



AMAANA HANDS INC.

“Whoever is kind, Allah will be kind to him; therefore, be kind to man on the earth. He who is in heaven will show mercy on you.”
(Abu Daud, Tirmidhi)



“What actions are most excellent?
To gladden the heart of human beings, to feed the hungry, to help the afflicted, to lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful, and to remove the sufferings of the injured.” (Bukhari)

In The Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Assalamu 'Alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuhu

Blessed are those who take care of the ones in need, for verily, they are the ones who will stand with the Prophet (PBUH) on the Day of Judgement. We pray for your salvation and may you be rewarded for your kindness and charity.

We are pleased to report a successful year of AH helping the poor through numerous initiatives. As our organization continues to expand with assistance to those in need in multiple regions of the world, we have been provided with opportunities to aid in new areas of necessity.

In 2017 and 2018, AH supported children and students who are blind in various countries with the memorization of the Qur'an. We nurtured orphans and the elderly. We financed and encouraged the autonomy of single mothers. We served as a resource center and support network for survivors of rape and domestic violence. In doing so, we have coordinated international outreach in new sites; we have also expanded the number of cases we undertake domestically.

I would like to relate to you the experience of a brother who, for many years, sought assistance from several organizations to pay for his heart procedure but was repeatedly denied. AH was informed of his predicament and immediately paid for the procedures to be done. AH followed up by paying the renovation costs of his house and subsidizing his monthly expenses. This is only one of the innumerable cases AH has engaged with. Imagine the joy of those who express solace after receiving assistance in their plight. Try to envision the relief of people whose medical procedures were paid for. Consider the relief of parents upon receiving a monthly grocery hamper to nourish their children. Imagine the sincere expression of gratitude of a refugee after accessing pure drinking water, or even the elation of an orphan child putting on new clothing for the first time. For all of this and more, your Zakaah and donations have helped to actualize these emotions for the poverty-stricken.

With the guidance of Allah (SWT), your care, and our diligent volunteers, all of these accomplishments are attainable. Thank you for all of your support; we seek your commitment to confidently grasp the hand in need.

Respectfully yours,

Zeleena Hack
Executive Director (Volunteer)

Your donations are not a simple handout, but a blessed hand up!

OUR FOUNDATION IS TRUST

"Empowering the Poor and Needy with Dignity and Respect"

OUR MISSION

To provide support to struggling individuals and families so that they can sustain themselves, build assets and acquire self-sufficiency to improve their standard of living.

OUR VISION

We believe that your donations can create a brighter future for those who live in the wells of darkness. We hope that everyone who we encounter can experience life at its fullest as they work to reach their potential.



A 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization • Tax ID # 11-3488344

MEDICAL

In the past few months, AH supported medical aid for cases in Guinea, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Guyana, Morocco, Senegal, and the U.S. Being physically sick causes even the most fortunate of us to feel worried. For many who struggle with finances, it feels hopeless and exhausting. **How will they provide for their family if the costs of treatment are so high? Who will they ask for help and who is willing to help? Who cares enough to try to help lift some of their burden?** By Allah's grace, it is your contributions that evoke tears of relief when the unfortunate sick ones receive your help. AH finances costs for medications, weekly dialysis treatment, surgeries, cancer therapy, healthcare supplies, and more. **One recipient, an Iraqi refugee single parent with 4 children living in Orlando, avoided a crucial spinal surgery for over a year.** She feared that she wouldn't be able to work and pay her rent. Despite her struggles with excruciating pains, she worked until she wasn't medically fit to do so. She was ultimately forced to complete the surgery. Alhamdulillah, with your support, AH paid her April 2018 rent. We were pleased that our volunteers visited her after surgery; visiting the sick is among our priorities. May Allah accept from all of us and enrich your life with 'aafiyah (well-being).

