

2015
ANNUAL
REPORT



ICNA Relief Canada
No Borders - No Boundaries

SERVING HUMANITY
SINCE 1997



Our Story

ICNA Relief Canada is a department of ICNA Canada, working in the field of community and social development. The Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) is federally registered in Canada as a charitable organization (Registration No. 118951169RR0001) and since 1970 we have built a widely respected reputation through our community welfare work. ICNA Relief Canada is dedicated to reaching out at home and abroad through a wide range of aid and rehabilitation projects; in particular, we endeavour to respond effectively to victims of natural disasters, wherever they occur.

Our Vision

ICNA Relief Canada is committed to providing leadership in the empowerment of lives, the creation of meaningful opportunities, and strengthening the bonds that link all of humanity.

Our Mission

ICNA Relief Canada is committed to human service through the effective integration of resources to help people in need. We strive to provide immediate response in times of disaster, and to implement programs that alleviate human suffering.



ICNA Relief Canada
No Borders - No Boundaries

SYRIA CRISIS

We spent over **\$1 Million** providing
Education, Healthcare, Winter Supplies,
Qurbani/Udhiya, Orphan Sponsorship, Food
and Water to needy Syrians since 2012

WE AIM TO BRING
100 FAMILIES
TO CANADA 🇨🇦

HELP US

- ➔ Sponsor a Family to Come to Canada
- ➔ Settle Landed Syrians in Canada
- ➔ Serve Syrian Refugees
- ➔ Sponsor a Syrian Orphan

DONATE ONLINE WWW.ICNARELIEFCANADA.CA/SYRIA

A message from our **BOARD CHAIR**



RAEES AHMED

*Assalamu Alaikum Wa
Rahmatullah (Peace be with you
and the Mercy of God)*

ICNA Relief Canada is a department of ICNA Canada, whose vision is to build an exemplary Muslim community – a community focused on achieving personal excellence in faith, worship and morality -contributing to the moral, social and economic development of Canadian society as a whole.

In keeping with this vision, ICNA Relief Canada is dedicated to empowering people in need, both locally and globally. We believe that our humble efforts can truly strengthen the bonds of humanity, particularly at a time when many communities like Syrians and the Rohingya Muslims, among others, are facing unprecedented social and economic challenges.

ICNA Relief Canada is committed

to giving hope and bringing positive change to the lives of disadvantaged people around the world, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, class, location, religion, color, cultural background, political affiliation or social status. Thus, our motto is “No Borders, No Boundaries.” We are dedicated to bringing a smile on people’s faces by improving their quality of lives, ensuring we provide quality services with dignity.

In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada served more people and communities than ever before, spending in excess of 5 Million Dollars for 70 projects in more than 13 countries, Alhamdulillah. These projects ranged from building water wells and water filtration plants in drought-stricken areas, to the construction and operational funding of educational institutions and healthcare projects in Syria, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, and

Kenya. From Emergency and Disaster Relief projects in Syria, Nepal Burma, Gaza and Central African Republic, to fresh Zabiha meat distribution in over 14 countries worldwide, including parts of Myanmar and the Central African Republic. From sponsoring over 2700 orphans across the globe to establishing and operating local Canadian projects such as food banks, family counselling, seniors’ support, funeral support, free matrimonial services, women’s shelters (Maryam Home), Syrian refugee sponsorship and youth leadership and development programs (YLDP). These are only a few examples of how ICNA Relief Canada is trying to help people in need and empower them with your prayers and generous volunteer and financial support.

This year, we also worked tirelessly to further improve our project monitoring and audit processes,

to ensure that your generous donations are spent accountably, transparently and effectively. Therefore, we revamped our website and social media presence to ensure that our donors and the public receive regular updates about how and where ICNA Relief Canada spends their donations.

Thank you and we look forward to your continued support in 2016 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Raees Ahmed
Board Chair
ICNA Relief Canada



A message from our **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

SHAUKAT HUSSAIN

Assalamu 'Alaikum (Peace be with you):

Alhamdulillah, 2015 was quite a busy & productive year for ICNA Relief Canada. Like previous years, it presented us with many exciting challenges and opportunities related to our Local and Global Relief and Community Development efforts.

Thankfully, we were able to provide a timely response to the challenges we faced, providing emergency aid and relief to the needy victims of Nepal's two devastating Earthquakes; delivering food parcels to the victims of the ongoing Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar, as well as the rescued refugees (Burmese boat-people) in Aceh, Indonesia; bringing medical and food relief to the victims of the Syrian crisis, both inside Syria and

in the Middle East; delivering temporary shelter, medicine and food to those affected and displaced by Floods, Earthquakes and Landslides which affected Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and other parts of South Asia.

Additionally, we are humbled to have had the opportunity to do more charitable work than ever before, right here at home, where tens of thousands utilized the services offered via our 10 Resource Centers & Food Banks across the country. We were also able to respond quickly, helping to sponsor many Syrian Refugee Families to come to Canada.

My team and I are humbled to see how thousands of our new and existing donors, as well as committed volunteers across

the globe, have continued to respond and contribute to our appeals and ongoing efforts. For this trust, I feel deeply honored and grateful.

We ask you to help inform and motivate family, friends, colleagues and your local Masjid about our work. Visit our website, subscribe our weekly E-newsletters and follow us on Social Media. In Shaa Allah, together we will continue making meaningful differences and bringing a positive change to people's lives.

