



# Delivering Hope, Education, and Support Services

Summer 2015

## Ramadan Mubarak!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the Muslim community a blessed month of Ramadan and thank our supporters for enabling us to provide relief for those who are suffering. Recent events have made us more aware of our many blessings and our responsibility to help the less fortunate. Thanks to your generous support, DRF provides thousands of iftar meals for the less fortunate during Ramadan. If you would like to contribute toward an iftar meal, you still have time to do so by donating online at [drfcharity.org](http://drfcharity.org)

Sincerely,  
Seyed Ali Ghazvini, DRF President

## Misdiagnosis Leads to Years of Suffering

Sayedah Hawra'a Habib Saleh is 18 years old and is congenitally deaf and mute. At age six, she first demonstrated the symptoms of a brain tumor, but she was misdiagnosed. She lived with her pain for nearly 12 years. In 2014, a sudden loss in weight and an increase in the frequency and severity of her pain prompted her family to take her to the doctor again. Due to the lack of sufficient diagnostic medical equipment and procedures, Hawra'a was again misdiagnosed and given ineffective medicine. The symptoms were persistent, so further diagnostic procedures were performed. The images of a CT-SCAN clearly showed the formation of a brain tumor, for which Hawra'a underwent surgery and received radiation treatment. In March 2015, she suffered another setback when she started to feel severe pain in her hands, legs, and joints. She was diagnosed with the infiltration of multiple clusters of malignant non-hematopoietic cells to the bone marrow.

This case clearly demonstrates the severe consequences of an illness that could have been averted if sufficient medical teams and equipment were available to all people in the region. Supporting Karbala Hospital will help provide state-of-the-art care for those suffering with illnesses, such as Sayedah Hawra'a's.



## Fundraising Dinner in Irvine, California

July 11, 2015, 7:30 PM • DoubleTree by Hilton (90 Pacifica, Irvine, CA 92618)

\$50 tickets can be purchased online, through mail, or at the Islamic Educational Center of Orange County.

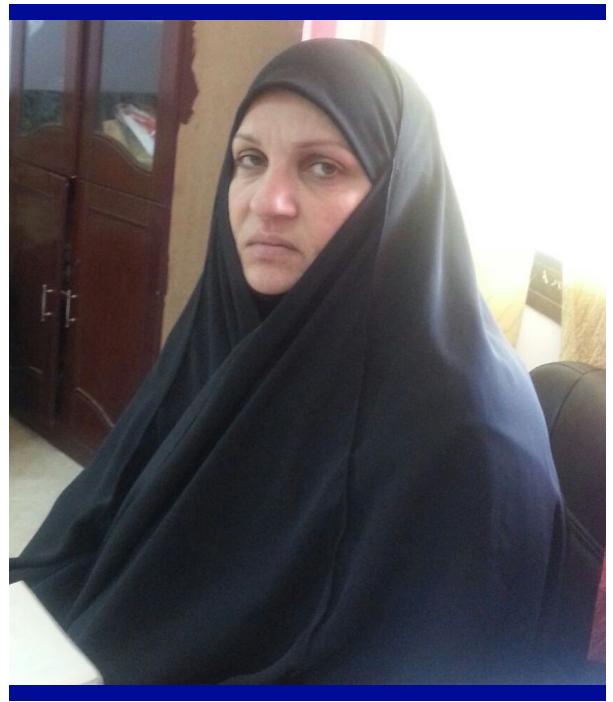
For more information please contact DRF at (559) 322-4852

## Orphan Caretakers

Unfortunately, many Iraqi women experience the devastation of losing a spouse and the struggle to provide for their children while having only an elementary education. Remarriage provides some economic stability for the widows, but the mother takes the risk of losing custody of her children to the orphan's father's family. DRF would like to provide more educational opportunities for widows to provide economic and domestic stability for them and their children.

## A Widow's Perspective

Ten years ago, Um Saad received the devastating news that her husband had been killed by extremists. At the time, she had to care for, with only an elementary school education, a one-year-old son and seven other children ages five to fourteen. Three of her children are now married and four are working. It is with your support that Um Saad has been able to provide education for her children and watch them grow and get married. She is grateful to DRF and its donors for providing monthly assistance and giving food aid to her and her family during Ramadan.



## A Teacher's Perspective

DRF appreciates its teachers' hard work and dedication to educating orphans. Nour Ghazi has been working at DRF's orphan school for two years. She graduated from Ahlul Bait University with an English degree. She stated that teachers at DRF's schools need to be more patient and understanding than teachers at other schools. Ms. Ghazi remembers a time when a student cried because he didn't have his homework. She soon discovered that he, a fifth grader, was working after school to support his family. Ms. Ghazi does her best to ensure not only that DRF students get the best education but also that they get what they might be lacking at home, love and affection.

## Help Make a Difference

Orphan Sponsorship	\$50/month or \$600/year
Orphan Eid Gift	\$30
Food Package	\$25
Iftar Meal	\$5/person
Elevators for Al Salihat Girls Academy	\$33,000; \$40,000
Patient room at Karbala Hospital named in your honor or the honor of a loved one	\$35,000 Single Room \$45,000 Double Room

## Orphan Wins First Place

Hussain Ismael Al Tamimi, an orphan at DRF's school, won first place in a national competition for memorizing the entire Holy Qur'an.



DRF is now a Gold Participant with GuideStar Exchange, a non-profit dedicated to transparency and networking.

## Top Students Struggle to Complete Homework in District without Electricity

Budoor, Farah, and Fatima are students at Al Salihat Girls Academy. All three sisters received the highest marks for their mid-year exams for the entire school. They enjoy studying, but it is their biggest challenge. Four years ago, their father died in a car accident. Last year, due to a lack of security and an increase in military conflict in northern Iraq, they became refugees. Their mother and older brother work to support their ten-person family. However, their income has not been enough to move out of the run-down district in Karbala, where their small dwelling has no electricity and an aluminum roof. It is difficult to find a suitable place to study, so the sisters go to public areas with lighting, such as mosques, to do their homework. They dream of moving to a home in a better neighborhood and going to college. They thank you and DRF for providing them with an education and ask for your generosity in helping them reach their dreams.



### Surgical Theater Makes Great Progress

The materials for the operation rooms' cladding and furnishings have arrived from Germany. Viessmann Technologies has been contracted to install the powder coated stainless steel mono-blocks, the laminar airflow, the pendants, surgical lights, the scrub sinks, X-ray analog sliding doors, stainless steel cabinets, PVC floors, and operating telemedicine system. It is estimated that the installation process will take around four months.

### Installation of the Main Water Piping Network

The main piping network for the Hospital has been installed. The piping network includes the HVAC and main water systems. The HVAC system includes cold and hot water circulations, and the main water system includes steam for the Central Sterile Supply Department and laundry departments. The complete installation of the piping system will be completed by August 1st, 2015.

