jariyah, an ever-flowing charity, flung open on Sept. 27, 2022, to hundreds of worshippers who had no worthy prayer place, complete with a classroom to teach children Arabic. They had the same celebration in August, when the mosque they built for their mother Hajjah Wessal Taha opened in Galma Shira, Ethiopia, for a thousand villagers, along with the added sadaqah jariyah of a water well for all.

Nothing makes Allah's reward stream to our lost loved ones but the good in the world they are the cause of. Just three exclusive channels can start this continued cascade of blessings to them, and sadaqah jariyah is one.

The Prophet, on him be peace, urged us to seven springs of sadaqah jariyah:

"Of the good works whose benefit flows to a believer after death is knowledge one taught and spread, a righteous child who lived after one, a copy of the Quran that one left as inheritance, a mosque one built, a house one built for the two kinds of wayfarers [travelers and the displaced], a stream one ran [that is, dug or directed for others to benefit from], a charity given from one's wealth while healthy in life such that it will reach one [in reward] after death,' meaning the charity is given with that intent and not for the sake of one's cure from illness" (Ibn Majah).

When you give Sadaqah Jariyah, you are providing a lifeline that keeps on giving.



Special Sadaqah Jariyah donations in Pakistan

Special sadaqah jariyah donations built two much-needed mosques and an additional orphanage for girls in Pakistan. The Madina Mosque Aliput Muzaffargarh accommodates 150 worshippers and 12 Quran studies students in a village of about 5,200 that had no proper prayer place.

The Jamia Masjid Akbari Gujranwala holds 200 worshippers and 20 Quran studies students. With special charity, Zakat Foundation of America also constructed the new Bashir Begum

Chaudhry Girls Orphanage to comfortably serve 60 orphan girls, as our partner orphanage in the area had no more space to house these vulnerable children.



Rwanda

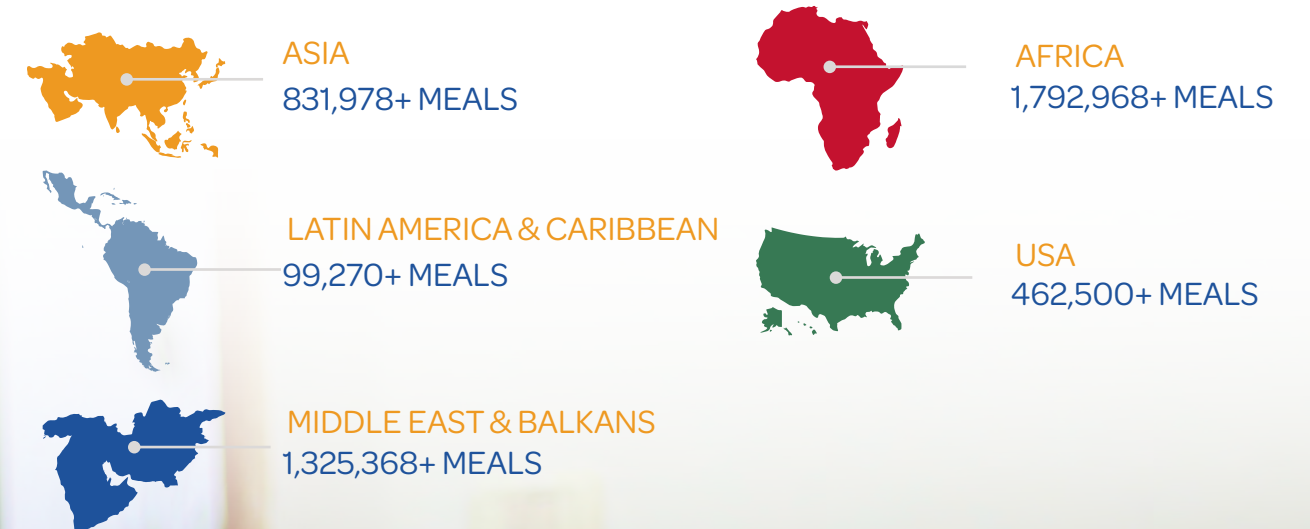
Nothing is more important than open education in this nation that suffered one of the great communal calamities of our time, and your contributions have made this education possible. The newly built Leutrim Hoxha Education Center now holds vocational training facilities for teen mothers and others who have left school, teaching them tailoring. It also has a library for the Quran education of children. Currently, 160 vocational learners train there while another 208 students use its facilities.

Zakat Foundation of America provides five paths to sadaqah jariyah for you and your loved ones: Mosque Construction, Water Well and Hand Pump digging, Orphan Sponsorship, the Livestock Husbandry Project, and Refugee Empowerment.



Your generosity and our extensive network of field and partner offices fed 4,275,441 meals across five continents this Ramadan and Hajj season.

