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DEAR FRIENDS, PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS,

As we reflect on the year 2023, I am filled with immense gratitude and honor for the collective impact we have achieved at Human Concern International. It was a year unlike most others, with back-to-back emergencies:

The Pakistan/Afghanistan floods, Turkey/Syria earthquake, Libya floods, Morocco earthquake, Rohingya camps cyclone, Kenya floods, Sudan crisis, and the very devastating ongoing wars on humanity in Gaza. All of us, the humanitarians, have not slowed down our work despite all the challenges, just as you, as a community, continue to strongly support the humanitarian response.

With your unwavering support and the dedication of our team, we have been able to extend our compassionate reach across continents, touching the lives of those in dire need and reinforcing our commitment to humanitarian service. Our journey this past year has been both challenging and inspiring.

In our Emergency Response and Winter Relief efforts, we reached 13 countries, implementing 40 projects and aiding 156,529 individuals, excluding those in Gaza. The construction of homes in Pakistan, support for widow-headed households in Morocco, and numerous other initiatives exemplify our dedication to providing immediate relief and sustainable solutions.

Our response in Gaza continues to be very effective, from delivering food, water, and medical assistance to supporting evacuees in Canada.

From innovative programs like Education on Wheels in India to comprehensive support for visually impaired students in Gaza, we have strived to empower the next generation through learning and development.

As we navigated through these diverse projects, 2023 also marked a pivotal year for our local programming in Canada, connecting more deeply with the community and extending our impact to 6,927 individuals and over 400 families.

Each of these accomplishments is a testament to the power of collective effort and the shared vision of a World Without Poverty and Injustice. As HCI continues to grow and evolve, our mission remains steadfast—to Move Communities from Crisis to Sustainability by providing aid in emergencies and fostering self-reliance. Your trust and partnership make this possible.

As we embark on another year, I look forward to your continued support and commitment. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of many and uphold our pledge to serve humanity with dignity and compassion.

With heartfelt gratitude and respect, From: Your Sister in Humanity,

Mahmuda Khan

Executive Director, **Human Concern International**





DEAR VALUED MEMBERS OF THE HCI COMMUNITY,

As the Chair of the Board of Human Concern International, I am writing to share my reflections on the remarkable journey we have embarked upon over the past year. It is a journey marked not just by the milestones we have achieved in serving those in need but also by the significant strides we have made in strengthening the very foundation of our organization.

The year 2023 has been a testament to the resilience and dedication that define HCI. We have navigated through challenges with a steadfast commitment to our mission, emerging stronger and more focused. Our organization's health has seen substantial improvement, a direct result of the collective effort of our team, partners, and supporters.

One of the most notable achievements this year has been our ability to earn and reinforce the trust of the communities we serve. This trust is the cornerstone of our work, and it has been heartening to see it grow stronger with each initiative we undertake. Our commitment to transparency, accountability, and effective communication has played a crucial role in this achievement.

Furthermore, we have seen remarkable progress in building and nurturing partnerships with other organizations. These collaborations have not only expanded our reach but have also enriched our programs with diverse perspectives and expertise. The synergy from these partnerships has enabled us to innovate and enhance our services, ensuring that we remain responsive and relevant to the needs of those we serve.

We have also focused on internal development, investing in the growth and well-being of our staff and volunteers. Their dedication and hard work are the driving force behind HCI's impact, and supporting their professional and personal growth is essential to our success.

As we move forward, we are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. With a stronger organization, a trusted presence in our communities, and robust partnerships, we are well-positioned to continue making a significant impact. Our journey is ongoing, and the challenges we face are many, but with the continued support of our incredible team and partners, I am confident that we will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we aim to serve.

Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to Human Concern International. Together, we will continue to work towards a world where compassion and aid reach every corner, and every individual in need.

Warm regards, Dr. Irfan Sheikh

Chair of the Board, **Human Concern International**









Smart, Sustainable Solutions

At Human Concern International, we believe in crafting smart, sustainable solutions to create lasting change. Our approach begins with a deep understanding of the challenges facing impoverished communities. Through comprehensive research papers, extensive field studies, and engaging in meaningful conversations with locals, we identify the most impactful programs tailored to their unique needs.

Investing in areas such as education, healthcare, access to clean water, skills training centers, and agriculture, HCl is dedicated to breaking the vicious cycle of poverty. Our initiatives are more than temporary fixes; they are stepping stones towards long-term stability and self-reliance. Your support today is not just a contribution; it's an investment in a future where communities thrive for years to

Community Participation & Partnership

HCI believes that building strong communities requires more than just aid; it requires the buy-in and willingness of the people we serve. Working hand-in-hand with our partners, we conduct thorough needs assessments and ensure active community participation. We recognize that the most effective solutions come from the input and

direction of local communities, ensuring the successful design and implementation of our programs. This collaborative approach is integral to fostering a sense of ownership and sustainability within the communities.

Aligning With Global Goals

Guided by the needs assessments and the valuable input from community members and stakeholders, HCI initiates the provision of resources for solutions that address the issues at hand while aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our primary objective is always to empower individuals and communities to stand on their own, creating an environment where self-sufficiency is not just a goal, but a reality.

Ensuring Accountability & Transparency

HCI's commitment to accountability and transparency takes us to the field, where we communicate regularly and monitor the activities of our projects. We ensure that our partners provide detailed financial reporting both during and upon the completion of projects. This rigorous oversight allows us to confidently report on the impact of your donation, answer your questions, and maintain the trust you have placed in us. Your support is a crucial part of our journey towards making a tangible, positive difference in the lives we touch.



In 2023, Human Concern International made a profound global impact, reaching across 23 countries (including Canada) with diverse and essential programs in:

Emergency Response, Zero Hunger, Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, Education, Health & **Local Community Support**

Our integrated approach, focusing on addressing root causes and empowering communities, led to significant achievements: over 163,029 people were aided through emergency response initiatives excluding Gaza relief, 307,708 benefited from our WASH programs, and **5,963 individuals** were supported by our education efforts. Additionally, our health initiatives touched 38,190 lives, and the Child Sponsorship Program positively impacted **2,664 children** and their families. Through the collective efforts of Ramadan and Zakat Al Fitr programs, HCI reached thousands more, providing much-needed food aid and support. This widespread impact, underpinned by smart, sustainable solutions and community collaboration, underscores HCI's commitment to creating lasting change and breaking the cycle of poverty, thereby enhancing the well-being of countless communities globally.



