



# ICNARelief

You make our  
**mission possible.**  
Thank you for your **trust,**  
**effort, time,**  
and generosity.





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# Executive Summary

With profound gratitude to Allah ﷻ for His blessings, we reflect on a year of impactful service and meaningful growth at ICNA Relief. Our success is made possible through the collective efforts of our volunteers, donors, partners, and dedicated team members. Together, we walk alongside neighbors facing hardship, facilitate opportunities for recovery and growth, and welcome new refugees who have escaped war and oppression, helping our neighbors rebuild their lives with stability and promise.

ICNA Relief is dedicated to fostering community well-being through a comprehensive range of social services. Our core programs include Transitional Housing for homeless women and their children,



Refugee Support for our new neighbors



Family and Individual Counseling



Hunger Prevention



Disaster Relief



Family Support



Health Services



Back2School empowerment.

## Key Accomplishments of 2024

**In collaboration with Global Refuge, ICNA Relief expanded its refugee resettlement efforts, becoming the first Islamic-based nonprofit American organization to provide culturally competent support and resources at a national level, marking a historic milestone in serving displaced communities.**

This past year, we also made significant strides across our core programs. In Transitional Housing, **we supported a young mother of a special-needs child** in secure independent housing upon graduation. In fact, all our program graduates secured full-time employment, setting them on a solid path toward stability and independence. Additionally, **each graduate received a donated vehicle**, providing critical support for their continued success.

In Counseling Services, we expanded mental health support by partnering with Project Taqwa and Naseeha Mental Health to create a referral network while also launching an Afghan Women's Support Group in West Ridge. Our community and program expansion efforts led to the

### opening of the Learning Lab,

a dedicated space for refugee and immigrant empowerment programs, and the establishment of consistent **monthly Senior Men's and Women's programs** offering engagement, education, and social support for our respected elders.



We strengthened our advocacy for foster children—a critically underserved area in our community—by welcoming a newly trained CASA volunteer and developing a comprehensive database of licensed foster parents, enabling us to connect children with safe, supportive homes where Muslim foster families are urgently needed.

Through 10 Cultural Sensitivity Training sessions this year, we reached thousands of individuals across our network of non-Muslim partner service providers. These sessions foster greater understanding, improved cultural competence, and strengthened collaborative efforts in serving our diverse communities.

We are proud to have served

**19,266**  
**individuals**

facing insecurity through our comprehensive, wrap-around services.

Looking Ahead to 2025, ICNA Relief remains committed to expanding our impact by addressing emerging community needs. Key goals include:

- ✓ **Increasing capacity for Transitional Housing services, including the addition of bridge housing, which provides short-term accommodations for individuals transitioning from homelessness to stable, long-term housing.**
- ✓ **Expanding mental health counseling through new partnerships and additional therapists.**
- ✓ **Developing skills and job training programs tailored for refugees.**
- ✓ **Enhancing our community education efforts through workshops, mentorship programs, and advocacy campaigns**

Together, we will continue to build on our achievements, guided by **faith and compassion**, and a **shared commitment to making a lasting difference** in the lives of the neighbors we serve.

With gratitude and resolve,

**DR. SAIMA AZFAR**

Regional Director, ICNA Relief USA

## Core Programs Overview

# Hunger Prevention

We extended nourishment through our Hunger Prevention program, ensuring neighbors had access to essential food.



**13,987**

individuals were provided with nourishment.



**82,295 lbs**

Meat distributed



**1,479,808 lbs**

Grand total food distributed



**2,714**

Monthly food boxes distributed



**1,397,513 lbs**

Total groceries distributed







## Hunger Prevention: Alleviating Food Insecurity with Compassion

ICNA Relief addresses food insecurity head-on through a network of brick-and-mortar food pantries and mobile distribution units. Together, these programs distribute over 1.4 million pounds of essential groceries to neighbors from **80+ countries** experiencing hardship.