SEASONAL ISLAMIC GIVING FOOD PACKAGES



Food Security



ZAKAT
FOUNDATION
OF AMERICA

RAMADAN

Quality

Ramadan 2022

During Ramadan alone, your aid provided more than 1.4 million pounds of food in addition to more than 514,000 warm iftar meals. And when it comes to food packages that you donated to last a family of five for the entire month, you gave more than 2.67 million meals. That doesn't include the United States, where we plated more than 440,000 meals, far exceeding our goal of 100,000 meals.

Thank you for creating food security among the hungry in our world.



Udhiyah/Qurbani

Just in Hajj time, for Udhiyah (Qurbani), your generosity and Zakat Foundation's extensive network of field and partner offices fed more than **1.35 million meals** to children, women, and men in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and the United States.

The world hunger lock and the Udhiyah key Reviving the spirit of sacrifice from the Quran and its Messenger



HUNGER BOLTS SHUT the stomachs of some 828 million people. At least 45 million are children starving to death. Most are Muslims – in Yemen, Somalia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Syria, Sudan, and Pakistan.

It's not that the earth doesn't produce enough food. It's that we have **the steep road.**"

"And do you realize what is the steep road? It is ... offering food on to an orphan who is a relative, or to an indigent person who is

(Surat Al-Balad, 90:11-16).

Yet Allah has given us one of the great keys to unlock hunger's people from famine: the udhiyah/qurbani sacrifice.

He told us clearly its worldly purpose: When Muslims faced on him be peace, commanded the Companions:

"Any one of you who offers sacrifice, let none of it be left in day.' The next year, the Companions asked: 'O Messenger did last year? He said: 'No. That year people were hard-wanted the udhiyah meat to be distributed among

Last Hajj, your udhiyah enabled Zakat Foundation specialists to hand-deliver 1.35 million fresh meat meals to hungry families on five continents.

"How pleased I was to receive this udhiyah meat today ... to give to my children," said Qurban Ali of Nepal.

His friend Khalil Limbu added:

"You provided udhiyah meat for us to have joy this Eid. We are too happy and pray for you all."

Zakat Foundation aid workers across the globe have udhiyah-quality livestock that they Islamically slaughter and professionally butcher. How pleasing to Allah is a sadaqah that ascends the "steep road" to feed the starving!





Saving Lives and Building
Futures with Coffee

 Livelihoods

In February 2022, Zakat Foundation of America took the unprecedented steps to become the first nonprofit to support The Mokha Institute’s flagship project, the historic inaugural National Yemen Coffee Auction. Yemen is facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis as the war continues to loom during a tenuous truce between the Houthis and Sunni tribes. It has decimated infrastructure, health care, food security, educational opportunities, and more.

Zakat Foundation of America has been working in Yemen since we opened our doors 20 years ago, and we knew that this unprecedented crisis was when our Yemeni brothers and sisters needed us most. Over the years, we have supported Yemeni farmers with seeds and livestock, so empowering Yemeni coffee farmers and aiding them in bringing their coffee to the world stage while delivering hope to the Yemeni people was a natural progression. Thus, we entered into our relationship with The Mokha Institute to help them revive Yemen’s legendary history of coffee cultivation and to bring sustainable livelihoods to the hardworking honorable people of Yemen.

The Mokha Institute is a nonprofit that helps Yemeni farmers grow and sell coffee to create and further self-sustainable livelihoods. It addresses infrastructure needs, implements coffee production best practices, and improves access for Yemeni coffee producers to the global market for specialty coffee. And that’s why we have partnered with The Mokha Institute to expand its reach, benefitting even more Yemenis.

And we are proud to announce that The Mokha Institute’s flagship program, the National Yemen Coffee Auction (NYCA), held its inaugural auction with great success this past August. This is the only auction in Yemen with unanimous support from Yemen’s coffee community that gives farmers direct access to the global coffee market.

161 submissions underwent rigorous testing, grading, and examination; this was narrowed down to the best 28 lots featured in the auction. While most of the auction lots sold for at least \$25 per pound, a 77-pound top-scoring lot was bought by a Tennessee-based roasting company for \$60.50 per pound.

The highest bid in the auction came from an Australian wing of an importing company; the company offered \$78 per pound for a 47-pound lot of coffee. **All the auction proceeds go directly to the farmer who produced the coffee lots, allowing farmers a more sustainable livelihood.**



“The National Yemen Coffee Auction brings coffee – a Yemeni cultural staple – to the global stage. We at Zakat Foundation of America believe The Mokha Institute will help Yemeni coffee farmers achieve financial independence to uplift their families and communities.”

– Halil Demir, executive director of Zakat Foundation of America

Through our partnership with The Mokha Institute, we will continue our commitment to helping the Yemeni people during this dire time. With sustainable livelihood initiatives like this, we are bringing life-saving programs and the promise of hope and prosperity in the years to come.

