



CASE FOR SUPPORT



**SERVING.
HEALING.
EMPOWERING.**



In war-torn Afghanistan, young Noorul Aziz Qadrdan's world exploded when he triggered a hidden bomb and lost both his legs. He survived the explosion only to realize that he had no way to earn a living. With responsibilities, and limited opportunities, he turned to HHRD for help.

Local Skills for Local Economies

Through the Food Service and Livelihood Program, Noorul connected with workshops that taught him how to repair mobile phones. HHRD provided transportation to the center, assistance with setting up a small business and food security packages to make sure Noorul's family did not starve.

Within months, he was operating his own stand, serving customers in Zabul Province and taking home \$180 (just shy of the average salary for the country). Noorul is proof that with the right support, even the most devastating wounds can be overcome.

This is what the Skills Development and Livelihood Program does. We don't just teach skills - we restore dignity



Work Connects Us to Who We Are

Everyone wants to work. It's how we connect to each other, to our history, to our sense of worth. Work isn't just about money. Work is about respect. It's about contributing something that matters. It's about looking your children in the eye and knowing you can provide for them.

For people who've lost everything - who've escaped war, survived disasters, fled persecution - work becomes something even more powerful. It becomes the bridge back to being human. Back to being seen as someone who has something to offer, not just someone who needs something.

What We Do: Restoring Power Through Work

The Skills Development and Livelihood Program (SDLP) operates in 23 countries with one revolutionary idea: the best way to help someone is to help them help themselves.

We teach marketable skills that generate immediate income. But more than that - we restore agency. We give people back their power to choose, to earn, to build, to escape.

Our Three-Pillar Approach:

- **Skills Training:** Providing the basic skills and certification needed to get started earning money right away
- **Livelihood & Income Generation:** Connecting graduates to actual jobs and business opportunities
- **Life Skills Development:** Soft skills and personal development





HHRD's Integrated Approach

Skills Development is part of a continuum of care provided to survivors of natural and manmade disasters all across the world. HHRD first approaches communities in crisis, and after delivering hot meals, emergency shelter and drinking water, works with those same communities to help them thrive. We rebuild homes, stabilize food delivery, sponsor orphans to go to college and reskill breadwinners so families can achieve economic independence.

- **In Bangladesh refugee camps:** Women who once depended entirely on aid now create 4,112 handmade products annually. They're not just surviving - they're contributing. They have something to sell, something to be proud of, something that gives them power in their own lives.
- **In Lebanon:** After economic collapse and bombardment left families desperate, 649 people learned skills from solar panel installation to computer programming.
- **In Mexico:** 99% of participants in Chiapas are indigenous women who never finished elementary school. They're learning computer skills, tailoring and traditional herbal medicine - not just preserving their culture, but monetizing their ancestral knowledge.

What Makes Us Different: We Understand What's Really at Stake

1. We Teach Skills That Actually Pay

We develop curricula for each country based on local job markets, resources and cultures. One size does not fit all. Our graduates learn:

- Digital skills that connect to the global economy
- Technical trades that local communities desperately need
- Business skills that turn survival into success
- Language training that opens doors worldwide

2. We Support Vulnerable Individuals

HHRD works with vulnerable people across the world, including:

- Gender-based violence survivors in Bangladesh get both skills training AND psychosocial therapy
- Prison inmates in Dominica learn building trades for jobs waiting when they're released
- Disaster survivors get skills that help rebuild communities stronger than before

3. We Honor What People Bring

We don't erase indigenous culture or history. We build on it:

- Traditional handicrafts in Bangladesh honor refugee women's heritage while generating income
- Medicinal plant knowledge in Mexico preserves indigenous wisdom while creating businesses
- Agricultural techniques combined with modern methods help farmers thrive





The Ripple Effect: How Work Changes Everything

When someone earns their first paycheck after years of handouts, everything changes:

Immediately:

- They can make choices instead of accepting whatever is offered
- They have bargaining power in relationships and situations
- Their children see a parent who works, not just one who receives

Over Time:

- Families move out of camps and into communities
- Children stay in school because parents can afford it
- Local economies strengthen as people spend earned money
- New businesses create jobs for others

Generationally:

- Skills pass from parent to child
- Business ownership creates family wealth
- Communities become self-sufficient rather than aid-dependent

Contact Information

Helping Hand for Relief and Development (HHRD) Learn more about supporting SDLP at: hhrd.org

**"A job is more than a handout -
it's a way back to being human."**

Thank you



HELPING HAND
FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

hhrd.org