A MOTHER'S DETERMINATION AFTER EVERY CRUSHING REJECTION



Sokhna is a shy, bright 9 year old girl from Senegal. She was born blind but at 9 months old she gained the gift of sight. As she grew, she developed scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine. With limited means for daily survival, Sokhna's father felt helpless and ashamed. He settled that this was Sokhna's destiny and that she should remain with the deformity of her spine. Soon after, he abandoned his family; Sokhna's mother, Nbou, was left to care for her and her 2 siblings. Relying

solely on Allah (SWT), Nbou gained strength and hoped to prevail over her struggles ahead. For many nights, Nbou was unable to sleep because she had to tend to Sokhna's every need. Without corrective surgery to straighten her spine, Sokhna was at risk for a heart attack and respiratory problems. Throughout the years, Nbou begged endlessly for the finances to pay for Sokhna's surgery. Nbou was determined to improve her daughter's well-being even after every crushing rejection. In February 2018, the AH Project Coordinator for Senegal presented this case to us. Alhamdulillah, AH funded Sokhna's surgery, including the pre-testing, outpatient care, and a new pair of eye glasses – it totaled USD \$6200. When the funds were presented, Nbou burst into tears upon tears; she expressed that this was from Allah (SWT) answering her cries and her hope in His Mercy. She sincerely felt your comfort to her daughter's pain and her distress. SubhanAllah, Sokhna's surgery was successfully completed in April 2018. Do note that all funds

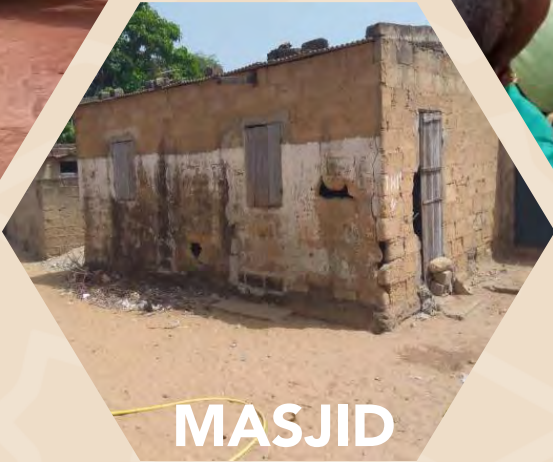
given are strictly monitored to ensure that they are utilized for the purpose given. In most cases, funds are paid directly to the hospitals. AH thanks you for lifting the worries of Sokhna and her mother; we can see how your donations give children like Sokhna an opportunity to persevere.

ON THE VERGE OF BEGGING IN THE STREETS OF MOROCCO

Rafeeyah is a 57 year old living in Casablanca with her disabled husband, mother, and three sons. She struggles with heart complications and breathing difficulties. Before Rafeeyah fell ill, she was a factory worker who cut and stitched materials together. Her incessant pain currently prohibits her from doing this type of work. Now, her only source of income comes from her mother's pension, which is already a limited amount for maintaining a family of six. Rafeeyah needed help to cover the cost for her cardiology care.

An AH volunteer who is based in Orlando, Florida visits Morocco regularly and is familiar with the poverty, and especially familiar with Rafeeyah's family. Upon relaying her case for help, he broke down in tears and was intensely emotional. He reported that Rafeeyah's only option for survival was to start begging in the streets. Alhamdulillah, with your Zakaah, AH reached out to this sickly sister with her disabled husband, safeguarding her dignity. We paid for her cardiologist visit and medications, but our work did not stop there. We continued on to secure and fund a taxi training and certification program for her 22 year old son so that he can contribute toward his family's monthly expenses. Even though Rafeeyah is still struggling with her heart ailments, she is grateful and content.

TENDER PORTRAYALS OF DIFFICULT LIVES



MASJID

The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said, "...And whoever gives ease to one in difficulty, Allah shall give ease to him in this world and the Hereafter..." **(Sahih Muslim)**

SELF SUFFICIENCY

Work gives meaning and structure to people's lives.

According to the UN Women organization, 70% of those in the world who work for less than \$2 a day are women. Many of them have hopes and dreams not unlike ourselves, but they lack the access to financial support to achieve their dreams. These women are powerful individuals who want to launch their businesses and support their families. **AH funds them so that they can push through poverty while building a secure financial system for themselves.** May Allah (SWT) reward you for uplifting Muslim women who are assiduous workers and are determined to overcome adversity. Let's share with you a few of their stories.