HEALTH INITIATIVES

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED

38,190

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED

38,190

EMERGENCY RESPONSE OVERVIEW

In 2023, Human Concern International made a profound impact through its Emergency Response and Winter Relief initiatives, reaching out to 13 countries and territories including Syria, Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Lebanon, Morocco, Libya, Yemen, Sudan, Kenya, and Palestine. With a total of 40 dedicated projects, the charity was able to assist 132,804 individuals, excluding those in Gaza.

Notable achievements include the development of the Syria Village, comprising 300 homes, a school, mosque, clinic, and shops; the construction of 40 homes in a Pakistan village benefiting 276 individuals; and providing much-needed support to 4 widow-headed households in Morocco, impacting 14 people, including 10 children. Overall, the total number of beneficiaries from these concerted efforts across various countries and projects was an impressive 163,029, illustrating the significant and wide-reaching impact of Human Concern International's work in 2023.

Aligned with HCl's strategic direction, the organization has enhanced its rapid response capabilities by building stronger local partnerships, enabling faster needs assessments and more efficient resource distribution.

Additionally, HCl has invested in sustainable community development to ensure resilience in disaster-prone areas, focusing on infrastructure rebuilding and healthcare systems.

HCI's efforts directly contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Zero Hunger, Good Health and Wellbeing, and Clean Water and Sanitation. The short-term impact of these efforts provides immediate relief to communities affected by natural disasters, conflict, and other crises, including essential supplies such as food, water, medical aid, and temporary shelter, helping stabilize affected populations during emergencies. In the long term, HCI's initiatives contribute to the rebuilding of affected communities by supporting infrastructure recovery, health systems, and economic revitalization. These initiatives also

focus on strengthening resilience in disasterprone areas to reduce vulnerability to future

HCI delivered emergency response projects in 13 countries, including Pakistan, Syria, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Turkey, Morocco, Palestine, Gaza, Kenya, and Libya. Each country faced different crises such as floods, earthquakes, conflicts, and winter hardships, necessitating varied emergency response initiatives.

HCI implemented **40 emergency response projects.** These projects ranged from the
construction and rehabilitation of homes,
distribution of food packs, winter kits, blankets,
heaters, and clothing, to providing access to
medical relief, sanitation, hygiene kits, and clean
water. Specific projects addressed the needs
arising from natural disasters like earthquakes
and floods, as well as conflict-related
emergencies.

The total number of individuals who benefited from HCl's emergency response efforts was **163,029.** This number reflects the combined total of beneficiaries across all the emergency projects undertaken by HCl in the reported year. The aid reached a diverse group of beneficiaries, including families, children, women, men, and various marginalized groups in different crisis-affected regions.





EMERGENCY
RESPONSE
PROJECTS

PROJECTS

40

INDIVIDUALS HELPED

163,029

CASE STUDY

Pakistan



In the village of Ramzan Lashari in Jhuddo, Sindh, Pakistan, Sehto, a widow and mother of six, faced a life-altering challenge following the catastrophic Pakistan Floods of **2022**

With a family to care for and meager earnings from her labor in nearby cities, Sehto's struggles were compounded when the floods washed away their modest mud house, leaving them with nothing. In this dire situation, Human Concern International's House Construction project emerged as a ray of hope, marking the beginning of Sehto's transformative journey.

Sehto, who tirelessly worked in others' homes to make ends meet, found her life upended by the floods. The fragile structure they called home could barely withstand the rain, and the floods left them homeless and resourceless. Ensuring basic meals for her children was a constant struggle, exacerbated by the loss of their home.

Recognizing Sehto's urgent need, HCI's House Construction project stepped in to rebuild her life. The construction of a new, sturdy, and safe concrete home for Sehto and her family symbolized a new beginning. The house, equipped to withstand future adversities, was more than just a structure; it was a beacon of hope and security. The addition of solar-powered fans and other essential amenities brought a significant improvement to their lives, offering comfort and stability they had never known.

Sehto's heartfelt gratitude speaks volumes about the project's impact. She recounts the overwhelming challenges post-flood, where every day was a battle for survival. "After the flood, our lives were hanging by a thread. The children often went hungry, and our future looked bleak," Sehto shared. But the construction of the new home changed everything. "I could never have dreamt of building such a home in my lifetime," she said, visibly moved. The comfort, safety, and joy that the new home brought to her family were immeasurable. For the first time, her children experienced the luxury of fans and light bulbs, symbols of a life transformed.

Sehto's journey, from the depths of despair to a life of hope and security, is a powerful testament to the resilience of the human spirit. HCI's House Construction project, with its unwavering commitment and empathy, has not only built homes but has also laid the foundations for a brighter future. Sehto's story is a poignant reminder of the incredible impact that compassion and collective action can have on rebuilding lives and communities, a story that embodies the very essence of HCI's mission to empower and uplift.



WASH

In 2023. Human Concern International's WASH program (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) had a significant impact on improving access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene for over **307,708 beneficiaries** across **10** countries, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Kenya, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, and Palestine (East Jerusalem).



HCI's initiatives involved constructing water wells in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Kenya, and Somalia, providing essential clean water access to rural and remote communities. In Syria, HCI focused on improving access to life-saving WASH facilities and services. Yemen saw the provision of safe water through the construction of a deep-drilled water well and the rehabilitation of three existing damaged water wells, along with an emergency water restoration project in Sana'a to address severe WASH and health conditions.

Aligned with HCI's strategic direction, the organization focused on sustainable WASH initiatives that empower communities to become self-sufficient. This included investing in long-term infrastructure development and building resilience to safeguard against future water shortages. These efforts directly contribute to the UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for Clean Water and Sanitation.

In Lebanon, HCI's project included drilling a well to access an underground lake, ensuring sustainable irrigation water and clean water for domestic use. Additionally, in East Jerusalem, HCI worked on improving access to humanitarian life-saving WASH facilities and services.

The short-term impact of these projects facilitated access to safe and affordable drinking water through the construction of wells and other infrastructure using modern technology to efficiently meet community demands. Long-term, HCI embedded WASH into poverty eradication work, advocating that child and maternal health, food security, and good health all require access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene.

regions, while in Syria, 800 households gained access to promotion awareness-raising sessions. Yemen's project Sana'a, while in Lebanon, 300 households, including vulnerable groups, gained access to clean water. In East Jerusalem, 3,000 households, totaling 15,000 individuals, were provided with safe and clean water.

