

MEETING THE NEEDS OF HUMANITY THROUGH KINDNESS
AND COMPASSION DRIVEN BY FAITH





In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

March 2023 Ramadan 1444

Assalamu 'Alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh
May the peace and blessings of Allah be with you

The glorious month of Ramadan is here to offer us the opportunity to recompense the trust we are given with faith and humility for the betterment of the poor, SubhanAllah. Let's find within our hearts the certainty of knowing that our contributions are significant and ease the pain of emptiness. Our care gives hope, uplifts the weak, and motivates the struggling. I extend my sincerest thanks to you for your committed teamwork toward making our journey and trust (Amaana) with the poor a sacred one.

The global pandemic has not relented in creating an additional layer of complexity to contend with and to address via all of AH undertakings. As such, the work we carry out must be both comprehensive and sensitive to the needs of those we work with, which continues to be an arduous task. It is vital to note that the work we highlight in this magazine does not do justice to the depth and breadth of AH projects in their entirety.

Alhamdulillah, we continue to develop our networks within our existing countries of operations. AH strives to be a reliable resource for volunteers and Project Managers who are embedded in their communities and who guide our project planning. It is of utmost importance to us that we reinforce our local relationships because we value their country-specific knowledge. We are initiating new projects and expanding existing ones through our collaborations and connections in an effort to continually meet the needs of recipients. Plans are now in profile, for example, to reach Liberia. Your profound partnership is our motivation to continue this mission to improve lives, provide opportunities, and improve standards of living. May Allah be pleased with your giving. Be reassured that your eternal sanctuary awaits, built by your obedience to Allah, kind deeds of charity, and sacrifices. Taqabalallah minna waminkum - May Allah accept from you and us. Aameen

Zeleena Hack
Executive Director (Volunteer)

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ
سَيَجْعَلُ لَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ وُدًّا

As for those who believe and do good, the Most Compassionate will certainly bless them with genuine love.

SURAH MARYAM : AYAH 96



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 FOUNDATION IS TRUST

"Empowering the Poor and Needy with Dignity and Respect"



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.

THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF GROCERY HAMPER RECIPIENTS



YEMEN

YEMEN



GUYANA

MONTHLY GROCERY HAMPER

Supporting the needy on a domestic scale is paramount to charitable giving. It is just as essential to solidify local networks to achieve this goal. For the past three years, AH has united with various mutual aid organizations to precisely do so. In partnership with Costco in NY, AH distributes fresh produce and other groceries weekly to families in need. We also share the items with the Masajid, neighborhood churches, and other food pantries. Our communities have many who are neglected, and AH takes its mission seriously by identifying how to support the poor regardless of who and where they are.



BANGLADESH



CAMBODIA



USA



MOROCCO

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

As an international organization, AH invests in community networks as a strategy to both be guided by local expertise and to be involved in sustainable resilience. This approach prioritizes long-term self-sufficiency not only of individuals, but of communities as well: the affected local leaders and community members determine the best methods to fulfill immediate needs, to rebuild their localities, and to prepare for future crises. AH has leveraged the Disaster Relief Fund to flexibly respond to emerging, dynamic, and ongoing disasters especially as climate change proves to specifically impact the most vulnerable. As a result, AH has established itself as a dependable support for survivors of disasters, and your partnership is a vital tool in sustaining this effort efficiently. Most recently, the Fund has been used for survivors in Pakistan, Syria, and Türkiye.



PAKISTAN FLOODS, 2022

Months after the horrific monsoon season in Pakistan, the wreckage continues to be disastrous. Pakistan remains underwater as locals struggle to stay afloat. By October 2022, the international community's attention began to quell by the winter, which ravaged the country further and left unsheltered Pakistanis vulnerable to the elements.

The Swat Valley is bounded by Balochistan and Punjab, but it crucially connects a main passageway so that the mountain-dwelling locals can reach the town. As in most of the affected areas, this bridge was wiped out and locals were forced to cross unstable makeshift bridges to transport aid packages that they carried on their backs to their families. During this critical period, AH swiftly mobilized volunteers to distribute blankets, groceries, clothing, and other essentials in more remotely-impacted areas. Children who became orphans when they lost their parents to the floods were also given financial vouchers. It is with your donations, subhanallah, that our volunteers bought essentials, packed trucks, and drove on the perilous, windy roads that contained no guardrails to reach the furthest families who were completely unable to access any aid. Once in the village, the volunteers methodically organized a system whereby they knocked door-to-door and provided each home with a ticket and a time slot for collecting their aid packages.