In closing, we hope that the following pages of this Annual Report 2015 will bear witness to our humble efforts and your generous contributions which together made it possible for our many programs to successfully continue and help

the needy here at home and around the world.

Jazakum Allahu Khayran and thanks a lot for owning this organization and embracing it as your own!

We ask you to please remember us in your sincerest thoughts & prayers and look forward to your constructive feedback, suggestions & support.

Thank you!

Shaukat Hussain
Executive Director
ICNA Relief Canada

OUR INITIATIVES

INTERNATIONAL



Orphan
Sponsorship
Program

**2700+ ORPHAN
CHILDREN RECEIVED
SUPPORT IN 14
COUNTRIES**



Educational
Relief

**DISBURSED OVER
\$295,000 ON
EDUCATIONAL
RELIEF PROJECTS**



Healthcare

**SPENT OVER \$336,000
ON HOSPITAL, CLINIC
CONSTRUCTION AND
MEDICAL SUPPLIES
PROJECTS**



Women
Empowerment

**PROVIDED AID TO
OVER 50 WIDOWS
& WOMEN IN NEED**



Disaster
& Emergency Relief

**SPENT CLOSE TO
\$650,000 IN DISASTER
& EMERGENCY RELIEF
PROJECTS**



Microfinancing

**ASSISTED NEEDY
INDIVIDUALS TO GAIN
FINANCIAL
INDEPENDENCE THROUGH
INTEREST FREE
MICROFINANCE LOANS**



Water for Life

**INVESTED
\$163,000 ON
CLEAN WATER
PROJECTS**



ICNA Relief Canada
No Borders. No Boundaries



Global Zabiha

QURBANI 2014

**PROVIDED FRESH
QURBANI MEAT TO
500,000 NEEDY
PEOPLE IN 15
COUNTRIES**

DOMESTIC



Maryam Home
(Women's Shelter)

**A TEMPORARY SAFE
SHELTER FOR WOMEN
EXPERIENCING ABUSE**



Resource Centers
& Food Banks

**SERVED OVER
65,000 INDIVIDUALS
THROUGH OUR
10 FOOD BANKS**



Refugee
Sponsorship

**PROCESSED 60 SYRIAN
REFUGEE FAMILY
APPLICATIONS, WITH
25 PEOPLE ALREADY
ARRIVED**



Domestic
Zakat Program

**PROVIDED OVER
\$38,000 FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE TO 50
FAMILIES IN CANADA**



Family
Counselling

**COUNSELLED
MORE THAN 130
FAMILIES**



Seniors Support

**ENGAGED SENIORS
IN CULTURALLY
WELCOMING AND
INCLUSIVE
ENVIRONMENTS**



Matrimonial
Support

**REGISTERED AND
INTRODUCED 200 NEW
FAMILIES AND
FACILITATED THE
SUCCESSFUL MATCHING
OF 2 COUPLES**



Funeral Support

**PROVIDED FUNERAL
& BURIAL SUPPORT
TO 8 NEEDY
FAMILIES**



Foster
Parenting

**RAISED AWARENESS
AND PROVIDED
GUIDANCE ON HOW
TO BECOME A
FOSTER PARENT**



Youth Leadership
Development
Program

**OVER 100 YOUTH
PARTICIPATED AT
THE MISSISSAUGA
AND TORONTO YLDPS**

COUNTRY-WISE DISBURSEMENTS 2015

International Programs

Disaster & Emergency Relief

Burma	\$237,067
Central African Republic	\$25,000
Gaza	\$193,273
India	\$28,285
Nepal	\$88,253
Pakistan	\$66,514
Sri Lanka	\$4,409

Educational Support

Bangladesh	\$2,000
India	\$60,722
Kenya	\$63,412
Pakistan	\$169,445

Healthcare

Pakistan	\$210,000
Syria	\$126,115

Microfinancing

Pakistan	\$9,167
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Orphan Sponsorship Program

Afghanistan	\$33,000
Bangladesh	\$60,000
Bosnia	\$3,000
India	\$136,700
Indonesia	\$6,600
Iraq	\$9,000
Kenya	\$57,600
Lebanon (Syrians)	\$66,420
Pakistan	\$402,885
Palestine	\$90,192
Sierra Leone	\$24,100
Sri Lanka	\$45,035

Water for life

Pakistan	\$145,732
India	\$17,750

Global Zabiha

Afghanistan	\$10,000
Bangladesh	\$30,440
Bosnia	\$2,750
Burma	\$21,615
India	\$91,038
Indonesia	\$9,550
Kashmir	\$21,500
Kenya	\$7,500
Nepal	\$6,440
Pakistan	\$144,645
Palestine	\$20,500
Somalia	\$5,500
Sri Lanka	\$19,745
Syria	\$46,500
Tanzania	\$5,500



Domestic Programs: Canada

Family Support		
	Pakistan	\$2,057
Orphanage Construction		
	Pakistan	\$296,000
Ramadan (Zakat ul Fitr)		
	Afghanistan	\$10,000
	Bangladesh	\$10,000
	Burma	\$85,000
	India	\$20,000
	Nepal	\$10,000
	Pakistan	\$32,500
	Somalia	\$10,000
	Sri Lanka	\$5,000
	Syria	\$20,000
Sadaqa / Aqeeqah		
	Bangladesh	\$7,180
	India	\$11,290
	Kenya	\$18,530
	Pakistan	\$17,350
	Syria	\$260