**1.4 million pounds of food**

Our pantries offer more than food—they provide a lifeline to those in need. With a diverse selection of items, including Halal meat,

fresh produce, dairy, eggs, baked goods, hygiene products, and other essentials, we ensure families receive support that respects their cultural and religious values.

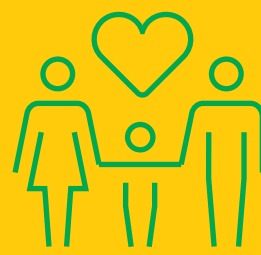
The Hunger Prevention initiative serves individuals from all walks of life, including refugee families, single mothers, seniors, and those facing unexpected financial challenges. At ICNA Relief, we strive to achieve our mission to foster a community where no one has to choose between food and other necessities.

The Prophet ﷺ said,

*“O people, spread peace, feed (the poor and needy) and perform Salah when others are asleep so that you will enter Jannah safely”*

(Riyad as-Salihin, 1166).





# Family and Refugee Services

<b>52</b>	Counseling clients served
<b>4,075</b>	Case management beneficiaries
<b>11</b>	Apartments furnished for resettlement
<b>\$350K</b>	Rental assistance facilitated
<b>2,026</b>	Hours of ESL & Sewing Classes
<b>200</b>	Southern Border Assistance (SBA) clients served





## Refugee Services: Empowering New Beginnings

ICNA Relief is dedicated to empowering refugee families as they begin rebuilding their lives in the United States. Our services begin the moment a refugee family arrives. We warmly greet them at the airport, ensuring their first steps as our new neighbors are met with care and compassion. From there, we assist with securing safe and affordable housing, furnishing homes with essential items, and connecting them with vital community resources.

Our dedicated case managers continue to guide refugees through challenges such as obtaining employment, accessing healthcare,

enrolling children in school, and adjusting to a new cultural environment. This holistic approach ensures families are equipped to start their journey toward independence and success.

In 2024, ICNA Relief Chicago welcomed displaced refugee families, offering them the tools and guidance needed to achieve self-sufficiency and a sense of belonging.

At ICNA Relief, we remain steadfast in our mission to provide refugees with the opportunities they need to not only survive but thrive in their new communities.

*"A faithful believer to a faithful believer is like the bricks of a wall, enforcing each other"*

(Sahih al-Bukhari, 481)



## Case Management Includes:

- ✓ Intake & Assessment
- ✓ Identifying Needs
- ✓ Developing Action Plans
- ✓ Monthly Food Box Program
- ✓ Financial Assistance
- ✓ In-Kind Donation Allocation
- ✓ Public Benefits & Applications Support

**\$65,247**  
Value of in-kind  
received

### Southern Border Assistance:

## Responding with Compassion and Care

This year, ICNA Relief provided in-person case management services to support individuals and families displaced by the humanitarian crisis at the Southern Border. Our multilingual case managers worked directly on-site, offering personalized assistance including aid referrals, family reunification support, mental health counseling coordination, and connections to vital community-based services, helping **200** displaced individuals navigate complex systems and work toward long-term stability.



*"Worship Allah and associate nothing with Him, and to parents do good, and to relatives, orphans, the needy, the near neighbor, the neighbor farther away, the companion at your side, the traveler, and those whom your right hands possess. Indeed, Allah does not like those who are self-deluding and boastful"*

(Quran 4:36).





**FATE Program:**

## **Foster Care Advocacy, Training, and Education**

Since its launch in 2017, ICNA Relief’s FATE Program has worked to ensure that Muslim foster children find safe, nurturing homes. By connecting children with foster families and mentors, providing resources to caregivers, and offering cultural competency training in partnership with child welfare agencies, FATE supports vulnerable children and strengthens communities.

**16**

**Foster Advocacy, Training, and Education (FATE) cases**

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said,

*“Whoever does not show mercy to the young and does not respect the elders is not one of us.”*

(Jami' at-Tirmidhi)

# Women's Transitional Housing

Served 61 women and 36 children since 2014.



