



HELPING HAND FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

Shelter Relief Program

MID YEAR REPORT - 2025



Together WE ARE

**SERVING.
HEALING.
EMPOWERING.**



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Serving Humanity Abroad

Helping Hand for Relief and Development (HHRD) is an offshoot of the Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA). We provide emergency relief and development services in other nations while ICNA provides relief inside the USA. Shelter relief is provided in combination with hot meals, healthcare, disability support and water and sanitation solutions among other valuable projects.



HHRD Mission

“HHRD is committed to serve humanity by integrating resources for people in need. We strive to provide immediate response in disasters, and effective programs in places of suffering, for the pleasure of Allah.”



Rebuilding For the Future

In the wake of disaster and displacement, the Shelter Relief Program offers more than walls—it offers dignity, safety, and a renewed hope. From refugee camps in Jordan to earthquake-stricken villages in Syria and Morocco, we build homes that become sanctuaries. Each shelter is a testament to compassion: solar-powered, water-secure, and designed for families to heal, learn, and grow.

Program Mission

To address the needs of refugees and underprivileged communities by providing modern facilities for living, worshiping and education.

Shared Impact

January-June 2025

Country	Participants	Activities
Afghanistan	2,709	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 completed homes in Nangarhar province for widow-headed families 20 additional homes (two-room design) under construction in Kabul province 774 solar panels and 387 solar fans distributed to vulnerable families
Bangladesh	417	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 105 shelter homes completed in just 2 months (May-July 2025) Prioritized vulnerable populations: Women-headed households, elderly, disabled, and children
Cambodia	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 shelter homes planned across 4 provinces (Kandal, Ta Keo, Tbong Khmum, Kratie) 6 homes completed by mid-year
Middle East & North Africa	200+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 classrooms completed and delivered to public schools in Jordan (Amman, Mafraq, Karak) 100 prefabricated caravans prepared for Syrian refugees (awaiting UNHCR approval)
Gaza	1,000+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 multipurpose community centers constructed and installed in Northern Gaza Safe community spaces serving as prayer areas and gathering places for families 66 prefabricated caravans manufactured and ready for installation (pending border opening)
Pakistan	4,641	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 educational institutions supported across all Pakistan with solarization, classroom construction, bathroom renovation and hostel rehabilitation 86% project completion rate with 12 institutions fully completed
Total	9,027+	

Afghanistan



Following the devastating 2023 earthquake in Herat province that destroyed over 3,000 homes, HHRD has expanded its impact beyond the initial 80-home model village. In the first half of 2025, the organization completed 9 fully-equipped one-room homes in Nangarhar province specifically for widows. Each home includes essential living spaces (room, washroom, kitchen, small hall) plus sustainable energy solutions—two solar panels and one fan—ensuring families have both shelter and clean electricity.

- Allows children to study comfortably with solar powered electricity.
- Protects families from insects carrying malaria.
- Water wells provided in partnership with Water and Sanitation Hygiene Program

Bangladesh

In Cox's Bazar's Camp-16, HHRD transformed the lives of displaced Rohingya families by replacing dangerous makeshift shelters with dignified, weather-resistant homes. Working within the legal constraints which mandate temporary housing, HHRD is innovating to provide beneficiaries with lasting shelter relief. By elevating bamboo structures with metal footings, replacing dirt floors with cement and adding bamboo mats instead of flimsy tarps on the walls, we are making the best of a bad situation.



Each home includes:

- Complete solar packages provided: 50W panels, batteries, lights, and fans per home
- Enhanced safety features: Fire-resistant cooking areas, improved ventilation

Women refugees expressed deep satisfaction with the privacy, safety, and dignity these shelters provide.

Cambodia



In Cambodia's remote fishing villages, HHRD's "Waqaf Shelter" program addresses generational poverty through permanent housing. In Kandal province, fishermen families who previously lived in makeshift tents or borrowed space from neighbors now have dignified 4m x 4.5m homes. These elevated structures feature zinc roofing, wooden flooring, and concrete foundations designed to withstand Cambodia's harsh weather and monsoon seasons. The program specifically targets families with disabilities and those lacking income capacity to build independently.

- Multi-year impact: 39 families housed since 2019, totaling 249 individuals served

These families have been praying since they settled in their own homes; their joy and level of contentment is second to none.

Middle East & North Africa



Rather than focusing solely on emergency housing, HHRD recognizes that overcrowded classrooms are critically undermining refugee and local children's futures. At Mathnat Rajel School in Mafraq, Jordan, sixth-grader Musa walked 3 kilometers daily to attend classes in severely overcrowded conditions. His father, a security officer earning just 290 Jordanian dinars, struggled to support their family of eight. HHRD's intervention transformed Musa's educational experience by providing a fully-equipped classroom with student desks, whiteboard, water cooler, fans, and teacher furniture. Now Musa can learn in a proper environment, free from overcrowded distractions.

- Psychosocial support programs including educational, cultural, religious, and social activities

"Thank you for changing our lives. Your kindness has restored our hope and given us a chance to rebuild." - Musa's Family

Gaza



HHRD's community centers in Gaza uniquely combine immediate shelter needs with long-term psychological healing and capacity building. Sixteen-year-old Ahmed's transformation exemplifies this community-centered approach. After losing his home and school in the conflict, Ahmed spent months collecting scraps in a displacement camp, feeling hopeless about his future. When the first multipurpose community center opened in June 2025, Ahmed initially joined for sports but discovered the "21st Century Skills" program focusing on communication, teamwork, and creative thinking. Within weeks, he became a volunteer leader helping younger children.

"My confidence came back to me. I learned that pain doesn't mean the end of the story—it can be the beginning of something new." - Ahmed

In addition to community centers, HHRD plans to deploy 66 caravan homes as soon as possible.

Pakistan



After devastating 2022 floods destroyed Pakistan's mountainous regions, HHRD faced an unprecedented challenge. With more than 600 homes already constructed, we plan to build 50 more for flood-affected families in Kalam, Swat. The two-room home design acknowledges large family sizes common in the region. Currently in pre-construction phase with staff recruitment and contractor selection underway, we look forward to reporting successful completion by the end of the year inshaAllah.

Project under construction

Educational Facilities Upgrade

At Jamai Tahfeem Ul Quran in Islamabad, excessive electricity bills threatened the Islamic institute's operations and student access to education. HHRD's solarization project transformed their energy burden into energy independence, allowing the institution to redirect resources from utility costs to educational programming. This is just one success story among 17 current projects—from constructing new classrooms in Bannu to renovating flood-damaged bathrooms in Peshawar. The program strategically addresses both immediate infrastructure needs (flood damage repair) and long-term sustainability (solar energy installation).. As a result, students in these institutions were able to continue their education in a greatly improved learning environment.

As of the drafting of this report, 86% of the renovations have been completed.

Thank you



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