HCI's key achievements in 2023 included the construction of **201 water wells** in Afghanistan, **122** in Bangladesh, 156 wells and 33 reinforced concrete water tanks in India, 25 in Kenya, and 54 in Somalia. The program also achieved significant milestones in sanitation and hygiene, with 50 toilets built in Bangladesh and 20 in Somalia, improving sanitation

and hygiene conditions. Additionally, 278 water committee members in Syria were trained on the management and maintenance of the constructed wells, and 2,500 individuals in Yemen were trained in hygiene and sanitation. In Lebanon, 300 agricultural lands were fully irrigated, and 5,000 livestock gained access to clean drinking water.

Through these comprehensive WASH initiatives, HCI not only addressed immediate needs for clean water and sanitation but also contributed significantly to the overall health, well-being, and development of communities, demonstrating a deep commitment to improving the quality of life for those in need.

HIGHLIGHTS

HCI delivered water projects to 10 countries. These countries were Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Kenya, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, and Palestine (specifically East Jerusalem).

- ✓ Multiple water well constructions in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Kenya, and Somalia.
- ✓ Specific WASH projects in Syria for improving access to WASH facilities and services.
- ✓ Two distinct WASH projects in Yemen, one for constructing a deep-drilled water well and rehabilitating damaged wells, and another for emergency water restoration in Sana'a.
- ✓ A WASH project in Lebanon for drilling a well to access an underground lake.
- ✓ A WASH project in East Jerusalem focusing on improving access to WASH facilities and services.
- ✓ Additional sanitation and hygiene projects in Bangladesh and Somalia with toilet constructions.
- ✓ Training programs in Syria and Yemen for water committee members and individuals in hygiene and sanitation.

The total number of individuals who benefited from HCI's WASH programs across these countries is **307,708**. This includes a diverse range of beneficiaries, such as individuals in rural communities, families, children, teachers, and marginalized groups like the elderly and disabled, across various regions and under different conditions of need.

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES

WATER PROJECTS

NUMBER OF **DEDICATED PROJECTS**

INDIVIDUALS HELPED 307,708

AFGHANISTAN

148,699 INDIVIDUALS

BANGLADESH

INDIA

INDIVIDUALS

INDIVIDUALS

SYRIA

HOUSEHOLDS

HOUSEHOLDS

LEBANON

HOUSEHOLDS





In 2023, Human Concern International significantly advanced its mission to eradicate hunger and malnutrition through a diverse array of programs impacting numerous countries. These initiatives, part of the Zero Hunger and Malnutrition Portfolio, embody HCl's commitment to ensuring access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food for all, aiming to create a world where everyone enjoys an adequate and balanced diet.

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
HCI DELIVERED

ZERO HUNGER
PROJECTS TO

PROJECTS

5

NUMBER OF

INDIVIDUALS HELPED

403,467

A cornerstone of HCl's efforts was the bakery and bread distribution in Yemen, where two projects managed three bakeries, providing daily bread to vulnerable families. This initiative impacted **1,480** households, translating to over **8,000 individuals**, and played a crucial role in alleviating the burden of food insecurity.

In Afghanistan, the program focused on skills training and food distribution for 200 households, extending additional one-time food packs to 2,800 individuals. Lebanon saw similar efforts, with 300 households receiving monthly aid and 5,000 additional individuals benefiting from Zakat Al Fitr distributions, alongside another project that supported 772 households for three months.

Pakistan's initiatives combined skills training with food distribution, impacting **200 households** each month and extending support to an additional **500 households** for a month. Palestine mirrored this model, aiding **200 households** monthly and providing Zakat Al Fitr to **8,008 individuals**.

Somalia, Yemen, and Syria each had projects catering to **200 households** with skills training and monthly food distributions, alongside larger-scale food distribution projects. In Yemen, an additional project aided **835 households** for two months, while in Syria, **998 households** were supported for the same duration.

HCl's efforts extended to Jordan, Palestine, India, Morocco, Kenya, and Sudan, where varying numbers of households received monthly food distributions. During Ramadan, HCl's projects spanned across India, Bosnia, Burundi, Jerusalem, Guyana, Türkiye, Bangladesh, Gaza, Sudan, Tunisia, Jordan, Morocco, Pakistan, and Somalia, ensuring thousands of families received essential sustenance.

The Qurbani projects during Eid al-Adha were also significant, spanning countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Burundi, Palestine, Guyana, India, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria, Türkiye, and Yemen, and providing much-needed meat to thousands.

Aligned with HCl's strategic direction, the organization expanded food distribution to vulnerable communities in acute hunger regions, partnering with local organizations to ensure culturally appropriate aid. This effort supports the UN's SDG of Zero Hunger, focusing on ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture.

These initiatives not only address immediate hunger but also empower communities through sustainable support and skills training. Short-term impacts include stabilizing nutritional needs and addressing urgent food insecurity. Long-term goals aim to enhance food security by supporting agricultural development and nutritional education, reducing aid dependency, and improving health outcomes.

HCl's Zero Hunger and Malnutrition programs prevent malnutrition, promote health, and drive economic growth. By fostering social cohesion, reducing healthcare costs, and encouraging environmentally friendly practices, these programs contribute to broader socio-economic development, improving education, reducing poverty, and empowering women, thus laying a foundation for sustainable community well-being.

HIGHLIGHTS

Number of Countries HCI Delivered Zero Hunger Projects To:

HCI delivered food aid and relief to **20 countries**, including Yemen,
Afghanistan, Lebanon,
Pakistan, Palestine, Somalia,
Jordan, India, Morocco,
Guyana, Türkiye, Bangladesh,
Gaza, Sudan, Tunisia, Bosnia,
Burundi, and Syria.

Number of Projects:

Human Concern
International delivered 5
projects, ranging from
bakeries and bread
distribution, skills training
and food distribution, food
distribution for Ramadan,
and Qurbani meat
distribution during Eid
al-Adha. Each project was
designed to address specific
needs related to hunger and
malnutrition in the
respective countries.

Total People Helped:

The total number of individuals who benefited from HCl's Zero Hunger and Malnutrition program exceeded 403,467. The program targeted a variety of beneficiaries, including households, families, children, and students, across the different projects. The comprehensive reach of these projects indicates a large-scale impact.

