

May Allah (swt) grant you all the blessings of

Ramadan



2020 Zakat Chicago Annual Report

www.zakatchicago.com

**Local Collection.
Local Distribution.**





Zakat Chicago Committee

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Treasurer

Maqsood Quadri

Members

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Sh. Hassan Aly
Dr. M. Chehade
Mumtaz Darbar
Molham Kattaieh
Irshad Khan
Quadir H. Khan

Development Director

Aymen Abdel Halim

Administrator

M. Rashid Salam

Volunteers

Karyma Rios
Sahira Sadiq

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Assalamu Alaikum,

Ramadan Mubarak! The year 2020 was a challenging year for many, and it turned out to be an unprecedented year of service for Zakat Chicago. We are so thankful to the donors who overcame their own financial challenges and contributed a record 25% more this year than the last. That was helpful, as we ended up distributing 45% more dollars than in the years past. This report highlights an impact summary of the projects we supported.

Zakat collection and distribution is for sure our major activity, however, in fulfillment of our mission of making Zakat a living institution in Greater Chicago we do more. We made a major effort in 2020 to educate the community about Zakat, provided coordination between Masajid that also collect and distribute Zakat, and brought about the coordination between a dozen food pantries whom we support. These efforts have already yielded very meaningful results that are beneficial to the community.

We maintained our overhead and fundraising expenses remained extremely low, so that most of the donation money went to help the community. We also made significant efforts in the development of the Zakat Chicago organization. We hired a full-time Development Director, hired the services of professional accountants, and subscribed to a state of the art Donor Relations Management software, Alhamdulillah. We appreciate your continued support of our efforts.

Jazakumullahu khairan, Sincerely,

The Zakat Chicago Team

Mission

The primary mission of Zakat Chicago is to establish Zakat as a living institution in the Greater Chicago area. We endeavor to accomplish this mission by:

- Collecting Zakat annually
- Distributing Zakat locally to meet the community's Zakat-eligible needs
- Educating the community about Zakat, and
- Coordinating between Zakat-collecting and distributing organizations.

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Vision

Our vision is centered around our guiding principle of "local collection, local distribution." By focusing on the most immediate and pressing needs found in our great city and surrounding suburbs, Zakat Chicago is able to ensure that the funds collected have an immediate and noticeable impact on our community.

Zakat Chicago-CIOGC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and a committee of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago (CIOGC).

Zakat Chicago - CIOGC
231 S. State St.
Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Visit us online and donate at www.zakatchicago.com.

2020 At A Glance

2020 Impact Summary

At the beginning of 2020, we saw the rise of COVID-19 and the impact it had on our community almost immediately. Our lives and livelihoods grinded to a halt, our schools and workplaces closed, and, most devastatingly, we saw the loss of life of so many people near and dear to our hearts. This pandemic exacerbated the struggles of so many people in our community-- families that were no longer able to afford to feed their children, people suffering alone as their mental health worsened in social distancing-induced isolation, and the need for Winter Aid for the impending Chicago winter grew more intense. Zakat Chicago recognized the problems facing the community and sought to help as many organizations as possible to fulfill those needs. In order to meet the demand, we spent 46% more in 2020 than in 2019.

About Zakat Chicago

Zakat Chicago, a committee of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago (CIOGC), is dedicated to promoting the giving of Zakat, and serving the community in the practice of this third pillar of Islam. Our mission at Zakat Chicago is to establish Zakat as a living institution in the Greater Chicago area.

First organized in 2001, Zakat Chicago has been collecting Zakat and other donations across the Greater Chicago area from Muslim individuals and businesses. The funds collected have been distributed across Chicagoland to various Muslim community projects in accordance with the Quranic guidelines. We are committed to distributing the Zakat to meet the needs of providing for the local community in accordance with our operating principle of "local collection, local distribution." By focusing on these needs Zakat Chicago is able to ensure that the Zakat collected has an immediate and noticeable impact.