“Zakat Foundation of America has been a relentless supporter of our work and believers in our mission to transform Yemen’s economy through its coffee sector. We at The Mokha Institute, extend our heartfelt gratitude to them for their sponsorship and continued support for Yemen, its coffee industry, and its people.”

– Mokhtar Alkhanshali, founder of The Mokha Institute





Zakat Foundation Of America Redefines Humanity One Sponsor At A Time

Passion projects and the people that fuel them continue to evolve into professions serving diverse populations in need across the globe. The Zakat Foundation of America recently celebrated 20 years of service, bringing relief to thousands. The 9-Pillar Program steeped in the basics of human necessity continues to evolve to meet an expanded menu of needs for global citizens of all ages in increasingly dire straits.

The Orphan Sponsorship Program illustrates both the challenge and the opportunity to radically alter historical approaches to match child, need, and sponsor together in a more balanced effort to realize sustainable results across gender and age of orphan.

On the heels of this reporter’s trip to the Sub-Saharan nation of Senegal, a deeper dive seemed appropriate to understand the business of education and offerings within the world of foundational support.



Orphan Sponsorship

Purpose Driven Profession

Amna Mirza, the Chief Marketing Officer of the Zakat Foundation of America, spent time with this reporter representing a shift in generational and professional pursuits in the name of legacy building.

Like many in her generation, Mirza, an accomplished marketer in the private sector, found lackluster results in the professional ranks filling her ‘proverbial’ cup of meaning. The Zakat Foundation of America met her cultural and personal needs to utilize her professional muscle for good.

The humanitarian aid organization focuses on food insecurity, clean water, pumps, educational efforts, and orphan care. Operating in over 50 countries, the Muslim-run organization comprises a small team that maximizes efforts.

Zakat infuses highly effective lean programs that utilize 94 cents for every dollar secured. In addition, emergency relief programs are provided with 100% of the funds allocated to programs. This remarkably giving ratio also applies to Zakat’s Orphan Sponsorship Program.

Zakat operates like the startup world, maintaining flexibility within the moment to meet on-demand and global needs. The orphan program embodies this approach as the definition and understanding of what an orphan is and the fluidity of its evolving meaning.

Mirza notes that with increasing global conflicts, many children may still physically have their parent(s), yet their parents are ill-equipped and in crisis. As a result, many offspring are hopelessly alone and inadequately prepared for independence of necessity. Zakat considers these youth as orphans clearing the way for an often marginalized group of children to experience the love and support of donors from across the planet.



Mirza adds, “The estimates of orphans around the world are incredibly conservative (153 million) and more likely north of 200 million. The focus needs to adapt to include children who, resulting from war and other conflicts, find themselves with little to no rearing or support to avoid the dangers of food or water insecurities.”

The Zakat Foundation of America considers orphans up to 18 years of age to account for the delicate and day-to-day nature of young people unfortunately left to their own devices with often little to no resources to access.

“We are seeing children become orphans because of conflict and natural disasters. Unrelenting war puts a toll on the necessities of life and creates conditions where caregivers run the risk of becoming physically or mentally disabled. It renders their respective parenting efforts ineffective or nonexistent. The need is real and ever-evolving.”

In a collective attempt to better serve young people, the Foundation takes a concerted look at how orphan sponsorship programs present candidates to the masses, making a sound and calculated risk.

Legacy Building

The Zakat Foundation of America recently celebrated 20 years of service and continues to work diligently to ensure that most donations go directly to the cause. They have approximately three thousand orphans that have been sponsored with a goal of 10 thousand by 2023.

To achieve its goal, the Zakat Foundation of America continues to explore methods to better approximate the number of children in need. Historically, humanitarian programs that support orphans or refugee children focus on the power of personal photos to drive sponsorship. Often, a majority of those selected for sponsorship are the youngest children with fair skin who are most likely female.

The Zakat Foundation of America altered the traditional algorithm and removed photos to level the proverbial playing field. Following the strategic shift, the first young person sponsored was a 17-year-old boy. Mirza and the team knew they had stumbled upon a tectonic shift in sponsorship programs and continue to see a broader and more diverse representation of sponsored young people because of the effort.



“There is no room for bias—conscious or unconscious—when offering help,” Mirza said. “In a humanitarian organization, there is even less room for conditional support. We have seen that younger girls with fairer skin and lighter eyes were sponsored more often than older boys with darker skin. It had to end.”

The organization understands that what might work in concept could experience challenges at each cultural ‘checkpoint’ before new rules of engagement take hold. “It’s a risky move to remove orphan photos, as many of our donors enjoy the experience of seeing an orphan’s picture before they sponsor the child,” said Khalil Demir, the organization’s executive director. “But I know that goodness and human kindness will prevail, and our donors and people just like them will choose to love and support an orphan unconditionally.”