61 women



36 children



## Women's Transitional Housing:

### A Safe Haven for New Beginnings

ICNA Relief's Women's Transitional Housing Program provides a lifeline for women and their children facing homelessness, financial instability, and uncertain futures. Offering more than shelter, the program equips residents with the tools and support needed to rebuild their lives and achieve independence.

In a culturally sensitive and supportive environment, residents receive tailored care addressing emotional, financial, and practical challenges. From their first steps through our doors to their journey toward stability, each resident is met with compassion and resources designed to foster resilience and confidence.



## Our Program Includes:

Mental Health & Religious Counseling

Goal Setting, Action Plans & Budgeting

Employment Preparedness & Job Placement

Personal Development

Case Management

Access to Essential Services and Benefits

Provision of Basic Needs

Healthcare Access

Mentorship Programs



ICNA Relief's Women's Transitional Housing Program transforms lives by replacing uncertainty with opportunity. It provides not only shelter, but the foundation for a brighter, self-sufficient future.

*"The one who strives to sponsor a widow or a poor person is like the one who strives in Jihad in the cause of Allah, the Mighty and Sublime"*

(Sunan an-Nasa'i, 2577)

# Health Services



**358**

Individuals served through screenings



**190**

TeleHealth beneficiaries



**17**

Health screenings conducted



**548**

Total served through Health Services







#### Health Services:

## Bridging Gaps, Saving Lives

ICNA Relief's Health Services addresses healthcare disparities by providing accessible and culturally competent care to underserved communities. Through partnerships with local healthcare providers and initiatives such as our mobile clinic, we ensure that essential health services reach neighbors in need.

Our programs include primary care, telehealth services in collaboration with APPNA and the Pakistani Physicians Society, and community health events such as health fairs, dental screenings, and vaccination drives. These efforts focus on removing barriers to care and promoting wellness across diverse populations.

By offering innovative, compassionate care, ICNA Relief's Health Services continues to be a lifeline for vulnerable families, ensuring they receive the support necessary for healthier futures.



The Prophet ﷺ said,

***"There are two blessings that many people are deceived into losing: health and free time"***

(Sahih al-Bukhari, 6412)



# Back2School: Equipping Students, Supporting Families

ICNA Relief's Back2School Program is a year-round initiative dedicated to making education accessible and empowering students, parents, and educators. Through this program, we aim to remove barriers to academic success by providing essential resources and support tailored to the needs of our communities.







By equipping students with supplies, supporting parents in their role, and enabling educators to create impactful learning environments, the Back2School Program fosters a collaborative approach to education, ensuring students have the opportunity to thrive.

**Equipping students with tools for success:**



**2,500+**

**Backpack and School  
Supply Distributions**



**\$12,000**

**EMPOWER  
Classroom Grant**



*"Read in the name of your Lord who created—created man from a clinging substance. Read, and your Lord is the most Generous—who taught by the pen—taught man that which he knew not"*

(Quran 96:1-5)

# Cultural Sensitivity Training

This year, ICNA Relief Chicago conducted 10 cultural sensitivity training sessions aimed at improving services for Muslim clients. These sessions provided organizations, volunteers, and service providers with essential knowledge about cultural norms, religious practices, and effective communication strategies when working with Muslim communities. Through these trainings, we strengthened partnerships and enhanced our collective ability to serve with compassion and cultural awareness.



**10** Trainings Delivered

**445+** individuals trained





# Disaster Response

## Disaster Response: Hope in Times of Crisis

ICNA Relief's Disaster Response team stands at the forefront of delivering immediate and compassionate aid to survivors of disasters across the United States. Whether responding to hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, fires, or other emergencies, we are committed to serving those impacted with sincerity and urgency, regardless of race, creed, or background.



