

Frequently Asked Questions

Youth Empowerment Program

1. What is the mission of the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)?

The mission of YEP is to improve the quality of life of young people through Positive Youth Development in a safe and supportive environment, encouraging them to become active, productive members of their families, schools, and communities.

2. What are the major components of the YEP?

The major components are:

- Education, Research, and Innovation
- Leadership Development
- Social Engagement
- Economic Empowerment

3. Which countries are covered under YEP?

YEP operates in Pakistan, Africa (Kenya), and MENA (Jordan).

4. What is the duration of internships offered under YEP? Internship durations vary:

- Credit internships depend on academic requirements
- Work experience internships last 1-7 months
- Research internships are up to 4 months

5. What is the role of mentors in YEP?

Mentors provide guidance, training, and support to interns, helping them acquire professional skills and navigate their career paths.

6. What is the purpose of monthly mentoring sessions in youth clubs?

Monthly mentoring sessions aim to provide personal development, professional guidance, skill-building, and networking opportunities for youth club members.



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7. What are the benefits of volunteering with YEP?

Volunteers gain exposure to social work, receive certificates, and can use HHRD visibility items like caps and badges during activities.

8. What are some of the activities engaged in by youth in different countries?

In Pakistan:

The Leadership Development Track trains and empowers future leaders, inspires students to become community ambassadors and engages youth in leadership, advocacy, and social entrepreneurship.

The Youth Leadership Summit develops leadership skills, fosters Islamic values, and prepares youth for self-efficacy and success in both personal and professional spheres.

The Alumni Club fosters networking, lifelong learning, mentorship, community engagement, and career support among former YEP participants.

The Mall of Humanity provides charitable goods to underprivileged communities in a dignified way, offering them a proper shopping experience while engaging youth in humanitarian work.

Industrial exposure visits provide practical understanding of industries, bridge the gap between education and industry, and enhance career readiness.

In Jordan:

The Internship Project

- Provides practical experience to fresh graduates
- Develops future human resources for the development sector
- Contributes to research on HHRD programs

The Youth Club

- Educates youth about refugee conditions
- Builds volunteering ethics
- Cultivates skills for community service
- Creates future HHRD ambassadors



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9. What are the objectives of the Social Engagement component?

- Empowerment and leadership development
- Civic engagement and social responsibility
- Skill development and practical learning

10. How does HHRD provide economic empowerment?

Youth participating in the program are eligible for scholarships, skills development training and internships to connect them to local job markets.

11. What are the Youth for Kenya and Youth for Jordan programs?

These are international service-learning programs offered by HHRD (Helping Hand for Relief & Development) that provide young Muslims living in the United States with opportunities to experience life in communities that HHRD supports. Participants engage in humanitarian work while gaining firsthand exposure to global challenges and relief efforts.

12. What is the purpose of the Youth for Jordan/Kenya Trip?

The trip educates participants about refugee conditions, allows them to visit historic places, and engages them in HHRD humanitarian work.

13. Who is eligible to participate in these programs?

The programs are designed for high school to college-age students. As HHRD is a US-based organization, these opportunities are specifically positioned for young Muslims living in the United States who want to experience international humanitarian work.

14. What activities do participants engage in during Youth for Jordan?

Participants in Youth for Jordan visit refugee camps and observe important work being done in education support and water and sanitation projects. They interact with Syrian and Palestinian families who have been relocated to Jordan, and may participate in activities like helping set up schools and distributing educational supplies to children.



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15. What does the Youth for Kenya program involve?

Youth for Kenya participants spend approximately one week doing humanitarian work in Kenya. Activities include distributing food, visiting orphans, and touring skills development workshops. The program provides hands-on experience with HHRD's community development work in East Africa.

16. What kind of impact do participants report from these experiences?

Participants report transformative experiences. One Youth for Jordan participant described helping set up a new school and the excitement of children receiving their educational supplies. A Youth for Kenya participant called it "the best week of my life" and expressed gratitude for the relationships formed and experiences shared.

17. What is expected of participants after they return?

Participants are encouraged to become ambassadors for HHRD by sharing their experiences through various channels including social media, print materials, photographs, and documentaries. They serve as witnesses to the important humanitarian work being done and help raise awareness about HHRD's mission.

18. How do these programs connect to HHRD's broader mission?

These programs represent the pinnacle of HHRD's strategic development model, which began in 2005 following the Pakistan earthquake. They embody HHRD's commitment to long-term community development and empowerment, training the next generation of leaders and advocates for humanitarian causes while providing direct service to communities in need.