Mirza finds solace in a career that provides opportunities beyond slick advertising campaigns and first-world problems. “I have worked in the for-profit and not-for-profit marketing worlds. I have worked with large budgets, and I found it tiresome to continually try to spin creative stories about benign products and services. I am getting the opportunity to impact storytelling in a very human-centered way.”

That story includes the comprehensive approach and benefits of securing stability for sponsored orphans through monthly donations of \$50. Food, shelter, education, and healthcare support the orphan’s ability to attend school, receive well-checks from local doctors and maintain consistent food and shelter.

The Zakat Foundation, powered by Mirza’s efforts, has been recognized for passionate storytelling by the Hermes Creative Marketing Awards, awarding the nonprofit with its highest honor, the Platinum Award.



“We [Zakat Foundation] have smaller budgets, but brilliant people who really want to use their power for good,” states Mirza.

For-profit employers used to be at a hiring advantage over nonprofits. Incoming generations of workers are looking beyond the traditional benefits of main street.

Today, employees' general understanding of benefit packages goes far deeper than health insurance, gym memberships, and extended vacation opportunities. The latest generation to enter the workplace seeks meaning above financial status and connection over job title.

Amna Mirza appears to have the freedom to exercise her vast set of talents against a canvas of human connection and the overarching opportunity to permanently impact the lives of the most fragile.



The story of Aumniah

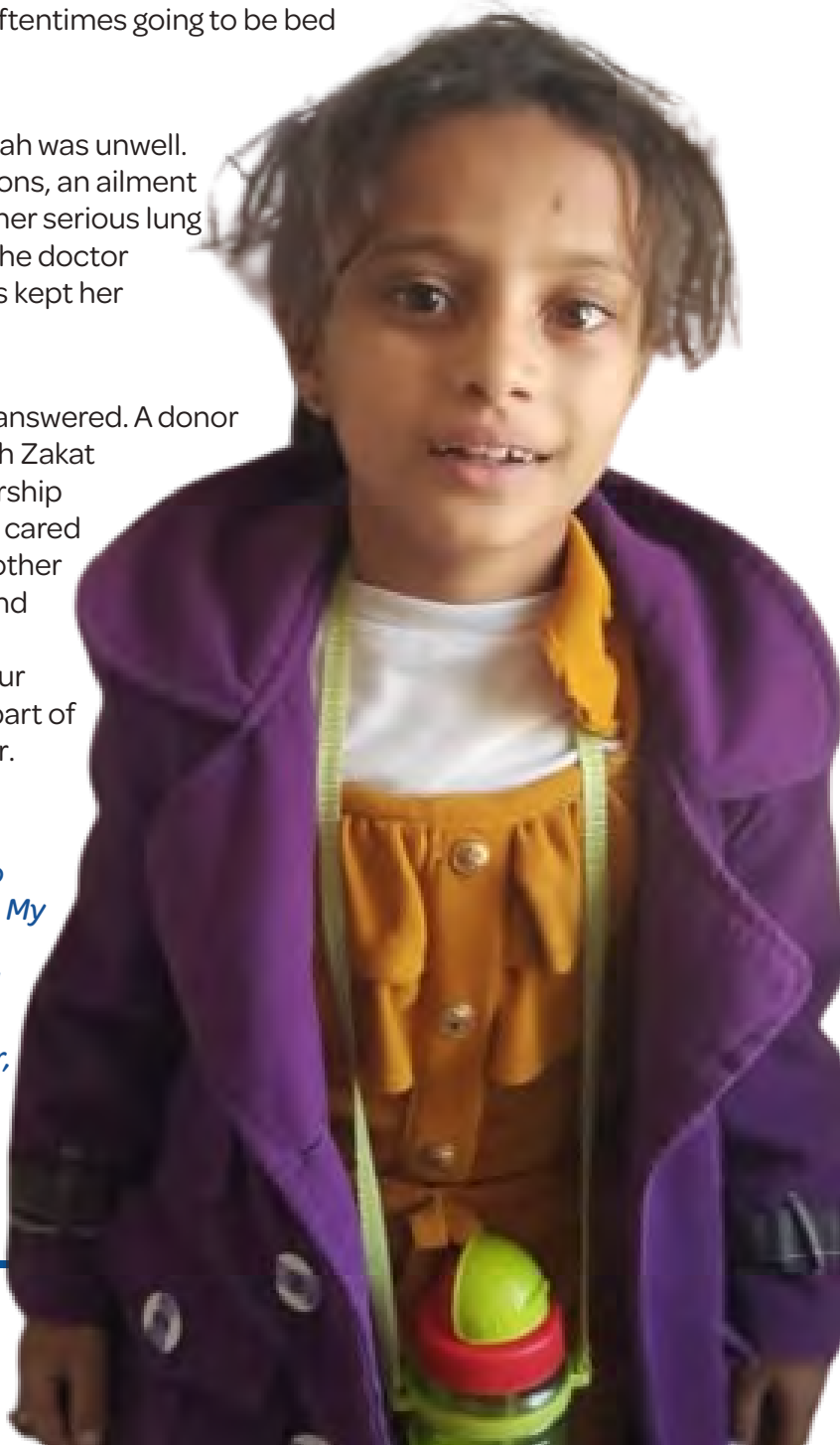
Aumniah has suffered more than any young child should. Basic, everyday needs such as shelter and food weighed heavily on her mother’s shoulders. How could she provide? How could she care for her children?