These families are carrying stoves, mattresses & utensils to their tent, all of which were purchased using the Disaster Relief Fund.



TÜRKIYE & SYRIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF, 2023

In February 2023, both Türkiye and Syria suffered 7.8 magnitude earthquakes that demanded our swift response. It is currently winter there with heavier rainfall; not only is it cold, but it is wet – a disastrous circumstance for those already without food, shelter, and warmth. These regions had already been confronting humanitarian crises. We partnered with organizations with similar missions/values and with an already established presence in Syria to purchase caravans/tents, portable stoves, fresh bread, hot meals, mattresses, blankets, heaters, and kitchen utensils, all of which were then systematically administered. These items were also purchased for those in Türkiye, but the response is an ongoing process. Please donate to our Disaster Relief Fund so that we can continue to focus on pressing needs in the present and in the future.



*Mattresses, stoves, heaters, and blankets for Syrians inside of their caravan.
With your Zakaah AH will provide more of these items and caravans.*



EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL TRAINING

INCULCATING HOPE FOR THE NEGLECTED WHILE ENCOURAGING SELF-SUFFICIENCY

AH provides daily breakfast for 323 students, teachers and staff.

In Bangladesh, over half of the population survive on a day-to-day basis. The majority of locals work as rickshaw and van pullers, servants, and garment workers, etc. The pandemic has not relented in its harshness on families and it has been even more difficult for families that take care of **children with special needs**. These children's needs are overshadowed by the reality that families are forced to prioritize their survival. As their parents are unable to provide sufficient food, care, and attention, these children are considered burdens and are compelled to beg for money & food to get by.

Given this, AH opened a school for children with special needs in Khulna, Bangladesh. As part of our school program,

we provide clothes, daily meals, and care to 20 children who were begging on the street or were living in crumbling homes. To determine their educational needs, the teachers used specially designed assessments that identify where children have significant difficulties or where they need a higher level of support.

With your generosity, AH supports the children and their families who discarded them. Each family is consulted on how to confront the difficulties they face and how to ensure a caring environment for their children, who had no hope or futures to begin with. There are additional children who are on a waitlist, and we need your support to enroll them and prepare them for a brighter future.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Yemen has become known as a conflict-ridden region with the largest ongoing humanitarian crises, which is precisely why AH programs there are so vital. UNICEF reports that over **2 million children** do not attend school, and about **2.2 million children** in late 2022 are wasting, i.e. their muscles are atrophying rapidly which renders them highly at risk for death.

AH programs sustain approximately 323 school children in the Taiz region daily. Children are the future, but when they are not nourished they cannot function and their daily breakfast is a revitalizing hope in the face of destruction. As an additional source of joy, AH bought Eid gifts for these children and plans to do so again this year. AH volunteers visit the villages, schools, and hospitals to deliver diapers and grocery hampers. Diapers are an imperative for children with disabilities and the elderly. One mother would tie her adult son's hands and put unsanitary plastic underneath him because she did not have diapers. We plan to maintain our crucial diaper distribution program every month with your help, insha Allah.



YEMEN



AH Volunteers frequently visit the villages in Morocco to distribute gifts purchased with your donations.

STRENGTHENING LOCAL ALLIANCES

Located in rural Fez, Morocco, the Second Chance Organization is a grassroots effort led by parent volunteers to provide various services, including education, motricity/psychological care to children with physical and mental disabilities, and medical equipment. While the Moroccan government designated a facility to support these needs, the organization receives very limited funding and as such depends on assistance from larger organizations like AH. AH partners with this volunteer-run, local institute by:

- Funding transportation of children to school
- Buying oils and massage beds for physical therapy sessions
- Furnishing stipends for staff, thereby ensuring local employment to maintain operations
- Offering coaching to parents of afflicted children
- Purchasing diapers, hygiene products, snacks, and meals for the children