Disbursements

(Cash) \$506,681
(In-Kind) \$1,497,533

Through Our 10 Resource Centres & Food Banks Located in:

Surrey
Edmonton
Calgary
Milton
Mississauga
Thorncliffe
Scarborough
Ottawa
Montreal
Hamilton-Brantford

Total International Program Disbursements \$3,380,066

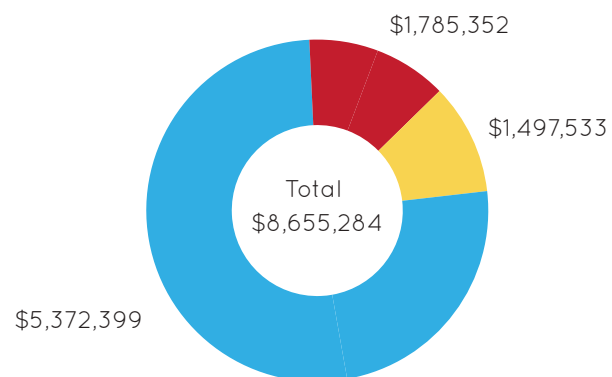
Total Domestic Program Disbursements \$2,004,214

*Financial Details are Subject to Audit.

Total Program Disbursements \$5,384,280

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

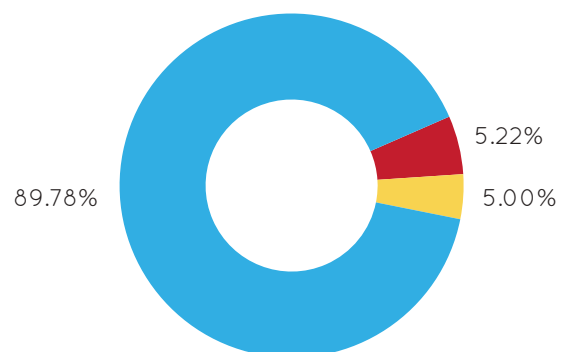
January - December 2015



REVENUE

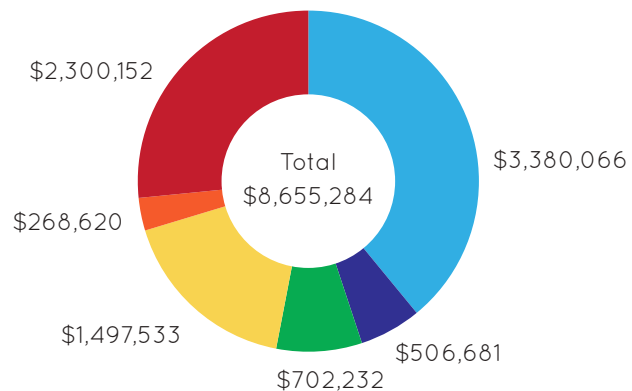
Total \$8,655,284

● Allocations for 2015 Programs	\$1,785,352
● In-Kind (Food Banks)	\$1,497,533
● Cash Collections	\$5,372,399



PERCENTAGE OF NON-PROGRAM EXPENSES

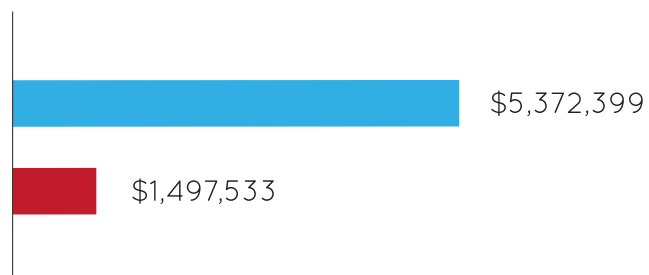
● Fundraising Expense	5.00%
● Management Expense	5.22%
● Programs	89.78%



DISBURSEMENTS

Total \$8,655,284

International Programs 2015	\$3,380,066
Domestic Programs	\$506,681
Non-Program Expense	\$702,232
In-Kind (Food Banks)	\$1,497,533
Endowment Fund (5%)	\$268,620
Allocations for 2016 Programs	\$2,300,152



COLLECTIONS

Total \$6,869,932

Funds	\$5,372,399
In-Kind	\$1,497,533

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS



DISASTER & EMERGENCY RELIEF

In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada conducted awareness & fund-raising campaigns for several international disasters and helped support over \$690,000 in Disaster and Emergency Relief projects, including:

- Gaza Crisis, Palestine
- South Asian Floods
- Civil Strife in Syria
- Nepal Earthquake
- Burma Crisis

Of the total spent on Disaster and Emergency Relief, ICNA Relief Canada invested over \$190,000 to deliver emergency aid and supplies for Gaza, and over \$237,000 to provide emergency food, shelter, and basic necessities in response to the Burma Crisis.

Around \$90,000 were also spent in providing Emergency Relief response to the devastating earthquake in Nepal. Furthermore, our delegation from Canada also personally visited Nepal, Burma, and the Turkish-Syrian border amidst the crises to participate in relief activities.