AFRICA

Arame is a mother of two whose husband is sick and unable to work. She has had to become the sole provider for her family but felt defeated after not having a way of doing so. She was always interested in selling cosmetics and in the past sold shoes; AH funded her small business of selling shea butter and incense. For women like Arame, to sustain herself is healing and confidence building; your support is crucial for her to achieve her entrepreneurial dreams.

Garmou is a mother of five who wishes to sell bundles of used clothes in order to support her children and sick husband. The family lives with her mother-in-law and does not have money so Garmou has taken it upon herself to support them all. It is a difficult situation because her children are getting older and still require a lot of care. With your help we have assisted her to set up her used clothing business to achieve self-sufficiency.

In some cases, women had been sustaining their businesses but adversity forced them to discontinue. **Ramatoulaye** is a 57 year old mother who lives in a family home. She was successful at selling bleach powder, but after she fell sick, her sales plummeted drastically. Years of knitting deteriorated her eyesight- another factor of the sudden shutdown of her enterprise. However, her strong spirit flourishes and she desires to sell bleach powder after a long hiatus from her work. Your Zakaah will help her to re-establish her business.

#MeToo: A WAY OUT

*Content Warning:
Domestic Abuse & Assault*

Breaking the Chain of Constant Abuse

An AH volunteer was contacted about a plight in a small African village affecting a group of women who have memorized the Qur'an and others who are in the process of completing memorization. These women were under the tutelage of men who were abusing them in their school. Fortunately, through inner strength and fortitude, the women took their issues to task and broke away from the abusive men. They decided that enough is enough. They convened to propose establishing their own Qur'an memorization school and vocational training program. An AH volunteer reviewed their proposal to create a sewing school and explore entrepreneurial ventures while they simultaneously pursue their Qur'an memorization studies. Their budget is \$7000. Alhamdulillah, AH was able to initialize the school by purchasing a few sewing machines. We hope that you can join us to complete this restoring, scholastic, and ambitious journey as these women continue to progress, demonstrating their powerful characters and determination to implement change. **Hope lies in courageous women like these. Education begins with the mother, so let us join together and provide the support that these women need to send a message that solidarity among women and among Muslims is strong.**

A Strong Narrative of Resilience

A young woman of 16 years old from Africa was raped and abused by a man who was living in the same household as her. This led to a pregnancy that left her feeling shamed and distressed; she was forced to leave school at an early age. Now 20 years old, she lives in a family home with her mother who sells food such as soups, puddings, and peanuts. This income affords her 4 year old son's monthly tuition, but at the same time, it is a strain on the grandmother who is elderly. Many have told this young woman that they will assist her to ease her situation; however, not one person has followed through with their promises, leaving her skeptical and distrusting of others. She desperately wants an opportunity to provide for her son so that she will not depend on her mother. An AH field worker from New York was approached by this young woman during one of her visits to Africa; she was asking for undergarments and clothes for herself. A consequence of her abuse is the way she now dresses – she wears unattractive clothing similarly to that of a man's. Her internal suffering and pain have been truly traumatizing. Let us help this young enterprising woman to find a better life. With your Zakaah, AH will fund her son's tuition and help her to start a business of selling cooked food.

HOT MEALS SERVED MONTHLY



Cambodia



Senegal

GROCERY HAMPER

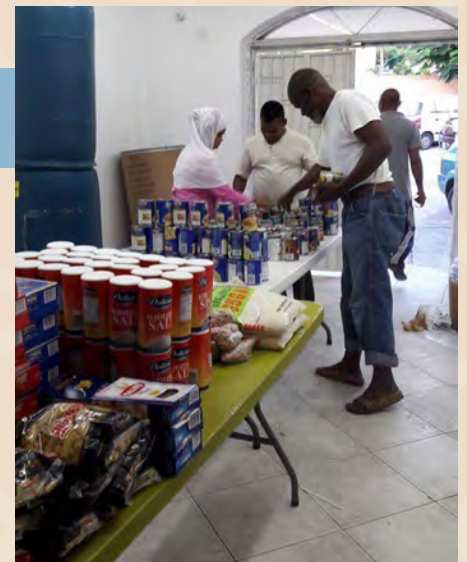
"And they (righteous people) give food in spite of love for it to the needy, the orphan, and the captive, (Saying), 'We feed you only for the countenance of Allah. We wish not from you reward or gratitude.'" (Qur'an 76:8-9)