Like countless other mothers in Yemen, Aumniah’s mother has an unreliable income due the devastated economy and civil war. Buying clothing for her daughter or new school supplies was a luxury Aumniah’s mother couldn’t even think about knowing that food was not guaranteed, oftentimes going to be bed hungry herself so her children could eat.

On top of all this stress and worry, Aumniah was unwell. She suffered from persistent lung infections, an ailment that kept her out of school for risk of further serious lung damage. The family could afford to visit the doctor regularly. Aumniah’s breathing difficulties kept her childhood at bay.

Then, innocent Aumniah’s prayers were answered. A donor from oceans away sponsored her through Zakat Foundation of America’s orphan sponsorship program. For \$50 a month, Aumniah was cared for, her school fees were covered, her mother could pay for most of her medical bills, and her family could easily purchase her medication. Through God’s grace and your generous monthly sponsorship, a small part of Aumniah’s childhood was returned to her.

“My family and I are grateful to our supporters (donors) and everyone who participated in providing that support. My mother and I have used some of the monthly benefits to see my doctor and pay for the medicine to treat my lungs. The treatment helps me breathe better, and I am able to go school.”



Last year alone, 3,197 volunteers spent 10,000+ hours leading nearly 900 events across the country. Thank you!

Our community engagement and outreach team is on the ground, volunteering and organizing events year-round within the communities they serve. Our outreach team is the lifeblood of Zakat Foundation of America's grassroots community-level work; without them, we might not be able to transform the lives of those in need in our very own backyard. Thank you for being a part of our outreach programs day in and day out.

Our teams across the country work with community leaders, elected officials, civil servants, religious leaders, partners, and our beloved volunteers to better serve those in need.

Love Never Fails

Zakat Foundation of America is proud to be partnering with Love Never Fails, a nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring, educating, and protecting those involved or at risk of becoming involved in domestic human trafficking. The Love Never Fails organization was formed in December 2011 after one of the founder's teenage dance students was sold into human trafficking.

This partnership will serve as a vital addition to our domestic outreach efforts. Zakat Foundation will provide girls in its Youth Safe House with a variety of healthy foods that are well-balanced and nourishing for growing bodies. Providing these girls aged 14-17 with healthy food options and a full pantry means they don't have to worry about where their next meal will come from, allowing them to focus on school and recovery.

This new partnership aims to restore the hope and dignity of at-risk youth while protecting them from becoming victims of human trafficking.

Zakat Foundation of America awards \$25,000 in scholarships

Education makes people independent; it increases knowledge, strengthens the mind, and forms character. Education enables people to put their potential to the greatest use. And we believe in investing in future generations with education.

Through our Scholarship Program, we are excited to support and celebrate the outstanding volunteer achievements of incoming college students. Learn how you helped support them on their journey of uplifting our communities through charity and service.