Disbursements on Disaster & Emergency Relief in 2015:

Burma	\$ 237,067
Central African Republic	\$ 25,000
Gaza	\$ 193,273
India	\$ 28,285
Nepal	\$ 88,253
Pakistan	\$ 66,514
Sri Lanka	\$ 4,409



EDUCATIONAL RELIEF

Everyone would agree that a good Educational System is paramount to a nation's success. With this in mind, ICNA Relief Canada continually invests in Education and in School Facility improvement projects in the developing world. In 2015, we spent near \$300,000 for several crucial Educational Support and Relief initiatives, mainly in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Kenya, and India. Projects included the renovation and/or expansion of primary schools, post-secondary education scholarships, skill enhancement programs, provision of school supplies such as desks, uniforms and other financial support

for schools serving the poorest children and adults from rural and slum areas; many of the most destitute people benefitting from our educational projects live in regions and countries suffering from abject poverty, war or natural disasters.

Note: The above are in addition to the educational programs that ICNA Relief Canada supports for orphan children under our Orphan Sponsorship Program in 12 countries.

Disbursements on Educational Relief Projects in 2015:

Bangladesh	\$2,000
India	\$60,722
Kenya	\$63,412
Pakistan	\$169,445





HEALTHCARE

ICNA Relief Canada provides many healthcare facilities and services worldwide. We help build hospitals, sponsor hospital operations, help setup emergency medical clinics in disaster zones and more.

In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada invested over \$ 330,000 on several major healthcare projects in Pakistan and Syria. These included funding for the construction and operation of full-fledged hospitals, clinics, mobile clinics, medical camps, diagnostic labs and ambulances.

Disbursements on Healthcare Projects in 2015:

Pakistan	\$210,00
Syria	\$126,115

SADAQA & AQEEQA

Each year, ICNA Relief Canada arranges to perform Sadaqa and Aqeeqa Goat and/or Sheep Sacrifices in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya. These projects provide an important and convenient service to Canadian benefactors who wish that the sacrificial meat be of benefit to the less privileged, instead of consuming it themselves. In 2015, we spent over \$54,000 on this project performing it in 5 countries.

Disbursements on Sadaqa/ Aqeeqa Projects in 2015:

Bangladesh	\$ 7,180
India	\$ 11,290
Kenya	\$ 18,530
Pakistan	\$ 17,350
Syria	\$ 260



Khurshid Hassan Pasha with AJK Education Minister Muhammad Matloob Inqalabi (left) and Chairperson of AJK Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education

Village Orphan **MAKES IT TO MEDICAL SCHOOL**

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF HOW THE LOVE AND CARE FROM SOMEONE LIKE YOU COULD HELP AN ORPHANED CHILD ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS AND GET A POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION?

Such is the story of ***Khurshid Hassan Pasha***, a determined and bright young man from Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Though orphaned at the tender age of just 3 years he completed his Hifz-ul-Quran, and made it to the prestigious King Edward Medical University, Lahore with the kind and generous support of a donor like you.

Had he not received this timely help and support through ICNA Relief Canada's Orphan Sponsorship Program, Khurshid may not have had the same opportunity and his dreams might have remained just dreams.

Khurshid is now working hard to become a medical doctor with the goal of treating common but easily curable diseases and providing free medical care to those in need in his country.

Please help ICNA Relief Canada support more Orphans like Khurshid Hassan Pasha to unleash their true potentials and realize their noble life and career dreams.

HELP MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE. SPONSOR AN ORPHAN CHILD FOR AS LITTLE AS \$30/MONTH.

<https://icnareliefcanda.ca/Orphan-Sponsorship>

COUNTRIES SERVED 2015







ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Our largest and most popular initiative, the Orphan Sponsorship Program saw an investment of close to 1 million dollars in twelve different countries for the support of 2,700 orphan children in 2015. The details of funds disbursed are on the following page.

Furthermore, we are helping to construct an entire Residential Block for a new Orphanage Project in Pakistan called The Aghosh Murree. We have invested \$296,000 for this project in 2015 alone.



Orphan Sponsorship Program Disbursements in 2015:

COUNTRY	DISBURSEMENT AMOUNT (\$)	# OF ORPHANS SPONSORED
Afghanistan	\$ 33,000	110
Bangladesh	\$ 60,000	200
Bosnia	\$ 3,000	10
India	\$ 136,700	455
Indonesia	\$ 6,600	22
Iraq	\$ 9,000	15
Kenya	\$ 57,600	120
Lebanon (Syrians)	\$ 66,420	94
Pakistan	\$ 402,885	1385
Palestine	\$ 90,192	150
Sierra Leone	\$ 24,100	80
Sri Lanka	\$ 45,035	150





WATER FOR LIFE

ICNA Relief Canada realizes the importance of clean water in helping to build and maintain healthy, prosperous communities in the developing world. In 2015, we invested more than \$160,000 on a few water projects including the drilling and construction of 100 hand-operated Community Water Pumps in remote villages across the Thar Desert of Pakistan as well as a clean water project which helped provide thousands of primary school students and staff with safe and abundant drinking water facilities at 22 Rural area schools in the Azad Jammu & Kashmir of Pakistan.

Visit www.icnareliefcanda.ca/water-for-life to learn more about the silent emergency of water scarcity, watch a brief video, and sponsor a life-changing water project from as little as \$1500!