CASE STUDY

In the arid landscapes of

drought-stricken Afgoye, Lower

Shabelle Region, Somalia, where

hardship had become a daily

Maxamed Hiraabe and Aniso

Maxamed Cali, two resilient

mothers, found a glimmer of

intervention of food support.

hope through our timely

reality, the lives of Caaisho

Somalia



Caaisho, a dedicated mother of six, faced the overwhelming challenge of sustaining her family after relentless droughts decimated all their livelihood assets. The arrival of monthly food parcels from HCI marked a significant turning point. Each package, filled with essential staples like rice, wheat flour, sugar, vegetable oil, dates, and powdered milk, was more than mere sustenance; it represented a beacon of hope in their lives. Caaisho witnessed a remarkable improvement in her children's health and well-being since they started receiving these provisions. With newfound optimism, she eagerly awaited the end of the heavy rains, hoping to turn a new leaf by planning and cultivating her crops.

Aniso's story, paralleling Caaisho's, is another testament to resilience. Displaced from her home due to the drought, Aniso found herself in Afgoye, uncertain of how to provide for her five children. The food assistance came at a critical moment, providing much-needed relief and a sense of security. Aniso expressed her sincere appreciation for the support, which allowed her to look towards the future with a renewed sense of purpose. Determined to make the most of this aid, she planned to invest her efforts in planting and growing crops, aspiring to use agriculture not just for her family's sustenance but also as a potential business venture. She envisioned a future where she could not only meet her family's immediate food needs but also contribute to their long-term stability through agriculture.



Both Caaisho and Aniso's experiences highlight the profound impact that essential food aid can have on individuals and families facing dire circumstances. Their stories are a powerful reminder of how timely support can not only meet immediate nutritional needs but also inspire hope and provide a foundation for a more secure and self-sufficient future. Through their strength and determination, coupled with the essential support they received, Caaisho and Aniso began to write new chapters in their lives, characterized by improved health, optimism, and the potential for growth and development.



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EDUCATION

In 2023, Human Concern International made significant strides in the field of education, positively impacting the lives of **5,963 beneficiaries** across **7 countries**, including Afghanistan, India, the USA, Pakistan, Syria, Palestine, and Kashmir (Pakistan). These educational initiatives demonstrate HCl's commitment to enhancing learning opportunities and supporting academic success, particularly among underprivileged and crisis-affected communities.



HCI's diverse range of educational programs included:

Education on Wheels in India, providing alternative learning pathways to out-of-school children from slum and disadvantaged communities, helping to mainstream them into formal education.

Employment and Career Prep Project in the USA, funding **30 women** to pursue specialized certification in higher education, focusing on employable skills and boosting self-confidence.

Education Projects in Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Kashmir, improving access to education for crisis-affected children, impoverished orphans, Afghan refugee children, and enhancing classroom learning environments.

Specialized Education for Visually Impaired

Students in Gaza, where high-quality education and rehabilitation were provided, including the use of Braille typewriters.



Key achievements of these initiatives include:

- ✓ Enrolling **160** out-of-school children in Syria and **121** in remedial learning programs.
- Providing 10 Braille typewriting machines in Gaza.
- Repairing and equipping 3 public schools with essential facilities and installations.
- Training 17 teachers and education personnel on child protection and psychosocial support.
- Distributing school kits and cash allowances to support children's education needs.

The beneficiaries of these programs were diverse, ranging from students receiving alternative learning resources in India to women in the USA gaining post-secondary education, and teachers in Pakistan enhancing their professional skills. In Syria, both girls and boys accessed non-formal education, while in Kashmir, education improved health and hygiene conditions for children.

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES HCI DELIVERED

EDUCATION PROJECTS TO

NUMBER OF DEDICATED PROJECTS

9

INDIVIDUALS HELPED

Aligned with HCl's strategic direction, the organization targeted vulnerable groups, such as girls and children with disabilities, and invested in teacher training and infrastructure to enhance education quality in impoverished regions. By promoting sustainable initiatives like community-led schools, HCl ensured long-term educational opportunities.

HCl's approach involves collaborating with communities, establishing advisory committees, and fostering sustainability. This aligns with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of Quality Education by ensuring inclusive and equitable education and promoting lifelong learning.

Impact of HCI's Education Programs:

Short-Term: Immediate access to educational resources for underprivileged children, bridging gaps in basic education and literacy.

Long-Term: Creating sustainable educational systems through teacher training, infrastructure development, and community-led initiatives, empowering individuals and communities for future success.

HIGHLIGHTS

HCI delivered education projects to **7 countries**. These countries are Afghanistan, India, the USA, Pakistan (including a project in Kashmir), Syria, Palestine, and Gaza.

HCl implemented several distinct education projects across these countries. These included the Education On Wheels program in India, the Employment and Career Prep Project in the USA, various education projects in Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Kashmir, and a specialized education program for visually impaired students in Gaza.

HCl's education programs helped more than **5,963 individuals.** This number encompasses students who received alternative learning resources, women who gained specialized certification, children who accessed non-formal education, teachers who enhanced their skills, students enrolled in school and provided with educational resources, and students with disabilities accessing specialized educational facilities and resources.

SHELTER SYRIA VILLAGE PROJECT



Total People Helped In The Project

The Village of Hope project by Human Concern International has significantly impacted the lives of those in rural Aleppo, Syria. With the initiative reaching 300 families directly, the total number of direct beneficiaries stands at approximately 2,100 individuals. Additionally, the project has indirectly benefited the community by employing around 60 individuals, who in turn support their families through various employment opportunities within the project's framework. The school within the project is set to accommodate up to 1,000 students, ranging from kindergarten to high school, further extending the project's reach and impact on the community.

Country Overview: Syria

Syria has been deeply affected by conflict and displacement for over a decade, leading to a humanitarian crisis with millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. The ongoing conflict has devastated infrastructure, disrupted normal life, and created immense challenges for the population, including access to basic needs such as safe housing, education, healthcare, and employment opportunities.

Challenges

The challenges that necessitated the Village of Hope project in Syria are manifold. Firstly, the conflict and subsequent displacement created a critical need for safe and durable housing for IDP families. Additionally, disrupted educational systems left many children without access to schooling, exacerbating the long-term socio-economic impacts of the conflict. Healthcare services have been overwhelmed or destroyed, leading to dire medical needs among the population. Moreover, the lack of employment opportunities has compounded economic hardships, making it difficult for displaced families to sustain themselves. These challenges are further exacerbated by the destruction of community infrastructure, leaving many without access to essential services and support networks.