**2,000**  
Total people  
served



In collaboration with organizations like the **Red Cross, Salvation Army**, and **NVOAD**, as well as local, state, and federal agencies, ICNA Relief has become a trusted name in domestic disaster relief. With the support of volunteers, donors, and local communities, our team brings not only physical aid but also hope and resilience to those in their most vulnerable moments.

Since its inception in 2005, ICNA Relief's Disaster Response team has served thousands of individuals and families across the country, embodying the spirit of compassion and sacrifice in every response effort.



# Get Involved!

Our volunteers are the heart of ICNA Relief's mission. In 2024,



contributed



making a lasting impact on families in need.

## Support Our Mission

Make a lasting impact by donating today. Visit [ICNARelief.org/Donate](https://www.icnarelief.org/Donate) Donate to contribute and help transform lives in our community.



Scan to donate!

## Join Our Volunteer Team

Be the change you want to see. Sign up to volunteer at [ICNARelief.org/Volunteer](https://www.icnarelief.org/Volunteer) Volunteer and make a difference in the lives of neighbors in need.



Scan to volunteer!

## We Value Your Feedback!

Have thoughts or suggestions? We'd love to hear from you. Email us at [Chicago@ICNARelief.org](mailto:Chicago@ICNARelief.org) and let us know how we can better serve our community.

*"The upper hand is better than the lower hand; the upper hand is that which gives, and the lower hand is that which asks"*

(Sunan an-Nasa'i, 2533)



# Our Valued Partners

Building Stronger Communities Through Collaboration

## GOVERNMENTAL

- Addison Public Library
- Bloomingdale Township Mental Health Auxiliary
- City of Chicago Office of the Mayor
- DuPage County Health Equity and Access Response Team
- Forest Preserves of Cook County
- Glenside Public Library
- Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Illinois Public Health Association
- Milton Township
- Office of Immigrant, Migrant, and Refugee Rights
- Village of Glendale Heights
- Illinois State Senator Ram Villivalam
- Representative Kevin John Olickal

## FOUNDATIONS

- Ahmad Family Fund
- Arif Foundation
- Caterpillar Foundation
- DuPage Foundation
- Mammel Family Foundation
- Noor Foundation
- United Foundation
- Waraich Charitable Foundation

## ORGANIZATIONS

- Access DuPage
- Ayal Learning Center
- Al Falah Academy
- American Pakistan Foundation
- APPNA/Pakistani Physicians Society
- Aunt Martha's Health & Wellness
- Boy Scouts of America Troop 99



- Bridge Communities Inc
- Bright Beginnings Montessori
- Building Peaceful Bridges
- Catholic Charities USA
- Chicago Community Trust
- Chicago Muslim Medical Alliance
- Chi-Care
- College of DuPage
- College Preparatory School of America
- Community Collaboration Initiative
- Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago
- DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform
- DuPage United
- Forging Opportunities for Refugees in America
- GainPeace
- Greater Chicago Food Depository
- Helping Hand for Relief and Development
- ICNA Chicago
- Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- Illinois Public Health Association
- Immigrant Solidarity DuPage
- Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America
- Kiwanis Club of Glendale Heights
- Muhsen
- Muslim American Society
- Muslim Children of North America
- Muslim Civic Coalition
- National Youth Advocate Program
- Northern Illinois Food Bank
- Northwestern University Muslim Student Association
- Ojalá Foundation
- Refugee Action Network
- Sabeel Food Pantry
- Sanad Food Pantry
- Swedish Hospital
- Syrian Community Network
- Tamil Muslim Association of Greater Chicago

- UChicago Medicine AdventHealth GlenOaks
- United Power
- University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work
- Viator House of Hospitality
- West Ridge Chamber of Commerce
- Wise Academy
- Worry Free Community
- Young Muslims
- Inner-City Muslim Action Network
- Arab American Family Services
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- Healthy Chicago Equity Zones