Disbursements on Water for Life Program 2015:

India	\$ 17,750
Pakistan	\$ 145,732





WATER PROJECTS HELP TRANSFORM ENTIRE COMMUNITIES

**“THE BEST FORM OF CHARITY IS
GIVING WATER (TO DRINK).”**

(Hadith recorded by Nasai & Ibn Majah)

ICNA Relief Canada's Water for Life program seeks to make clean water, hygiene and sanitation available to the neediest communities across the world. In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada disbursed over \$150,000 on water projects in Pakistan & India alone! Water is a miraculous, life-giving gift of God that many communities around the world still don't have enough of. Help change this and transform entire communities for as little as \$1500!

Sponsor a Water Well Project or help construct a washroom for a modest school or community centre in a rural village of India or Pakistan.

SPONSOR A WATER PROJECT NOW:

<https://icnareliefcanda.ca/Water-for-Life>
Or contact us 1-844-997-8777,
water@icnareliefcanda.ca



GLOBAL ZABIHA / UDHIYA / QURBANI

In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada successfully arranged nearly 5,000 Goat and/or Cow share orders totaling over \$440,000 – an initiative that, Alhamdulillah, benefitted and enabled an estimated 500,000 needy people across 15 countries enjoy Fresh Meat on Eid ul Adha!

Disbursements for Global Zabiha in 2015:

Afghanistan	\$ 10,000	Nepal	\$ 6,440
Bangladesh	\$ 30,440	Pakistan	\$ 144,645
Bosnia	\$ 2,750	Palestine	\$ 20,500
Burma	\$ 21,615	Somalia	\$ 5,500
India	\$ 91,038	Sri Lanka	\$ 19,745
Indonesia	\$ 9,550	Syria	\$ 46,500
Kashmir	\$ 21,500	Tanzania	\$ 5,500
Kenya	\$ 7,500		

ZAKAT-UL-FITR (FITRA)

ICNA Relief Canada also disbursed \$202,500 on Ramadan Food and Eid Gift Distribution for the needy in Syria, Nepal, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, and Kenya, as well as in Canada. Our delegation from Canada also visited Burma during Ramadan to participate in the relief activities.

Disbursements on Zakat-ul-Fitr (Fitra) in 2015:

Afghanistan	\$ 10,000	Pakistan	\$ 32,500
Bangladesh	\$ 10,000	Somalia	\$ 10,000
Burma	\$ 85,000	Sri Lanka	\$ 5,000
India	\$ 20,000	Syria	\$ 20,000
Nepal	\$ 10,000		

DONATE YOUR ZAKAH & FITRA FOR THE CHILDREN OF BURMA, SYRIA & MORE!

Too many of the world's children are born into conflict and poverty. They know nothing of the joys of a normal childhood. Their lives are shattered and it's up to each and every one of us to help put the pieces back together and give them hope for a better tomorrow.

ICNA Relief Canada has a range of projects around the globe dedicated to helping those children who are in desperate need. From education to psychological care, medical treatment and a safe place to sleep, you can help a child survive the crisis they have been born into. For many, we are their only hope. Be a lifesaver and donate what you can today! This Ramadan, donate your Zakah, Fitra, Fidyah, Kaffara, and Sadaqa for the needy around the world (wherever our Ramadan Program is available).

Own the cause. Talk to and motivate family, friends, colleagues and your local Masjid to give from their Zakah, Fitra or General Donations! Contact us for help and details!

DONATE NOW:

<https://icnareliefcanda.ca/Donate>



INTERNATIONAL VISITS



Br. Syed M. Agha visits United Village Schools in Hyderabad, India

MEMBERS OF ICNA RELIEF CANADA'S TEAM PERIODICALLY VISIT OUR INTERNATIONAL PROJECT SITES IN ORDER TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND SHARE CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK WITH OUR PARTNERS.

During 2015, some members of our Management, our Board of Directors, ICNA Canada's Governing Body, as well as our Donors travelled from Canada to visit various areas of Pakistan, India, Nepal, Turkey, Burma, Indonesia, and Bangladesh to monitor, report and participate in our work.

India

Br. Syed M. Agha, who oversees our projects

in Canada & India, visited our Partner project sites in India in February 2015. He visited the Al-Shifa Multi-specialty Hospital in New Delhi, the Ehsas Clinic in Old Delhi, the Hyderabad Institute of Excellence in Hyderabad, the United Village Schools in Hyderabad, and several other projects in cities such as Chennai, Mysore and Kolkata, India.

Pakistan

In March 2015, Br. Abid R. Mir, manager of our Orphan Sponsorship Program, visited some of our main partners in the capital city of Islamabad, Pakistan, to assess the program's current performance and future needs.

Also in early 2015, Br. M. Arif Jahangiri,

Former Secretary General of ICNA Canada, visited some of our partners in Karachi, Pakistan; he was very pleased to see the positive impact that our health project partnerships are having in the lives of the under-privileged people there.

During February and March 2015, Br. Abdul Ghafoor Chaudhry, a long-time donor and our Ambassador, took time from his personal vacation in Pakistan to tour several of our partner project sites in and around the Punjab and Azad Kashmir regions.