Aid Delivered

The aid delivered through the Village of Hope project encompasses several key areas:

- ✓ Housing: Construction of transitional shelter units to provide safe homes for vulnerable IDP families.
- **Education:** Establishment of a school accommodating up to 1,000 students, ensuring children and youth have access to education from kindergarten through high school.
- ✓ Healthcare: A clinic offering free medical. services, along with referrals to public hospitals when necessary, addresses immediate health needs.

- ✓ **Economic Support:** The creation of six shops and various employment opportunities within the project stimulates local economic activity and supports families financially.
- ✓ **Community Development:** Additional facilities such as playgrounds and mosques foster a sense of community and well-being among residents.



Insight Into Recipients

The recipients of aid from the Village of Hope project are a diverse group, comprising men, women, children, and the elderly from IDP families. This holistic approach ensures that all members of the community, regardless of age or gender, benefit from the project. The inclusion of educational facilities caters primarily to children and youth, ensuring they continue their education despite the disruptions caused by displacement. The economic and healthcare components of the project serve the broader community, providing crucial support to adults, including the elderly, and contributing to the overall health and economic stability of the area.



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CASE STUDY

Syric

In the heart of Syria, where the echoes of conflict are a constant reminder of the past, lived Mohammed and his family. Originally from Homs, Mohammed's life had been a series of displacements, each move dictated by the relentless tide of war. From Palmyra to Raqqa, and finally to Al-Bab, he sought refuge wherever he could find it. For the past eight years, Al-Bab had been their home, but it was a home defined by the thin walls of a tent.



Mohammed's Journey: From Despair to

Life in the camp was harsh and unforgiving. In winter, continuous rain would seep into their tent, soaking the ground and mattresses. In summer, the tent's nylon cover trapped the heat, turning it into an unbearable oven. Safety was a constant concern; Mohammed worried about his daughters, knowing that the camps were not always secure. Cleanliness, too, was a luxury they could rarely afford. Fetching water was a daily struggle, a far cry from the days when they could simply turn on a tap.

On February 6, 2023, a devastating earthquake struck, worsening the already dire conditions in North West Syria. Amid this chaos, a beacon of hope emerged—the "Dignified Shelter Units Construction Project." This initiative aimed to provide new homes to families like Mohammed's, who had lost almost everything.

Mohammed was chosen as a beneficiary due to his family's dire circumstances and urgent need for stable housing. The criteria for selection were stringent, focusing on those living in tents, facing financial instability, and dealing with chronic illness or other vulnerabilities.

Skilled workers constructed Mohammed's new home using quality materials, ensuring it was safe and sturdy. The design of the house accounted for future challenges, providing resilience against potential disasters. More than just a shelter, the project included essential community facilities like a health center, child-friendly spaces, a worship center, a school, and retail shops.

Moving into the new home marked a profound change in Mohammed's life. The house offered dignity, safety, and a sense of belonging. It provided a stable foundation for his family's future, enabling them to focus on building a better life rather than merely surviving. The entire community benefited from the project's comprehensive approach, which fostered social and economic growth.

"Today we moved to the residential village of Ard Al Amal thanks to the efforts of donors, good-hearted people, and organizations," said Mohammed. "May God reward you and bless you with health. We arrived at the village, which is almost fully equipped with various facilities, including recreational ones like parks and children's playgrounds. There are also essential service facilities such as a school that goes from primary to tenth grade and a medical point that serves patients at least for emergency cases and referrals to hospitals. Thankfully, support is arriving gradually and improvements are ongoing. Water is available."

Mohammed's journey from the despair of a war-torn camp to the hope of a new home is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

The "Dignified Shelter Units Construction Project" has empowered him and his family to face the future with newfound strength and determination, transforming their lives and fostering a supportive, thriving community.



HEALTH

In 2023, Human Concern International's health programs made a substantial impact in three countries: Syria, Bosnia, and Yemen. These initiatives, aimed at addressing health inequity and inequality, benefited a total of 38,190 **individuals,** focusing on the most vulnerable and marginalized communities.

HCl's health portfolio concentrated on strengthening health systems and providing essential health services where resource gaps existed. This included supplying functional medical equipment for early diagnosis and disease prevention, medications, and specialized medical provisions such as midwifery and mental health support. Essential health services extended by HCI encompassed vaccinations, disease prevention and treatment, and reproductive healthcare.



Mobile Clinic In Northern Syria

The clinic played a crucial role in improving access to primary healthcare in hard-to-reach locations. It provided essential health services, nutritional education, resources for nursing mothers, psychosocial support, and awareness-raising services to displaced affected people. This initiative significantly contributed to limiting disease spread in impoverished villages, enabling continuous monitoring of health status for the elderly and individuals with chronic diseases, and raising awareness about diseases like COVID-19 and cholera. The mobile clinic facilitated 12,973 medical consultations, 9,348 community health consultations, and screened **8,751 individuals** for acute malnutrition. Additionally, it provided employment opportunities, enhancing financial independence for locals.



Care for the Elderly and Infirm in Bosnia

This project in Sarajevo focused on providing home-based care and essential community health services to older individuals and persons with disabilities. Beneficiaries received support in monitoring vitals such as blood pressure and diabetes, wound care, medication support, food provisions, and assistance with household tasks and daily errands. The project served 165 elderly **people**, offering comprehensive care that significantly improved their quality of life.

HCI's strategic direction involves investing in rebuilding and strengthening local healthcare infrastructure to ensure sustainability beyond immediate crises. By collaborating with local governments and international partners, HCI aims to secure long-term funding and resources for maintaining and expanding healthcare services in crisis-affected areas. This approach aligns with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of Good Health and Wellbeing.

Impact of HCI's Health Programs:

Short-Term: Provided immediate physical and mental healthcare services to crisis-affected communities. **Long-Term:** Strengthened local healthcare systems to better manage future health crises.

HCI's health programs demonstrate a deep commitment to enhancing the well-being of communities in need. By addressing both medical and socio-economic aspects of health, these initiatives not only improve immediate health outcomes but also contribute to the long-term resilience and sustainability of communities. HCI's focus on inclusive health services, especially for vulnerable groups like the elderly, disabled, and those in crisis-affected areas. underscores their dedication to creating a healthier, more equitable world.

