To provide humanitarian assistance, Helping Hand USA has begun to further its program and projects in South America. Recent reconnaissance teams have conducted needs assessments while in Peru. The initial needs to be met are for food provisions; HHRD’s team purchases nourishing food items locally and made packages for distribution to families in need and gifts for orphaned children.

**HHRD in Peru**

HHRD works globally, focusing on countries where most of the population lives below the poverty line. HHRD has successful relief and development programs in Peru, including seasonal Ramadan activities, poverty alleviation, orphan support, and medical care. HHRD is in Peru, assisting residents with necessities. Nourishing food is purchased locally to support small businesses and distributed it to those in need. In addition, HHRD continues to provide educational support for orphaned children through its Orphan Support program.

**HHRD Status**

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- **200 Million** lives changed
- **85+ Countries served**
- **4-Star** Top Rated Zakat Charity in US by Charity Navigator
- **16 years** of service

**HHRD Programs**

- **Skills Development and Livelihood**
  - 32 trainees

**Seasonal Food:**

- **Ramadan Food**
  - 1,310 beneficiaries

- **Udhiya/Qurbani**
  - 2,996 beneficiaries
Country Context

The South American country of Peru, once a thriving nation, has been fighting internal struggles on various fronts that have altered the country's trajectory. Ecological disasters such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, and deforestation have caused widespread destruction and damaged Peru’s infrastructure. Over the past few years, a rise in poverty has led to life-threatening illnesses. Lastly, the influx of refugees from surrounding countries has exposed the region to further challenges. Millions of asylum seekers from Venezuela have found their way to Peru, fleeing poverty and civil unrest. Peru hosts the second-largest number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants after Colombia and receives the most significant number of asylum applications from Venezuelans. Access to essential services such as healthcare and education is limited for many refugees and migrants. Peru’s health system lacks the resources to respond to refugees and migrants’ health needs adequately. COVID-19 has brought lockdowns and hospitals with depleted resources and exhausted frontline workers. COVID-19 is hitting Peru with fierce force, driving the medical staff and hospitals to the brink of collapse.

Key Figures

- **2 million** Venezuelan refugees
- **5 million** affected by water crisis
- **6.9 million** live in poverty
- **2.27 million** Covid-19 cases

**202,000 deaths** - highest number of deaths due to COVID-19 in the world relative to population