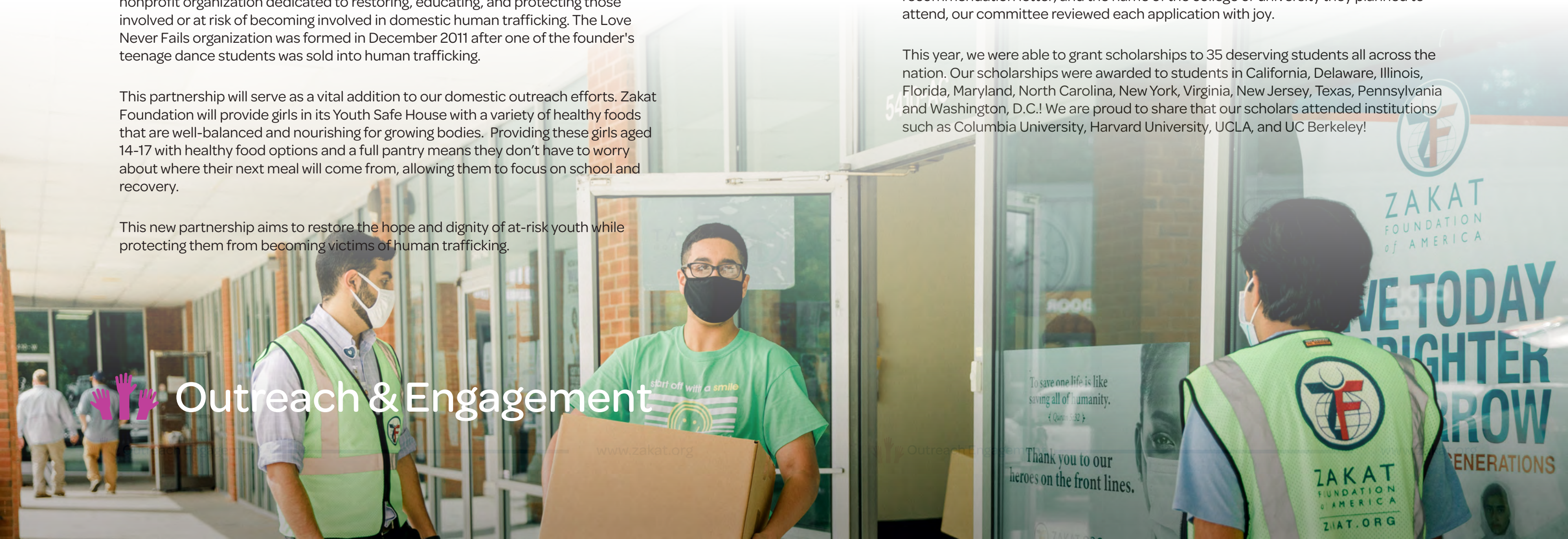
We're honored to offer \$25,000 in scholarships to those most dedicated to community service.

We asked high school seniors who had volunteered with Zakat Foundation of America for at least 30 hours in a 12-month period to write an essay on the community service projects they participated in and how the work impacted their lives. Along with a recommendation letter, and the name of the college or university they planned to attend, our committee reviewed each application with joy.

This year, we were able to grant scholarships to 35 deserving students all across the nation. Our scholarships were awarded to students in California, Delaware, Illinois, Florida, Maryland, North Carolina, New York, Virginia, New Jersey, Texas, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C.! We are proud to share that our scholars attended institutions such as Columbia University, Harvard University, UCLA, and UC Berkeley!



Outreach & Engagement



Move for Kids Walkathon!

This past October, volunteers participated in a Move for Kids Walkathon to help send care kits to children in need and help support orphans worldwide. They needed to make a walking team, register, walk, track, and send walking information to our community engagement team to participate. We are thankful for the 142 volunteers from 11 states, 30 cities, and 3 countries who helped care for orphans worldwide with our Walkathon. Thanks to them, we have raised \$4,000+ and counting.

Every step matters! 🌸

“Whoever comes to Me walking, I will come to him running. Whoever meets Me with enough sins to fill the earth, not associating any partners with Me, I will meet him with as much forgiveness.”

— Prophet Muhammad, on him be peace, speaking of God’s mercy on all of us



Cards for compassion

The main driving force of our humanitarian work is compassion. This compassion for others is what inspired our Cards for Compassion Project.

The pandemic highlighted the acute loneliness so many in our community felt, especially our seniors.

Cards for Compassion is our way of showing we care, via beautifully designed, handmade cards with thoughtful and inspirational messages, for seniors across the country.

Our Cards for Compassion project has given over 2,300 cards to seniors in assisted living care facilities in 11 states! We sincerely thank our 100 volunteers for distributing 700 masks to protect our seniors.



Pink October

October is known worldwide as Pink October, the month related to breast cancer prevention and early diagnosis. Known as October Rosa in some countries, it has been observed for the last 90 years and is used to share information about breast cancer and, more recently, cervical cancer. The idea is to promote cancer awareness, provide greater access to diagnostic services and reduce mortality.

In 2020, 2.3 million women were diagnosed with breast cancer; by the end of 2020, there were 7.8 million women alive who had been diagnosed with breast cancer over the past five years; and more than 2,700 men are diagnosed with breast cancer as well. 65% of breast cancer cases are diagnosed at a localized stage, meaning that cancer has not spread outside of the breast, for which the five-year relative survival rate is 99% in developed nations. That makes it the world's most prevalent cancer, and early detection is a critical factor.

Yet, in many developing nations, the primary medical care for early detection and the education around the importance of self-examinations is challenging and, in some situations, can be the difference between life and death.

That is why, thanks to Allah and your generous donations, Zakat Foundation of America is working hard in countries like Mali and Mauritania to educate on cancer awareness and increase access to cancer treatments.

In 2021, we were able to screen more than 1,000 women for breast and cervical cancer; we were able to treat other illnesses that were diagnosed during these screenings and refer positive cases for further treatment. This year, in 2022, our goal is to educate, screen, and treat upwards of 8,000 women in Mali and Mauritania.