HIGHLIGHTS

HCI delivered healthcare projects in 3 countries: Syria, Bosnia, and Yemen.

The report highlights two specific healthcare projects:

- ✓ Mobile Clinic in Northern Syria, providing a range of health services in hard-to-reach areas.
- ✓ The Care for Elderly and Infirm Phase 2 **project** in Bosnia, Sarajevo, focusing on home-based care and community health services for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

The total number of beneficiaries from HCI's healthcare programs was 38,190. This figure encompasses those who received various healthcare services, including medical consultations, nutritional education, psycho-social support, and other essential health services provided through these projects.

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES **HCI DELIVERED**

HEALTHCARE PROJECTS

NUMBER OF **DEDICATED PROJECTS**

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS HELPED 38,190

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)

Human Concern International's Child Sponsorship Program (CSP) in 2023 significantly impacted the lives of children across the globe. The program operated in 13 countries and directly benefited 2,664 children and approximately 7,975 family members.

The CSP provided comprehensive support in various areas crucial for children's development.

Key Components of The Program Include:

Education: HCI's CSP offered opportunities for quality education to children, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds in crisis-affected areas. Its initiative included unique programs like Education on Wheels in India, which streamlined out-of-school children towards formal education.

Healthcare: Regular health and medical checkups were a vital part of the program, ensuring the physical well-being of the sponsored children.

Nutrition: Food packages and daily nutritional support were provided, especially in areas like Rohingya, where children received school snacks and hygiene materials.

Social Development Activities: In countries like Lebanon, psychosocial awareness sessions were conducted to cater to the mental health and well-being of the children.

Livelihood Support for Families: The program also focused on the families of the sponsored children, providing conditional cash transfers and assistance in various forms to ensure a stable home environment conducive to the children's development. Cash assistance constituted 49% of the total budget.



The Impact of HCI's CSP was widespread

In Palestine. **326 children** received conditional cash transfers, health checkups, and were involved in entertainment activities.

In Afghanistan, Syria, and Pakistan, the program supported education and healthcare needs, including winter clothing, stationery, and health checkups. In Lebanon, 400 children received comprehensive support, including conditional cash transfers and winter

In countries like Yemen, Tunisia, and Morocco, the program addressed the holistic needs of children, providing them with essential supplies and support to enhance their quality of life.

HCI's strategic direction focuses on strengthening relationships with the families of sponsored children, improving home environments, and expanding outreach to more countries. The organization is committed to enhancing donor engagement through transparent impact reporting and building stronger partnerships with local organizations. Aligned with SDG goals of Quality Education, Good Health and Wellbeing, and Gender Equality, the Child Sponsorship Program exemplifies HCI's dedication to breaking the cycle of poverty by providing immediate relief through food, shelter, healthcare, and education.

The program not only addresses children's immediate needs but also fosters long-term development by focusing on education, healthcare, nutrition, and psychosocial support, empowering children to reach their full potential. The impact extends beyond individual children to their families and communities, establishing a foundation for sustainable progress and well-being.



HIGHLIGHTS

HCI's Child Sponsorship Program operated in 13 countries. Children from Bangladesh, the Rohingya community, India, Guyana, Yemen, Tunisia, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Somalia, Pakistan, Morocco, Syria, and Turkey received the support they needed.

The Child Sponsorship Program has various components, such as education, healthcare, nutrition, psychosocial support, and livelihood assistance for families. These components can be considered different facets or initiatives within the broader

The total number of individuals directly benefited by HCI's Child Sponsorship Program was 2,664 children. Additionally, the program impacted approximately 7,975 family members of these children, indicating a broader reach and influence on the communities and families of the sponsored children.

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WITH

NUMBER OF DEDICATED PROJECTS

NUMBER OF DEDICATED **CHILDREN BENFITS**

CASE STUDY

Lebanon

OMAR'S JOURNEY

From Adversity to Aspiring Pilot

Omar's journey reminds us that with resilience, determination, and the support of others, even the most challenging circumstances can be overcome. His story highlights the importance of compassion and community in helping individuals rise above adversity and achieve their dreams.



Omar Rashiq Abd Al Aal, a resilient 13-year-old orphan, lives in Iklim Al Kharroub, South Lebanon, with his mother and sister. The family relies on his mother's salary and the sponsorship Omar receives to meet their basic needs and support his education. Despite being born with an artificial leg and facing numerous challenges, induding bullying from peers, Omar remains dedicated to his studies and dreams of becoming a pilot.

Omar's journey has not been easy. He endures emotional and psychological strain from past traumatic experiences, including sexual harassment during his early childhood. The financial burden of needing surgery and treatment for his artificial leg further compounds his difficulties. Despite these obstacles, Omar's story is one of unwavering deter mination and resilience.

Thanks to generous sponsorship, Omar's life has seen significant positive changes. The financial support covers his school fees and some medical expenses, providing a comprehensive approach to his well-being. Omar expresses profound gratitude to his sponsor, acknowledging the invaluable assistance that has made these changes possible.

Beyond financial aid, our dedicated psychosocial support team has been instrumental in Omar's transformation. Through various activities and support sessions, Omar has been empowered to confront and overcome his challeng es positively. This holistic approach equips Omar with the tools to navigate life's difficulties successfully.

Omar deeply appreciates having someone care for him, especially in the absence of his father and amid challeng ing circumstances. The support he receives strengthens him emotionally, instilling a powerful motivation to confront and conquer obstacles, inspiring him to pursue and achieve his dreams.

Omar's openness about his journey, challenges, and the positive changes brought about by

sponsorship highlight the profound impact of our initiatives. His joy and thankfulness are evident as he shares how sponsorship has allowed him to continue his education and access neces sary treatment. However, Omar recognizes the need for additional support, particularly concerning his upcoming surgery and psychological therapy.

With determination, Omar looks forward to securing the support required for his surgery and psychological thera py, essential steps in achieving his dream. His gratitude towards his sponsor is palpable, expressing a sense of luck and appreciation for having someone steadfastly by his side.

I need to continue studying despite the bullying act since my dream is to become a pilot. When I was a small kid, an old man tried to sexually assault me and that was very hard to overcome. I need to undergo surgery with treatment and that's very expensive and I need psychological support to overcome all these difficulties.