The therapy benefits both the kids and their distressed parents. The sessions are a source of positivity that makes the children less aggressive. **Below are a few examples of wonderful children who your donations have truly impacted:**

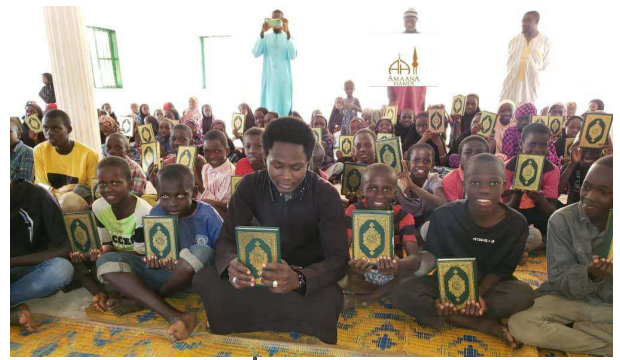
- Ferdaous, an 8-year-old girl with severe autism who stopped biting her hands after attending her first 6 months of therapy, is now no longer bound to a stroller as she takes her first steps and progressively responds to her mother!
- Najat, a 10-year-old girl who is an orphan, was born with mental and physical disabilities. Upon the death of her mother, Najat was adopted by her aunt and has been attending school for the first time.
- Youssef, an 8-year-old boy who was confined to a wheelchair, began to walk after 9 months of rehabilitation.

As of this Ramadan, AH work with this organization will fortify their Vocational Program for girls aged 14 onward who were forced to become child brides and thereafter dropped out of school, divorced, and entered community homes. With neither an education nor skills, they are unable to sustain themselves and in some circumstances, their children. The girls are given the opportunity to attend school and to become professionals in the culinary, textile and hair dressing careers. In this way, they are really given a second chance and AH seeks to fund this program. It is essential for these girls to learn to provide for themselves and lead dignified lives.



“MY LORD, INCREASE ME IN KNOWLEDGE”

SURAH TAHA: AYAH 114



Qur'an purchased and shipped from New York to Gambia.



EGYPT

Your Zakaah have supported daily Qur'an memorization classes for both boys and girls. This is a blessed Sadaqah Jariyah.



CAMBODIA



Your sponsorship aided this student for six years of studies to become a Hafiz of Qur'an. The sponsorship covered his dorming and educational expenses. Your Zakaah will continue to pay the way for his pursuit of higher studies.

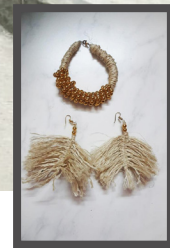
MEDICAL

As always, the AH Medical Program sustains a multitude of individuals and/or medical equipment distribution across the world, namely Morocco, Bangladesh, Guyana, Guinea, and Yemen. Medical service is scarce in many areas that are remote. In many circumstances, the infrastructure is non-existent or is not accommodating to distinct needs. Amongst our many recipients this past year, baby Salma and baby Jannah in Morocco were beneficiaries of our medical assistance. Baby Salma sustained second-degree burns when she pulled on the table linen, causing the pot of scalding tea to fall on her. AH subsidized her surgery along with her outpatient treatment. Baby Jannah has eye cancer and so we paid for all her related medical expenses.

Abdul Razak is a 37-year old man with severe diabetes who lives in an impoverished neighborhood in Casablanca. Due to limited health services, his right foot needed to be amputated, which created a slew of ensuing issues. A year after the amputation, his foot has not fully healed, and he risks more amputations. With a missing limb and on crutches, Abdul Razak is unable to use his household's deteriorated latrine as he cannot lower himself to squat. His father is debilitated and thus his elderly mother, who suffers from arthritic knee pain, does low-paying housekeeping work. This family desperately needed help. With your donations, we built them a completely new bathroom. AH currently assists with Abdul Razak's medication and treatment for diabetes. The new bathroom has been of central help to this family.



SELF-SUFFICIENCY/VOCATIONAL TRAINING/MICROFINANCE



BANGLADESH

AH purchased this rickshaw as a microfinance opportunity for a driver to sell the crafts made by our vocational school students. This school in Bangladesh, established by AH, enrolls students who design various crafts, as seen below. These include earrings, necklaces, baskets, and various woodwork kitchen tools such as rolling pins, spoons, etc. The driver receives a portion of the sales, thereby benefiting both the students and the driver. The students are able to obtain essential sewing and handiwork skills to join the workforce locally and to support their families.

