



HELPING HAND
FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

Youth Empowerment Program

ANNUAL REPORT - 2025



Together
WE ARE

**SERVING.
HEALING.
EMPOWERING.**



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Executive Summary

The Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) addresses a critical global challenge: 1.2 billion youth—the largest generation in history—face unprecedented barriers to opportunity in developing regions. In Pakistan, nearly 64% of students drop out during secondary and higher education. In parts of Africa, youth unemployment reaches 60%. Across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), young people experience mass migration, disillusionment, and lack of platforms for engagement. Without intervention, today's children in poverty become tomorrow's adults in poverty, perpetuating a cycle that weakens entire communities.

Why Youth Empowerment?

YEP breaks this cycle through a long-term, contextualized approach that supports young people throughout the first two decades of their lives. Recognizing that a 23-year-old in Tanzania has vastly different needs than an 18-year-old in Jordan, we adapt our programs to match youth needs at different life stages with the most urgent needs and available services in their communities. Through partnerships with 31 universities in Pakistan and field offices across three regions, YEP provides higher education scholarships, youth empowerment clubs, mentoring sessions, paid internships, leadership summits, startup support, and academic exposure visits.

2025 Flashback

In 2025, YEP empowered 29,816 youth across Pakistan, Africa, and MENA, providing 939 paid internships and generating 189,801 volunteer hours outside the USA. YEP serves as a volunteer hub for HHRD field offices, creating a sustainable ecosystem where empowered youth become the next generation of community leaders and change-makers. Through donor investment in futures, we equip young people with the knowledge, life skills, and confidence they need to break free from poverty—transforming not just individual lives, but entire communities for generations to come.

2025 Data

Pakistan	Jordan	Africa
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12086 Direct Beneficiaries 124 Higher Education Scholarships 108 Paid Internships 273 Unpaid Internships 337 Digital Media Trainings 117 Leadership Development Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food parcel distribution, Qurbani meat distribution, hospital patient visits, orphan summer club activities English language, translation, artificial intelligence, IT, social services Department Placements: OSP, ESP, IT & Media departments Certification: Professional certificates provided upon completion Career Preparation: Practical experience for fresh graduates and volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital leadership, entrepreneurship, environmental stewardship, financial empowerment Business creation, app development
USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service opportunities at HHRD warehouses, sorting and packing donated goods for delivery overseas. 	

Integrated Service Delivery

Originally organized in 2005 in response to a devastating earthquake in Pakistan, HHRD's unique emergency response methodology begins with emergency food, medicine and shelter and doesn't stop there. Through the Youth Empowerment Program, we ensure that communities once in crisis blossom into thriving villages and countries with real opportunities for future generations.

Pakistan

The Youth Empowerment Program in Pakistan provides exceptional youth with multiple opportunities designed to further their career and educational success. Through internships, trainings and leadership development, HHRD engages young people in humanitarian work.

Mall of Humanity



Mall of Humanity is a project developed in collaboration between YEP and the In-Kind Gifts Program. Youth sort, pack and distribute in-kind donations received in the USA. Youth participants in Pakistan help set up “malls” where families “shop” for goods in a dignified way. Giving our youth the experience of compassion at the same time harnessing their potential in a positive way.

Youth Leadership Summit



At 7,500 feet, we didn't just climb meadows – we met the person we're destined to become.

Alyna Anjum Minhas joined HHRD Pakistan National Youth Leadership Summit with curiosity and courage. Her journey was nothing short of extraordinary. She later shared a heartfelt LinkedIn post on July 24 2025:

To every facilitator, organizer and silent force - thanks for your efforts, dedication and determination. To the fearless youth leaders – you redefined resilience!

Africa



There are millions of youths who have the potential, but no direction.

YEP Africa is leading youth through the Entrepreneurship and Innovation training at HHRD's Youth Empowerment Program forum. Young men and women learned about business planning, market research, and pitching ideas. One of the participants, Zainabu, launched a mobile stationary shop, selling notebooks, pens and pencils to her fellow students. She is working on developing a mobile app to connect clients with quick service bookings. Opportunities such as these create building blocks for future professionals to discover their talents.

Jordan



Clubs promote a service-based mindset.

YEP Jordan aims to build up a love for charity and volunteer work among exceptional youth, qualifying them to become leaders and change makers. Clubs promote a service-based mindset and assist the next generation by providing opportunities for local youth to solve problems, engage with the community and network with other forward thinking individuals.

Meet Our Beneficiaries

Qasem Abu Jamoud, Jordan

"There was a lot of free time in my life and I did not know what to do, and by participating in the youth project, I felt that there was a lot of work that I could do, so thank you Helping Hand and the generous donors."

Dotto Zakayo, Tanzania

"The training helped me turn my phone into a tool for impact, not just distraction."

Muhammad Kaya, Uganda

"This training helped me explore my potential as a young leader. I learned life skills that go beyond the classroom and practical ways to turn ideas into income using digital platforms."

Youth Trips



Two Worlds, One Journey

Through annual youth trips to developing countries and camps, YEP provides a bridge across cultures. HHRD hosts these trips to Kenya, Pakistan and Jordan, exposing US youth students to the realities of life abroad. Meanwhile these confident young volunteers gain a deeper understanding of compassion and giving from this trip, they also instill assurance and a renewed sense of possibility in the hearts of our young beneficiaries. Such exchanges built lasting connections, proving that hope and understanding which shape futures.

Thank you



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