Our Growth

Although Zakat Chicago's revenue has been growing steadily since 2004, in 2020 we saw a growth of 25%, alhamdulillah. This is a testimony to the generosity of the Muslim community, who despite the pandemic's effect on themselves saw the need of others as more important.

Our Efficiency

The efficiency of our operations is evident from the data that we spent only 1.5% on overhead and 5.4% on fundraising.



Highlights of Zakat Chicago Ongoing Campaigns

Food Aid

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Zakat Chicago recognized the urgency of food insecurity and immediately went to work by issuing grants and purchasing food and supplies for seven Muslim-owned and operated food pantries across Chicago.



46.2%

of our 2020 budget went to providing food aid for families in need.



Rahmah Food Pantry in Niles, Illinois



ICNA-Relief food distribution supported by ZC

In addition to Zakat Chicago support of food pantries, we helped create Ramadan food boxes this past year to help Muslim families celebrate Ramadan. Inside the boxes, we provided the halal food products that a family would need to prepare a nutritious Ramadan iftar and meals.



Al-Nahda Food Pantry in Worth, Illinois



“Zakat Chicago is important to the Chicagoland area because, Alhamdulillah, it provides the Muslim community with educational and monetary resources from a centralized platform. Being under the banner of CIOGC, Zakat Chicago helps individual communities and Masajid help people in their communities in a more efficient manner.”

Sheikh Rizwan Ali

Imam & Director of Religious Education, Islamic Center of Naperville



7.1%
of 2020 Budget

Islamic Education / Youth

As part of our mission to promote Islamic education, Zakat Chicago provides financial support to Islamic schools to help children whose parents are unable to pay tuition fees, including at the Nigerian Islamic Association School and Haske Society School.



6.2%
of 2020 Budget

Viator House of Hospitality

Refugee Assistance / Housing

Zakat Chicago supported refugees with assistance and housing through our partners Syrian Community Network, Muslim Women’s Resource Center, Viator House of Hospitality, and Bethany House of Hospitality.



8.2%
of 2020 Budget

AMHP Mental Health First Aid Certification

Healthcare Assistance

Zakat Chicago supports Compassionate Care Network, American Muslim Health Professionals, and The Khalil Center to provide healthcare, including mental health services and mental health first aid certification, in an effort to help Muslims across Chicagoland.



5.5%
of 2020 Budget

Winter Aid

Zakat Chicago provided thousands of Winter Kits including winter coats, gloves, hats, and other supplies to partners across Chicagoland to distribute to Muslims in need as well as the homeless. This made a huge impact in the lives of Chicagoans through life-saving winter necessities.



“Zakat Chicago is the only organization who locally collects Zakat to distribute it locally in Greater Chicago. It is a great partner of many organizations, Masajid, and organizations who seek funding to support their charitable projects.”

Sheikh Hassan Aly, Th.M
Imam & Religious Director, The Mecca Center

Beyond Zakat Collection & Distribution

Zakat Chicago is the only organization in Greater Chicago that pays significant attention “in service of Zakat” to (a) educating the community about Zakat and (b) coordinating between Zakat collecting and Zakat distributing organizations.

Zakat Education – In 2020, Zakat Chicago compiled and widely distributed a four-page Zakat Basics document. It provided information and guidance sufficient to a majority of Muslims to faithfully uphold their Zakat obligation. In the words and voices of five prominent Chicago-area imams and scholars, Zakat Chicago produced professional quality short video clips on specific topics and widely distributed them.

Zakat Coordination – Zakat Chicago coordinates between Zakat collecting Masajid and Zakat distribution partners.

Zakat Collecting Masajid - Zakat Chicago is holding regular meetings between the Chairs of Masajid Zakat Committees, who not only collect the Zakat, but also distribute to people needing help throughout the year. They have identified the need for a common database of zakat distribution. Zakat Chicago has initiated the effort of establishing one by using SalesForce software, which is in use at a few Masajid already.