11% of the global population faces food insecurity and malnutrition. This seems to be a low percentage; however, this is about 815 million people. **Think about it: 815 million people would be grateful for even a morsel of food because they frankly are underprivileged.** Roughly, this means one in every nine people end their day with no nourishment at all. **With your Zakaah**, we are able to combat such an atrocity through our Grocery Hamper program. In Guyana, Cambodia, India, and Senegal, we provide monthly food assistance to widows, single parents, the elderly, the sick, and the most impoverished. The program is one of our prime investments-annually, a significant portion of total donations are allocated toward feeding both the hungry and malnourished. **Please help us further lower the statistics-** your Zakaah is highly appreciated and pleases Allah (SWT).



HURRICANE RELIEF

Last September, **Hurricane Irma** ravaged **St. Maarten** with 182 miles per hour wind- the strongest recorded Atlantic hurricane in history. It viciously ripped apart homes, flooded streets, and created power and food shortages for the island's 750 thousand residents. The local government responded frustratingly slow. The Muslim community in St. Maarten reached out to us for dire help to dispense groceries, toiletries, & medical supplies. AH volunteers in NYC consolidated these items. The shipments were gratefully received and distributed accordingly. AH continued on with the same relief response when **Hurricane Maria** hit **Dominica**. Alhamdulillah we were equipped to respond to their requests. The distributions were managed by the Masjid administration.



EDUCATION

Qur'an Memorization School for the Blind



For the past several years, AH has been supporting this Quran memorization school for the blind in Bangladesh. Hafizh Farhad is the AH Project Coordinator residing in Bangladesh. He visits the school to check in with the 15 students who are blind. They requested academic materials, winter blankets, food, clothing, mats, and linens. We humbly request your Zakaah to continue their daily operations of studies. This is an encouragement of their academic pursuits in Qur'an memorization.

BEFORE



School without a roof in Senegal

AFTER



AH constructed a new roof

One of the most efficacious ways to evade a never-ending cycle of poverty is through education. As such, education is a core facet of AH work. When children attend school, they become literate and undaunted: they dream of pursuing a complete education and imagine a more promising life. Many orphans and poor children end their schooling to work, which prevents them from furthering their careers. With little income, it is difficult to work their way out of hardship, and so the cycle continues. AH is committed to funding admission fees, transportation costs, clothing, and school supplies for students in need. We also ensure the learning environments are secure so that the students can bloom successfully.



Al-Hakim School in Egypt



Madrasah in Cambodia



Senegalese students in their fully covered school



WATER & WELL FUND



Mali



Bangladesh

Water is an essential for living beings, and so we aim to procure unpolluted water for as many people as possible. AH develops wells for villages in Africa and South Asia. Large rural communities with wells are able to drink sanitary water, irrigate agriculture, breed livestock, and prepare meals. We have also built wells for schools and masjids to provide hygienic drinking water and purification for worship. In areas that we cannot build wells such as refugee camps, we consistently distribute large tanks of water. Please consider giving to our Water & Well Fund in order to expand access of a fundamental human right.

USA RELIEF PROGRAM

Here in the USA, many of our brothers and sisters are also confronted with economic and social deprivation. Our volunteers proactively seek those who encounter rough circumstances or those who struggle to make ends meet. AH pays for opportunities to improve and promote economic independence.