In August, our Executive Director Br. Shaukat Hussain and our former chairperson Br. Yahya Mansoori visited several of our projects across Pakistan. Some of the places they visited included Hospitals in Mardan, Rawalpindi, Talagang & Karachi all projects

Br. Shaukat Hussain and Br. Yahya
 Mansoori in Pakistan >>
 [Top] Food distribution to flood
 victims in Charsadda, Peshawar.
 [Middle] Raazi Hospital in Islamabad

being constructed / managed by our partner AlKhidmat Foundation Pakistan with our financial support. They also visited AlKhidmat's Orphanage projects in Peshawar & Murree, and some of the Community Water Well project locations in Tharparkar which ICNA Relief Canada's generous donors helped to sponsor; Also among sites visited were AlKhidmat's Blood Banks & Schools in Punjab and Sindh provinces. The team later met with our other local partner officials and many orphan children in different areas that ICNA Relief Canada helps to support. Next, Brothers Yahya and Shaukat attended an Orphans' Get-together Program in Rawalpindi which was organized by one of our partners - Help in Need, Pakistan. Thereafter they met with some of AlKhidmat's Al-Falah Post-Secondary Education Scholarship Program beneficiaries in Lahore whom ICNA Relief Canada helps to support financially. These Higher Education Scholarships are granted to some of the brightest but financially deserving as well as needy orphan students across Pakistan.

During a visit to our partner - Ghazali Education Trust's schools, the team distributed Hygiene Kits among students who mostly came from needy families. Additionally, Brothers Shaukat and Yahya visited AlKhidmat Foundation's relief camp for the flood affected people of Chitral, KPK and

partook in relief activities there. As their last stop, they visited a 300 year old community of poor fishermen at Rehri Goth in Karachi. They found these people to be seriously deprived of some of the most basic necessities of life. The team identified some urgent needs of this community and is working on a plan to provide them with education, clean water, healthcare, food and hygiene awareness and supplies.

Nepal

In May 2015, ICNA Relief Canada's delegation consisting of Br. Shaukat Hussain (Executive Director) and Br. Tahir Alvi (ICNA Relief Canada's Board Member) visited Nepal. The purpose of their visit was to monitor the relief activities and aid being provided to the victims of the severe earthquakes that had struck there only a few weeks prior. ICNA Relief Canada's response team was one of the very first relief teams to arrive and provide aid to a small remote village near Mount Everest at the Indian border. The inhabitants of the area called Bahadurkali, District Sindhuli, a 7.5 hour drive from the capital city of Kathmandu, were provided Emergency Relief Supplies including Food & Medical Care by ICNA's team. The local minister, army, and police warmly welcomed our team to the region and provided security and support throughout the entire trip.

Br. Tahir Alvi in Burma >>



Syria & Turkey

Our delegation team consisting of Executive Director Br. Shaukat Hussain and ICNA Relief Canada Committee Board Member Br. Tahir Alvi also visited Turkey in May 2015. The purpose of the visit was to assess and address the needs of Syrian refugees inside Turkey. They visited various schools at Kumlu and Kirikhan Towns and identified that more educational projects were needed to secure the refugee children's futures. They also visited the border crossing points with the Syrian district of Reyhanli where they helped load a cargo van full of food boxes for Syrians. They also visited a hospital facility where they met numerous patients in rehabilitation. They found that there is a great need for supporting hospitals and medical rehabilitation centres within Turkey as well as inside Syria.

Burma & Indonesia

A two-person delegation from ICNA Relief Canada, Consisting of Br. Shaukat Hussain, Executive Director, and Br. Tahir Alvi, an ICNA Relief Canada Committee Board Member, visited Burma and Indonesia in July of 2015. The purpose of their visit was to meet with our regional relief partners from Indonesia who were working on the ground in Burma. They also reviewed the latest progress of our various relief projects that we helped to finance and partake in 2015's Ramadan Relief Program for the Rohingya Muslims inside Burma. They also assessed the various needs of the Rohingya Refugees in Burma, Indonesia and Malaysia to make plans and arrangements for new projects to help them in future.

Alhamdulillah, and with the help from members of our community, ICNA Relief Canada continues to improve in reporting from and monitoring our partners, as well as exploring further opportunities to assist needy and destitute people throughout the many countries in which we operate.

If you would like to become an ICNA Relief Canada Volunteer Ambassador for one of our domestic or international programs, or help us in some way, we would love to hear from you at volunteer@icnareliefcanda.ca

Br. Tahir Alvi & Br. Shaukat Hussain in Turkey

Br. Shaukat Hussain in Burma





DOMESTIC PROGRAMS

RESOURCE CENTRES & FOOD BANKS

ICNA Relief Canada operates the following 10 Resource Centres:

1. Brantford-Hamilton, ON
2. Calgary, AB
3. Edmonton, AB
4. Milton, ON
5. Mississauga, ON
6. Montreal, QC
7. Ottawa, ON
8. Scarborough, ON
9. Surrey, BC
10. Thorncliffe, ON

The Food Bank is an essential component of all of our Resource Centres. In 2015, our 10 Food Banks served more than 65,000 individuals (or close to 17,000 families)! With Allah's Mercy, this was made possible through generous support provided by the local communities (both financial and in-kind donations) and the tireless hard work of our Resource Centre staff and volunteers. Our combined Food Bank program operated on a budget of around \$1,000,000, with our Ottawa and Thorncliffe locations once again topping the list for highest activity and greatest number of clients served. In addition to Food Banks, some of our Resource Centers also provided other much-needed services through the following 8 programs: Muslim Family Services (MFS), Seniors' Support, Matrimonial Services, Funeral Support, Foster Parenting, Domestic Zakat Program and Youth Leadership Development Program (YLDP).