GOLDEN NEEDLE SCHOOL

Uplifting self-sufficiency is at the heart of our microfinance and vocational programs, and The Golden Needle School in Cambodia has been our premiere program in order to do. Every 5 months, 20 new women attend a skills training program whereby they learn to become seamstresses. In 2020, your donations were used to purchase 20 new sewing machines that are currently still in use. About 18% of the Cambodian economy's GPP is remittance-based. When migrant workers find work abroad, they are able to support their families back in their homeland who depend on them. The graduates of the Golden Needle School generally find work throughout Cambodia with local seamstress shops, but many others have established themselves abroad in nearby Malaysia and Indonesia. Not only have they acquired self-sufficiency, but they are breadwinners for their families and role models for other women and young girls. Their products also give back to their communities during Ramadan, when they create Eid outfits for orphans. Please admire the handiwork of our lovely, strong, and hardworking girls who simultaneously contribute to their local economy while demonstrating resilience.



ORPHANS

All children are deserving of love, compassion, and respect. The Orphan/Child Sponsorship Program connects our privileged hearts to the hearts of underprivileged children, many of whom have been orphaned due to conflict, neglect, and parental illness. On a fundamental level, orphans feel care as simply as when their educational, housing, and nutritional needs are covered. The Child Sponsorship Program is \$40/month.



WALKING WITH COMPASSION, THE CORE OF AH'S MISSION

Being compassionate is intentional. It is a *niyyah* that not only underlies our project undertakings in order to dignify the disadvantaged, but in the way that our volunteers extend themselves through their interactions with whomever they meet on the ground. There are innumerable people who are in need of assistance, but as narrated in At-Tirmidhi (1956), our Beloved Prophet (SAW) said: "Your smiling in the face of your brother is charity, commanding good and forbidding evil is charity, your giving directions to a man lost in the land is charity for you..." AH aspires to embody compassionate charity in every aspect of its work. In Morocco, for example, an AH volunteer met an 8-year old girl who was selling Kleenex tissues for 25 cents a piece. She appeared malnourished and not enrolled in school, so our volunteer invited her to eat and to talk; the girl had gastric issues so that food caused her pain. It was nighttime and unsafe, so our volunteer hailed a taxi, pre-paid the fare, and sent the child home with food and money for her mother, who is unwell. Though small, giving time and care is meaningful and we are grateful that our volunteers actively embody our mission thoroughly.



DONATION FORM

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**Zelle to email info@amaanahands.org (Do not use tel #) Please include your name & address in the memo.
Online at www.amaanahands.org Or by mailing to PO Box 200285 South Ozone Park, NY 11420**

We would like to say

**“Jazakumullah
Khairan”**



إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَجْزِي
الْمُتَصَدِّقِينَ



**... Indeed, Allah rewards
the charitable.**

(Surah Yusuf - 12:88)



WATER & WELL FUND

Creating access to water is a conduit toward establishing stable individuals and locales. Water is undoubtedly a core feature of socialization, hygiene, and energy in addition to being a fundamental human right. The construction of wells and latrine systems that AH funds, therefore, target water, sanitation, and hygiene objectives. Insufficient sanitation and a dearth of clean water are leading factors for child mortality. The wells that are funded by AH allow children to safely drink water to reduce their contact with disease, perform wudu sanitarly, and practice important hygiene protocols. The Water & Wells Program lies at the intersection of dignity and holistic well-being of communities, and your continued generosity facilitates healthy, thriving neighborhoods.

This well was built on the site of a Masjid and a school (as seen at right) in Accra, Ghana. It serves these orphans and other children from the village who attend this school, as well as worshipers at the Masjid.





Amaana Hands Inc.

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South Ozone Park, New York 11420

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SADAQATUL FITR:

\$10 per person
(Distributed in grains)

FIDYAH:

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

IFTAR:

Donate to the Iftar fund
(No specific cost)



26
Years
Of Humanitarian Work
& Empowering Lives

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