We have increased our goal this year over last due to the massive influx of women seeking information and treatment, which indicated there is an unmet need for cervical cancer screening. Even after the campaign had ended, women continued to call for information on referrals to health care providers for screening. InshaAllah, we can continue this important work and reach all those seeking information and treatment. We're well on our way, already having screened X# of underserved women, in X# of clinics, in X# of cities. This critical work will flow through the end of November.



Health & Wellness



Health & Wellness

www.zakat.org

Kidney failure in Mauritania

We don't often stop to think about our kidneys, those two bean-shaped organs that sit below our ribcage on each side of our spine. Nor do we think about how important they are. They clean toxins from our blood, returning filtered, nutrient-rich blood to the bloodstream, and helping regulate blood pressure. But an estimated 2 million people worldwide are affected by kidney failure, requiring them to have regular dialysis.

Some people develop kidney problems for no known reason. Kidney failure can be a long-term condition or come on suddenly after an injury or severe illness like high blood pressure, diabetes, and lupus. But what is dialysis? If our kidneys don't filter blood the way they should, wastes and toxins build up in our bloodstream. Dialysis does the work of your kidneys, removing waste products and excess fluid from the blood.

Thousands of patients in underserved, poverty-stricken regions forgo seeking care due to financial restraints and lack of access to care. Many remain undiagnosed and suffer in silence. We take our mission in serving the most vulnerable populations seriously, and an overwhelming part of this service is to administer health care where most needed. That is why your Zakat Foundation of America has taken on a tremendous project to administer dialysis care in Mauritania.

We are proud to announce that we have partnered with the National Hospital Center in Mauritania to improve dialysis for more than 300 patients suffering from kidney failure. This partnership will enhance the quality of life for those suffering, and ultimately, it will improve the conditions in the dialysis ward and increase the survival rate, inshaAllah. With your support, we can make this a multi-year project where hundreds more benefit.

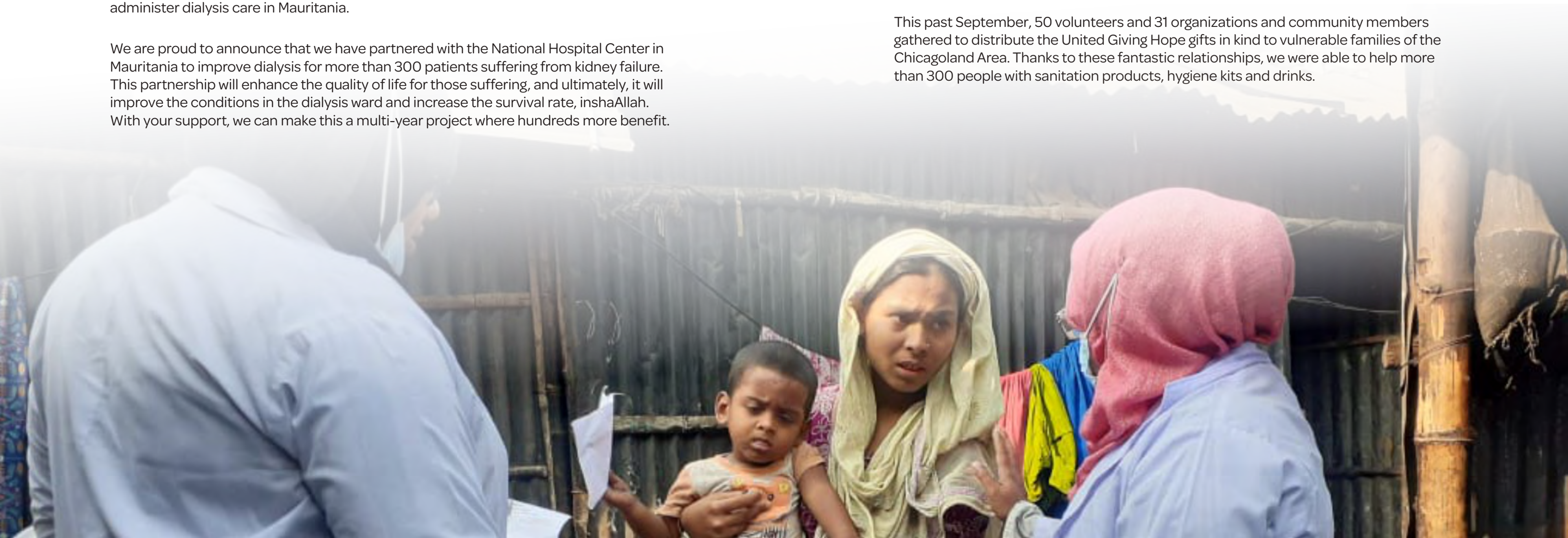
Zakat Foundation of America partnership delivers aid to Chicagoland

United Giving Hope was founded by humanitarian and civil rights activist Julie Contreras. Julie has been carrying out emergency interventions for immigration cases across the United States, Mexico, Central America, South America and other countries across the globe for the past 35 years.