MUSLIM FAMILY SERVICES

Our Muslim Family Services (MFS) department strives to preserve and strengthen Canadian Muslim families and their values. Initiatives from previous years were continued in 2015 with increased efforts focused on better organizing, documenting and enhancing the quality of services provided.

COUNSELLING SERVICES

Counselling Services were provided to more than 130 families across Canada and included the following major areas:

- Marital and Family
- Religious/ Spiritual care
- New Immigrants and Refugees
- Crisis Intervention
- Referrals to other Agencies and Resources
- Finding Employment / Jobs

SENIORS' SUPPORT

Lack of attention and access to healthy socialization opportunities can have an adverse effect for the elderly. The Seniors' Support Program of ICNA Relief Canada aims to engage seniors in a culturally inviting and inclusive environment. Programs held during 2015 included educational and entertainment get-togethers in Mississauga, Milton, Scarborough, Thorncliffe (all in Ontario) and Edmonton, Alberta. Events such as workshops, 'Eid gatherings, an Annual Picnic, Outings, a Seniors Recognition Ceremony, Computer Training Classes, and Interactive Intergenerational Sessions for youth to connect and share experiences with valued

elders were organized. Special thank goes to the ICNA Canada's Sisters' Wing, whose members played an important role in arranging these programs.

In April 2015, ICNA Relief Canada's Mississauga location successfully completed a one year long "Glen Erin Seniors" project, which was funded by the Ontario Seniors Secretariat. This initiative focused on engaging and empowering local seniors through opportunities to serve as volunteers and mentors.



MATRIMONIAL SERVICES

Finding suitable marriage partners for Muslim youth in the West has become a major need and challenge for many immigrant families.

To address this problem, ICNA Relief Canada's free matrimonial services team works to make the matching process easier and less intimidating. Launched in July 2012, this initiative has been welcomed with great enthusiasm and is constantly evolving. Prospective candidates and/or their families are invited to register on the ICNA Relief Canada website and consult with our matrimonial services team.

In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada organized several sold-out social events and educational seminars on marriage, where individuals and families learned more about the Islamic perspective on marriage and were able to make positive connections. Over 200 new families registered for our Matrimonial Service and two marital matches were made. Many people received pre-marital counselling.

FUNERAL SUPPORT FUND

Today, the cost of purchasing a grave plot, and even the most modest funeral arrangements for a departed loved one can often reach into thousands of dollars. For many, these expenses are simply unaffordable and they are forced to rely on friends, family, and community members for financial help. To alleviate this problem, ICNA Relief Canada has established a Funeral (Janaza) Support Fund to assist needy families in covering some of the costs related to funerals for deceased loved ones. In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada assisted 8 needy families locally.

FOSTER PARENTING

Foster Parenting is a model through which foster parents provide care to children in safe, nurturing, and healthy family environments when a child's own family is unable to do so for any reason. ICNA Relief Canada's foster parenting initiative connects people interested in becoming foster parents with their local Children's Aid Society (CAS), as well as collaborating by organizing seminars and presentations to raise awareness and provide guidance on how to become a foster parent, especially within the Muslim community.

Of the seven prospects referred to CAS during 2015, one parent has completed her training and is soon to become a foster parent!

DOMESTIC ZAKAT PROGRAM (EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE)

Even in affluent times there are many who face great economic hardships and struggle to make ends meet. Each year, ICNA Relief Canada receives and carefully assesses countless applications for financial assistance and tries to provide a small, one-time amount of monetary relief (from our General Zakat Fund) aimed at alleviating a family's financial burden during dire situations. During 2015, ICNA Relief Canada provided financial assistance to 50 families within Canada, totaling about \$38,850 from our Zakat Fund.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (YLDP)

Each summer, our YLDP program helps impart valuable skills to high school students through a creative "learning while doing" approach. Consisting of seminars and exciting field projects in the areas of Personal Development, Organization, Communication, Community Activism and Social Development, this summertime weekend only program was offered in Mississauga and Thorncliffe, Ontario. Over

100 students participated and graduated from the program. For Ontario students, the YLDP experience also counts toward fulfilling part of the 40 volunteer hours required towards completing their secondary school diploma.

For 2016 YLDP registration, please visit our YLDP page – www.icnareliefcanada.ca/ylpd

MARYAM HOME (WOMENS' SHELTER)

Maryam Home is to be a temporary safe shelter for women experiencing abuse. In 2015, ICNA Relief Canada purchased the property in a stable and secure middle-class neighborhood in the west GTA region to create a space for women fleeing abusive relationships and looking for a safe living environment. Once operational, Maryam Home will welcome all women needing shelter but will seek primarily to help single Muslim women from the GTA who find themselves in abusive and/or threatening situations. This temporary residence will serve halal food and provide its female residents with a variety of culturally compatible counselling and wellness services. Qualified counsellors, caregivers and staff will help them return to living normal, respected and dignified lives.