As part of our USA Relief Program, we assist various individuals such as widows and families who are genuinely deserving of it. This includes admissions fees for students who have earned scholarships, rent/grocery assistance for those in temporary crisis, and care for the ill. It also includes elderly individuals who live on their own and cancer patients. To give you a perspective of the nature of cases we undertake, one teenager whose mother is bedridden attempted to pawn his laptop in order to pay for their rent. In another case, a sister recently had a surgery that rendered her disabled. She is a single mother of two and cannot work at all to support them, so we provide monthly assistance. AH also temporarily supported a refugee family who could not work due to their status. We paid the legal costs for them to obtain work permits; the father now works at a restaurant, while the 15 year old son works at a supermarket. They are no longer recipients of our monthly assistance program. AH USA Relief Program is truly a reflection of providing the means for self-sufficiency.

ORPHANS

The Orphan Sponsorship program is one of our cardinal undertakings in Kenya, Guyana, Burma, India, Haiti, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and Senegal. UNICEF reported that there are about 140 million orphans worldwide- this includes children who have lost one or both parents. Your donations help AH fund educational needs, hygiene care, and clothes for the orphans. We are able to grant their small requests like Nutella and body wash, for example, so that they feel cherished and important. The excitement lit up the boys' eyes in Tivaouane, Senegal when they asked for mayonnaise and received it. Two children slept in one bed, and Alhamdulillah we purchased beds and mats for them individually. At God Bless the Children Orphanage, the children were very enthused to receive new chairs. The Qur'an tells us that orphans are amongst the most vulnerable of us (2:177) and are to be cared for diligently. Thank you for loving these children, and may Allah (SWT) increase our Iman immensely.

The Prophet (PBUH) said, "If you want to soften your heart, then feed the poor and pat the head of the orphan." (Musnad Ahmad)



AH tailored new clothing for orphans in India.



These orphans in Tivaouane, Senegal receive their weekly food supply. AH ensured that they have meals and clothing so that they can focus on their studies. Prior to our support, they were seen rummaging through garbage for food & clothing. They spend their time memorizing Qur'an with AH two full-time, paid teachers. They beamed with enthusiasm when they received soap, oil, and lotion that they never had before.



Meet one of 5 graduating Hafizh at the orphanage in Senegal. MashaAllah!



In India, we ardently support education and Qur'anic classes



New chairs purchased for God Bless the Children Orphanage in Guyana

VOCATIONAL TRAINING



AH Golden Needle School in Cambodia is currently in its 8th year of operation. Our primary objective is to equip destitute young women and men with proficiency in sewing competency. With their expertise, they will be hired in the garment sector and will be paid an adequate wage. Every graduate has mastered this artistry to become excellent seamstresses and tailors. AH gives their handiwork to the orphans and poor children who wander in the streets with no hope. Alhamdulillah, vocational training is an avenue to avoid perpetuating an impoverished lifestyle. We aspire to instill self-confidence and self-reliance in these keen, acquisitive students.

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "There is no right for the son of Adam except in these things: a house in which he lives, a garment to cover his nakedness, a piece of bread and water." (At-Tirmidi)

The Madrassah students in these two photos were given the sewn products of AH Golden Needle School. In addition, AH compensates the Madrassah teachers' monthly salaries.



HOUSING



Shelter is one of our fundamental requisites no matter where we are in the world. We all deserve to feel secure and protected, but there are multiple circumstances that induce homelessness. Whether it be natural disaster, an illness that circumvents affording rent, or forced removal from a living situation, AH focuses on restoring security for those who lose it. Since our inception, we have built **95 houses in Guyana**; these are in addition to the abundance of renovations for masjids and schools in Guyana, Gambia, and Guinea. For example, we helped renovate a formerly dilapidated masjid in Senegal that is being used for women's education. Funding housing projects is not only a question of shelter. We constantly strive to dignify and fortify the lives of families who require assistance because shelter creates stability. Your help heavily contributes toward providing that relief.

We would like to say

"Jazakallah Khiran"

("May Allah Reward you")

Umar bin Al-Khattab
said: "If one of
you knew what
was in the phrase
Jazakhallahu Khairan
(in terms of reward),
then you would
increase in saying it
to each other."