Julie has helped hundreds of individuals fleeing human trafficking, extreme violence, and persecution. She has helped feed and provide essential resources to thousands of families in the U.S. and abroad through her many community events. Julie has also provided courageous leadership and support in community efforts to pursue justice for victims of discrimination and violence in the United States.

United Giving Hope has been a Zakat Foundation of America partner for the last two years. Zakat Foundation recognizes the support United Giving Hope and Julie Contreras have given us over the years; recently, we have received items to be distributed to those in need.

This past September, 50 volunteers and 31 organizations and community members gathered to distribute the United Giving Hope gifts in kind to vulnerable families of the Chicagoland Area. Thanks to these fantastic relationships, we were able to help more than 300 people with sanitation products, hygiene kits and drinks.



Visit to Pakistan & Afghanistan

Our Executive Director, Halil Demir, traveled to Pakistan and Afghanistan to discuss current and upcoming projects with dignified officials, medical professionals and partners.

During his week in both countries, Demir was pleased to follow up on projects that have been running for the past 20 years and see the impact they've had on local communities. Among the locations he visited were: the Rumi Boarding School for orphans in Haripur, the Khubaib Foundation in Haripur, the Rural Education and Development (READ) Foundation Girls' School in Islamabad, Paraplegic Center Peshawar, the Ministry of Education and Health in Kabul, a Red Crescent Hospital in Kabul.

He also visited the future site of Humanity Hospital Lahore in Pakistan and participated in a food distribution in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Our Executive Director was able to share the work that Zakat Foundation of America has done for over 20 years in Pakistan and Afghanistan and how our humanitarian organization plans to continue doing critical work in the region to help uplift the most vulnerable.



Halil Demir participates in a gathering of NGOs and humanitarian organizations arranged by Dr. Tariq Cheema, Country Director Alight, Pakistan, at his residence in Islamabad, Pakistan.



Halil Demir and the Zakat Foundation of America delegation visit a Khubaib Foundation orphanage, with which they partner, and are greeted with cards.



Ilyas Syed (Paraplegic Centre Peshawar's CEO, third from left) speaks with Halil Demir as they tour the Paraplegic Center.



Zakat Foundation of America's Raza Farrukh (U.S. Development/ Planning Advisor, left) and Halil Demir tour a site in Lahore, Pakistan, where they intend to construct a hospital.



Halil Demir chats with beneficiaries at a food distribution in Kabul.



Patients at the Paraplegic Center Peshawar play a game in the facility's courtyard.

Rendering of Humanity Hospital & Medical Center in Lahore, Pakistan.

A Winter Too Cold to Face Alone

Winter is still here. It's not too late to send your year-end, tax-deductible donation.

WINTER DONATION OPTIONS

\$175 warms 1 family all winter

\$525 warms 3 families all winter

\$875 warms 5 families all winter

\$1,750 warms 10 families all winter

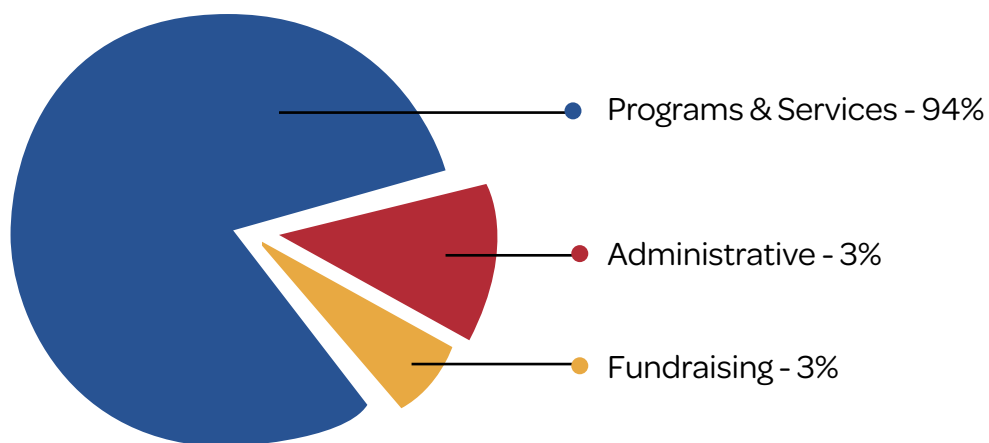
\$3,500 warms 20 families all winter

zakat.org/winter



Rooted in Transparency

In 2021, 94¢ from each dollar donated went directly toward programs serving those in need. 3¢ went to administrative costs & 3¢ went to fundraising costs.



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