Your continued support is crucial in empowering individuals like Omar to overcome obstacles and fulfill their aspirations. Together, we can make a meaningful impact by addressing immediate needs and paving the way for lasting positive change, becoming catalysts for transformative journeys and brighter futures.



DOMESTIC

In 2023, Human Concern International significantly enhanced its community engagement in Canada through various local projects, reaching 6,927 individuals and supporting over 400 families. This initiative marked the first year of HCl's regional teams collectively launching local programs, establishing stronger partnerships with local partners, and increasing volunteer involvement. Key activities included distributing warm meals, school supplies, winter kits, haircuts, and organizing youth programs, Ramadan hampers, and Qurbani aid. These efforts not only provided direct assistance to local communities but also introduced HCl's compassionate mission to new beneficiaries, strengthening its presence and connection within these communities.







DEDICATED PROJECTS

FAMILIES 400 INDIVIDUALS 6,927 HUMAN CONCERN INTERNATIONAL ______ ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 37

EMPOWERING WOMEN:

A CORNERSTONE OF HCI'S IMPACT IN 2023

In 2023, Human Concen International continued to champion women's empowerment as a fundamental aspect of its mission to foster inclusive and sustainable development across the globe. Through a variety of initiatives, HCl has made significant strides in uplifting women, enabling them to become key agents of change within their communities. This section highlights the remarkable contributions of HCl's programs towards women's empowerment in the societies they serve.



Fostering Leadership and Civic Engagement in Canada

In Canada, HCI partnered with local organizations to empower **35 refugee and newcomer women**, enabling them to spearhead positive social change. These women were provided with opportunities to enhance their leadership skills, connect with resources, and engage in civic and political activities. A notable initiative was an educational trip to Ottawa, offering them a deeper understanding of the Canadian political system and fostering a supportive community network. This program not only empowered the women involved but also laid the groundwork for creating more inclusive communities.

Advancing Education and Economic Independence in the United States

In the United States, HCI launched a transformative initiative aimed at empowering women through education. By funding **30 women** from diverse backgrounds to pursue higher

education in various fields, HCl has played a pivotal role in boosting their confidence, income security, and sense of purpose. This personalized approach to education empowerment is a testament to HCl's commitment to fostering community support networks and enhancing the quality of life for these women.

Supporting Female-Headed Households in Morocco

HCI's Winter Relief initiative in Morocco focused on providing essential support to vulnerable families, particularly those led by women. By assisting four female-headed households to achieve homeownership and providing essential bedding items to six others, HCI has significantly contributed to their economic independence and empowerment. This holistic approach not only addresses immediate needs but also promotes long-term resilience and empowerment among women in Morocco.

Empowering Girls through Education Globally

The Child Sponsorship Program is a clear demonstration of HCl's dedication to empowering girls through education. With more than half of the children in the CSP being girls, HCl has facilitated access to education for girls in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and South America. By providing school fees, education supplies, and healthy meals, HCl is helping these girls to lead healthy, safe, and prosperous lives, empowering them to make informed decisions for their future.

Stories of Hope and Success

The stories of Anshifa and Ashira from India are just two examples of how HCl's sponsorship program has transformed lives. Anshifa, an 18-year-old orphan, is now pursuing a Pre-Primary Teacher Training Course, while Ashira has excelled in her education and is interning as a BSc Medical Laboratory Technician. These success stories underscore the profound impact of HCl's efforts on empowering girls and women, enabling them to envision and work towards a brighter future.





ZAKAT STATEMENT

In 2023, Human Concern International harnessed Zakat contributions to significantly impact communities in need across the globe.

Approximately 90% of our projects targeted Zakat-eligible beneficiaries, channeling these vital funds into comprehensive programs. Through the support of Zakat, we delivered food aid to combat hunger, facilitated access to quality education, provided free health services to those in underserved areas, and ensured access to clean

water, addressing some of the most pressing needs of our times. This strategic allocation of Zakat has enabled us to reach an expansive number of individuals, directly translating into life-enhancing interventions for countless communities. Our efforts underscore the powerful effect of Zakat in fostering sustainable development, health, education, and well-being among the most vulnerable.

Zakat, when harnessed effectively, is a powerful force for change, transforming lives by addressing hunger, health, education, and clean water needs. In 2023, Human Concern International's strategic use of Zakat funds demonstrated how this essential pillar of giving can foster sustainable development and uplift the most vulnerable communities worldwide.











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RAMADAN 2023

Human Concern International embarked on a transformative journey during the holy month of Ramadan, reaching deep into the heart of communities across the globe. From the bustling cities of Asia and the Middle East to the vibrant landscapes of Africa and the diverse communities in North and South America, our Ramadan distributions touched the lives of tens of thousands, delivering not just food, but hope and solidarity.

ZAKAT AL FITR DISTRIBUTIONS

BAGS OF RICE

13,592

MIDDLE EAST

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED

11,525

AFRICA

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED

8,545

ASIA

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED

18,823

NORTH & SOUTH AMERICA

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED

1,935



In the **Middle East**, our efforts illuminated the lives of 11,525 individuals with food aid, bringing together families to share in the joy and spirit of Ramadan. Asia saw a wave of support, with 18,823 individuals benefiting from our distributions, ensuring that the festive spirit was alive even in the most challenging circumstances. Africa's story was one of resilience and community, with 8,545 individuals receiving aid, demonstrating the power of collective action. Meanwhile, in **North and South** America, we reached out to 1.935 individuals in Guyana, highlighting the universal message of Ramadan: compassion, unity, and care for one another.

Our Zakat al-Fitr distributions were a testament to our commitment to fulfilling our religious obligations, providing **13,592 bags of rice** across Yemen, Syria, Palestine, and Lebanon, ensuring that the essence of giving and sharing was felt by all.

FOOD BASKET INCLUDE

RICE, FLOUR, SUGAR, RED BEANS, SALT, OIL DATES, TEA, LEAVES, SOME SPICES, NUTRITIONAL JUICE, LENTILS AND CHICKPEAS

EID GIFTS

OUR CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM DONORS DONATED \$7,500 IN EID GIFTS FOR THEIR CHILDREN

The true essence of giving lies not just in the act itself, but in the impact it creates—bringing hope, unity, and compassion to those in need, especially during sacred times like Ramadan.