AMAANA HANDS, INC. DONATION FORM

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Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For your convenience, how would you like your receipt to be sent? { } Email { } Mail

Zakaah \$ _____

Iftar \$ _____ Sadaqatul Fitr \$ _____ Fidyah \$ _____

{ } Please use my donations where best needed

Comments: _____

RAKHINE, MYANMAR: DISTRAUGHT & DISPLACED

We live in a world where simply being Muslim can become the basis for discrimination and injustice. In the Western world, there are legal structures that protect against and condemn such prejudice. The Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar (Burma), however, are positioned as illegal immigrants both in Myanmar and in neighboring Bangladesh, where many of them seek refuge. Since the 1970s, nearly 1 million have fled persecution, with about 500 thousand escaping since summer 2017.

In conjunction with Islamic Relief USA, our efforts for refugees in Bangladesh and IDPs (Internally Displaced Person) in Myanmar are: **food distributions, shelter**

constructions, primary healthcare, and water/sanitary sustenance. Beyond emergency care, we access protection of women and children. In the refugee camps rape/abuse of women by Burmese militia is rampant, further oppressing the ethnic minority. We are looking to fund community building endeavors as well as livelihood and economic development projects. Please help us achieve this endeavor on their behalf.



SYRIA & YEMEN RELIEF

For Syrian refugees and IDPs (Internally Displaced Person), survival is a concept to grapple with every single day. There are about 6 million men, women, and children in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, and Turkey who have either been forced to flee or move due to conflict. Through collaboration with Islamic Relief USA, AH accesses emergency support through numerous tenets of well-being and health. The most imminent issue is a lack of basic needs; our emergency response includes clothing, tents,

food, NFI (Non-Food Item) kits, etc. These kits include hygienic/sanitary products and survival items to meet urgent needs for highly mobile families. We also facilitate access to clean water, sanitation resources, and mobile clinics that provide for emergency medical attention and surgeries. Additionally, we fund educational activities that incorporate psycho-social support, as these experiences are traumatic and extremely distressing. Insha Allah, we can possibly contribute toward funding of subsistence projects for those refugees in the more secure regions of Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

The crisis in Yemen is catastrophic: They are torn apart by conflict and poverty, which leaves many children orphaned. Starving families are on the brink of collapse. They are forced to drink contaminated water which causes maladies such as cholera, diarrhea, renal failure, and skin diseases. In March 2018, AH provided aid for the orphans and funded water programs. We were able to help provide nutritional food and clean safe water for refilling water tanks. We are seeking your Zakaah to continue helping on a larger scale.



Amaana Hands Inc.

P.O. Box 200285

South Ozone Park, New York 11420

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21
Years
Of Humanitarian Work
& Empowering Lives

Ramadan Services

Sadaqatul Fitr

\$10 per person
(Distributed in grains)

Iftar

Donate to the Iftar fund.
(There is no specific cost for Iftar)

Fidyah

\$10 per day
(This is compensation for those
unable to fast due to illness or old age)



Hazrat Anas (RA) says that once, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) visited Sa'ad ibn Ubadah (RA). The latter brought bread and olive oil for him. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) ate and then said, "The fasting people have broken their fast with you and virtuous persons have eaten food provided by you while the angels have supplicated for you." (Abu Daud)

رَمَضَانَ كَرِيمًا

Ramadan Kareem

Distributing Ramadan Food Baskets at Masjid Al-Aqsa Serving Iftar & Suhur in Makkah

At Masjid Al-Aqsa, AH provides Ramadan food baskets, dates and warm meals for Iftar. These are also distributed to orphans, refugee camps and families. We seek your support to expand and continue serving those who are in crisis.

AH volunteers who reside in Makkah are preparing and serving Suhur and Iftar to ten Masjids in Makkah. Both meals are catered for migrant workers who do not have the means to prepare them. They live in cramped quarters; many of them cannot afford to eat a nourishing meal to break their fast. May your Zakaah and Sadaqah be your pathway to Jannatul Firdous (Paradise).

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