SYRIAN REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP (SRS)

The Canadian government announced its temporary public policy dated September 19, 2015 to address the current Syrian refugee crisis and allowed entry to 10,000 Syrian Refugees under the Privately Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Scheme. ICNA Relief made the announcement to bring to Canada 100 Syrian Refugee Families under the PSR Scheme.

ICNA Relief Canada entered into a collaboration agreement as a Constituent Group with



the Islamic Foundation of Toronto (IFT) in December 2015, to carry out this sponsorship activity. Soon after signing the agreement with IFT, ICNA Relief Canada started to process the Syrian Refugee applications for Sponsorship with 60 Syrian Refugee applications processed so far. Alhamdulillah, we have already welcomed 9 of our sponsored refugee families in Canada.

IRC has made a structured plan for their resettlement in Canada. This plan is being followed and reports are being obtained about their settlement status. These families are settling in well in Canada. A dedicated orientation session was organized one month after their arrival. This session was designed to provide them with all the necessary information and orientation about common laws and regulations. Applications for all of the necessary documents were made within the first month of the families' arrival. We are expecting to receive the rest of our sponsored Syrian families very soon. After their initial settlement, the focus is to make them self-sufficient by linking them to

the professionals in the area of their interest and capabilities.

Future Plans:

ICNA Relief Canada is planning to extend our Refugee Sponsorship Program to sponsor Burmese Refugees. We have taken a few initiatives already and In Shaa Allah, intend to launch the Burmese Refugee Sponsorship Program very soon.



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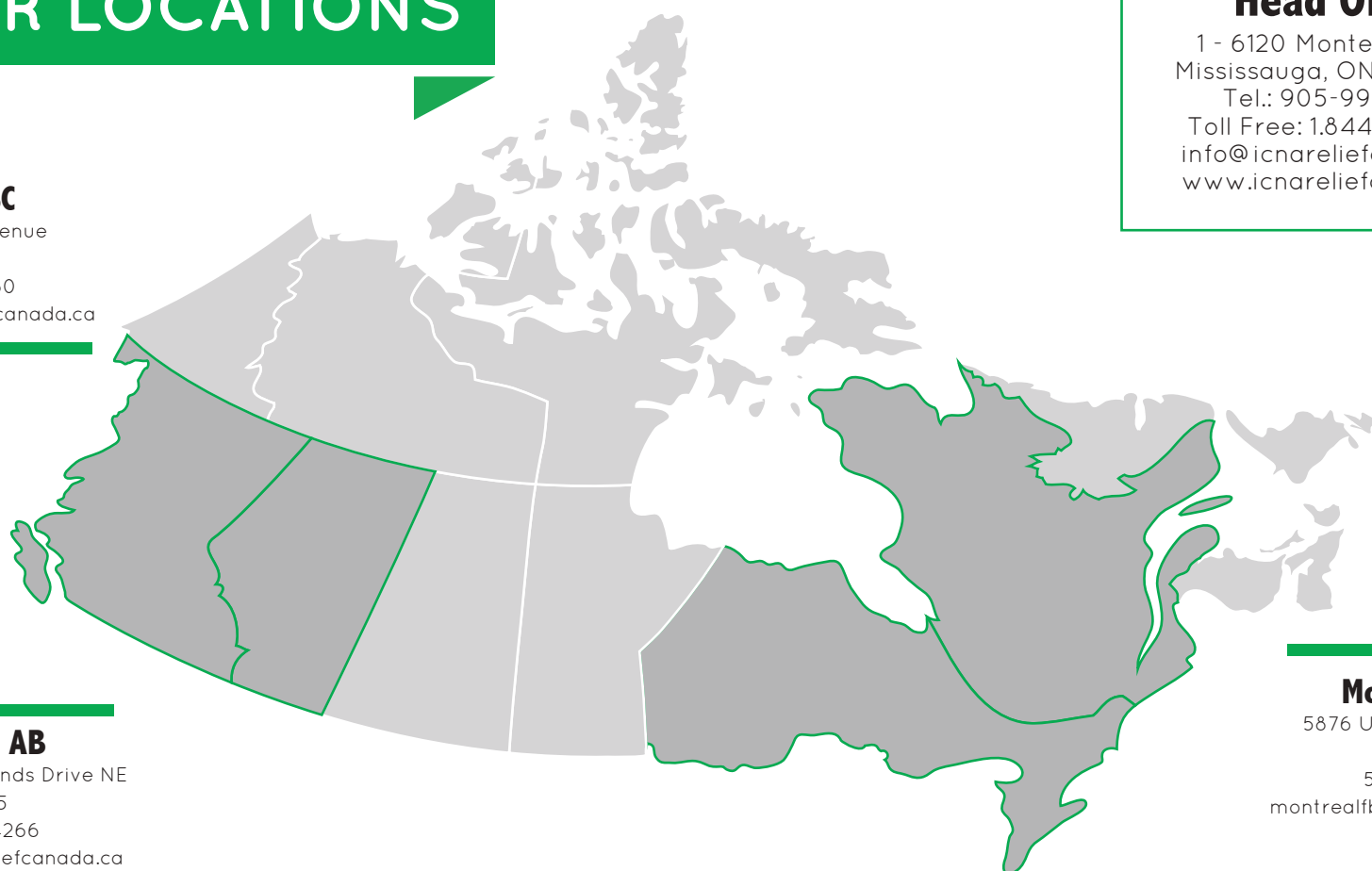
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