QURBANI/UDHIYA

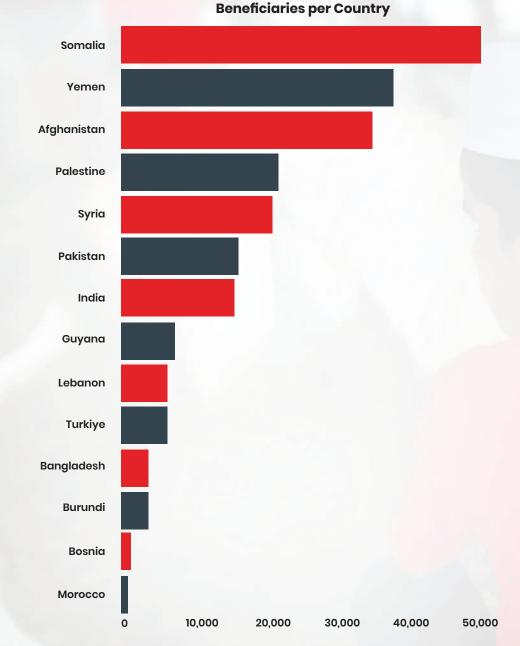
In 2023, thanks to the heartfelt contributions of our donors, Human Concern International's Qurbani distribution initiative made a significant impact on the lives of vulnerable populations across several countries. Because of you, 213,776 people in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Burundi, Palestine, Guyana, India, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria, Turkiye (Turkey), and Yemen joined Muslims globally in celebrating Eid ul-Adha. Alhamdulillah!

Our focused approach catered to households led by women, children, individuals with disabilities, and those enduring food insecurity, ensuring they received nutritious meat packages and children enjoyed the spirit of Eid through thoughtful gifts.

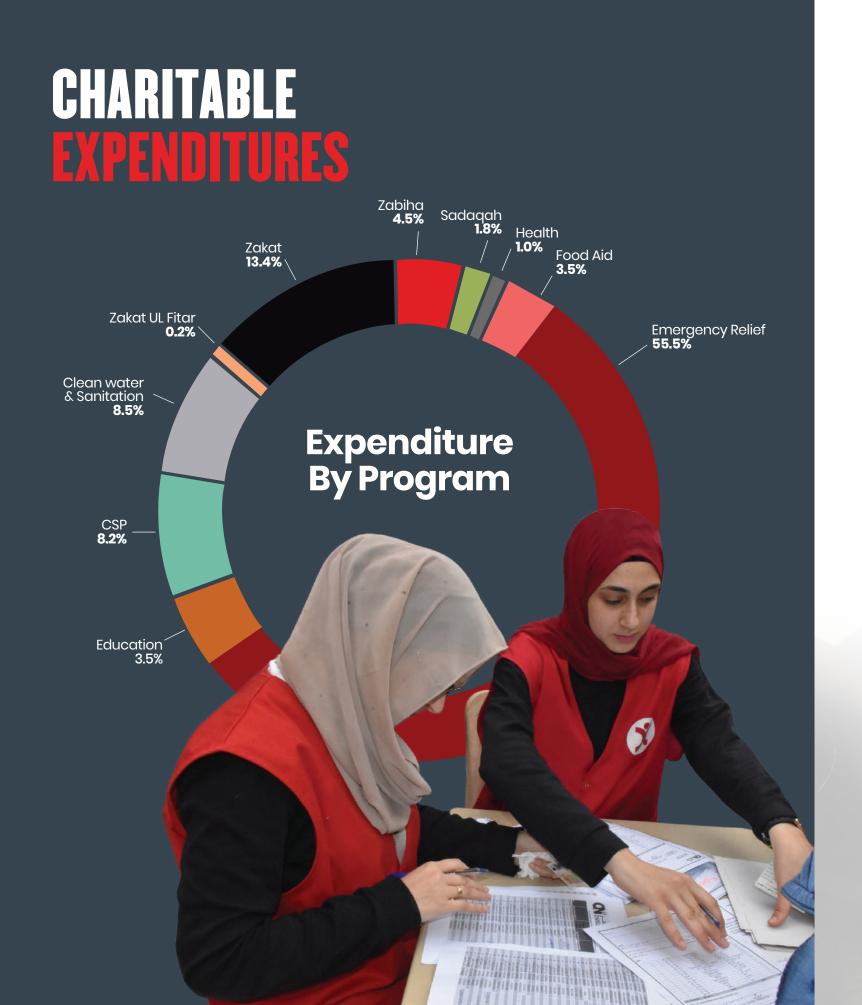
This expanded effort, part of our annual impact report, showcases the depth of our commitment to empathy, community solidarity, and the vital role your support plays in enriching lives. Together, we have sown seeds of hope and kindness, illustrating the profound effect of collective action in times of need.

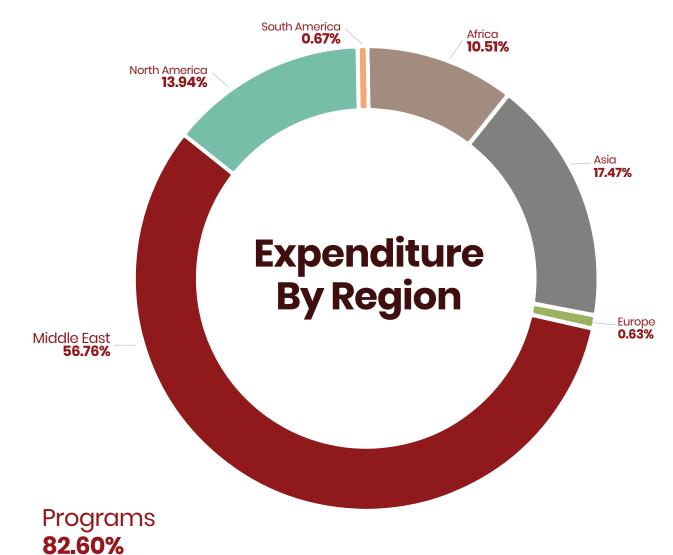
Collective compassion and generosity have the power to bring hope and joy to the most vulnerable, demonstrating that when we come together in times of need, we can profoundly impact and uplift entire communities.











Total **Expenditures**

Total Revenue: **\$38,029,110**Total Program: **\$24,906,332**

Fundraising **12.80%**

Admin **4.60%**





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