## RELIGIOUS

- Al-Aqsa Community Center
- Al-Huda Academy
- American Muslim Community Organization
- Faith Lutheran Church Glen Ellyn
- Garry Gardner Memorial Empty Bowls - ETZ Chaim
- Ilm Montessori
- Islamic Center of Naperville
- Islamic Center of Peoria
- Islamic Center of Western Suburbs
- Islamic Center of Wheaton
- Islamic Community Center of Des Plaines
- Islamic Community Center of Elgin
- Islamic Foundation North
- Islamic Foundation of Peoria
- Islamic Foundation of Villa Park
- Islamic Society of Northwest

## BUSINESSES

- AVCS Chicago - Audio Visual Events & Rentals
- Alawad Medical Center
- Crumbl Cookies
- Culver's
- Devon Islamic Finance Bank
- Falak Restaurant & Banquets
- Fatima Zabiha Foods
- Galaria Capital Management
- Levinson's Bakery
- New Royal Distributors Inc.
- S & K Medical Center
- Sahara Home Care
- West Monroe Partners
- Recycle Processes Inc
- Alverno Laboratories
- Hayat Clinic



- Suburbs
- Masjid Al Farooq
- Masjid Al-Faatir
- Masjid Al-Muminun Chicago
- Masjid DarusSalam
- Masjid Salam Haske
- Masjid Uthman
- Mecca Center
- Mosque Foundation
- Muslim Association of Bolingbrook
- Muslim Association of Greater Rockford
- Muslim Community Center
- Muslim Society, Inc
- Muslim Society, Inc Sunday School
- Noblest People Islamic Center
- Orland Park Prayer Center
- Al Rehman Academy

*"Is there any reward for goodness except goodness?"*

(Quran 55:60)

# Ramadan 2024 YOUR IMPACT



## Food Distribution

**2,400** Iftar hot meals  
**1,100+** Food boxes



## Eid Gift

**2,300+** Happy kids & adults  
**1,000+** Eid clothing & gift items  
**1,300+** Eid clothing & gift items



## Zakat

**\$91,845** Zakat al-Fitr to  
**407** Households



## Car Donation

**1** Family recipient

ICNARelief.org  
Chicago@ICNARelief.org  
(844) 414 4862

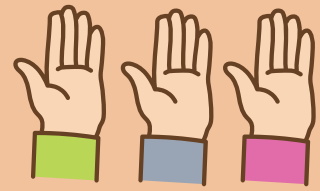




# Case Management

(Refugee Services)

**533** Households



# Volunteers

**97** Volunteers

Served **367** hours



# 40 Events

- Muslim Family/Refugee Services
- Eid Gifts Drives & Distributions
- Masjid Iftar & Outreach
- Hunger Prevention



# Masjid Partners

**23** Participant Masjids



**ICNARelief**  
CHICAGO





# THANK YOU

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### MAIN OFFICE

1698 Bloomingdale Rd  
Glendale Heights, IL 60139

Mondays: 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM  
Tuesdays: 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM  
Wednesdays: 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM  
Thursdays: 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM  
Fridays: 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM  
Saturdays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed

### GLENDALE HEIGHTS FOOD PANTRY

1781 Bloomingdale Rd  
Glendale Heights, IL 60139

Mondays: Closed  
Tuesdays: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Wednesdays: Closed  
Thursdays: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Fridays: Closed  
Saturdays: 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed

### MUSLIM FAMILY SERVICES

2811 W Devon Ave  
Chicago, IL 60659

Mondays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Tuesdays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Wednesdays: Closed  
Thursdays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Fridays: Closed  
Saturdays: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed

### WEST RIDGE FOOD PANTRY

2809 W Devon Ave  
Chicago, IL 60659

Mondays: Closed  
Tuesdays: Closed  
Wednesdays: Closed  
Thursdays: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Fridays: Closed  
Saturdays: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed



**ICNARelief**

### CONTACT INFO

(844) 414 4862  
chicago@ICNARelief.org  
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**Dr. Saima Azfar**  
Regional Director

**Atya Kazmi**  
Area Manager