Zakat Coordination Meetings between Zakat Chicago and Zakat Chairs from Masajid provide good learning opportunities for all.

What are the benefits of giving Zakat ?

Sh. Rizwan Ali
Islamic Center of Naperville

www.zakatchicago.com

Educational video clips, such as this one, are being distributed through our social media pages and can be viewed at youtube.com/zakatchicago



Through 2020, Zakat meetings continued with our community through virtual methods.



“From the beginning of Quranic revelation, belief in God and the Hereafter was linked with human responsibility to uplift the weaker segments of society. “What good is your prayer if you do not feed the poor and refuse to share a small thing with a neighbor?” - Quran, 107. Do not forget Zakat when praying and fasting this Ramadan.”

Professor Inamul Haq, Elmhurst College

Zakat Distribution Partners

Al Furqan
 Al-Nahda Community Center
 American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP)
 Arab American Family Services
 Believers Bail Out (BBO)
 Bethany House
 CCN
 CHI-CARE
 CIOGC
 Ephram Bahar Cultural Center
 Gain Peace
 Gary Muslim Center
 Masjid Rahmah
 Haske Society of Chicago
 ICNA Relief
 Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN)
 Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants
 Islamic Oasis
 Leadership Development Institute
 Masjid al Amin
 Masjid al Dawah
 Masjid Al Farooq
 Masjid al-Mumineen
 Ministry of Faithful to God
 Moms On The Move
 Muslim Women's Alliance
 Nigerian Islamic Center
 Radio Islam / Sound Vision
 RTW Veterans center
 SANAD
 Southside Community Services
 Syrian Community Netwrk
 Tabarakallah Academy
 UMMA Center
 Viator House of Hospitality
 Zams Hope



Nigerian Islamic Association



Believers Bail Out



CMECCA



ROHINGYA CULTURE CENTER



Health Access, Awareness and Advocacy



THE RAHMAH FOUNDATION
Islamic Education for Women



Sanad Social Services



IMAN



SyrianCommunityNetwork



VIATOR HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY
HOPE · HEALING · OPPORTUNITY



Partners for Covid-19 Response Only



“Zakat Chicago has done a superb job in implementing this main pillar of Islam and bringing financial support to the needy families in the Chicago metropolitan area. I have witnessed their work and I supported it and I ask everyone to do the same and help be part of this great local effort.”

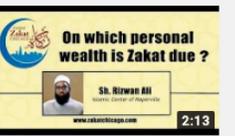
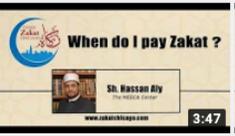
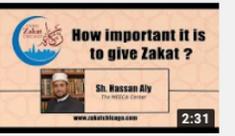
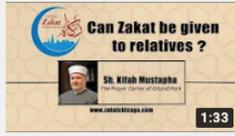
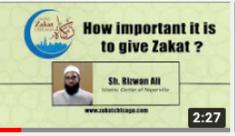
- **Sheikh Kifah Mustapha**, Imam & Director, The Prayer Center



Zakat Chicago

Local Collection. Local Distribution.

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youtube.com/zakatchicago

 19:31 Zakat - Its Importance by Ustadh Ubaydullah Evans 14 views • 1 week ago	 7:47 Does Zakat eliminate poverty by Dr. Kaiseruddin 90 views • 10 months ago	 3:10 Central Zakat Institution by Dr. Kaiseruddin 18 views • 10 months ago	 3:17 What are the benefits of giving Zakah Prof Inamul Haq 13 views • 10 months ago	 2:03 What are the benefits of giving Zakah by Sh Rizwan 16 views • 10 months ago	 2:13 On which personal wealth is Zakah due ? by Sh Rizwan Ali 2 views • 10 months ago
 2:04 Can Zakah be given to relatives by Sh Rizwan Ali 2 views • 10 months ago	 4:17 Who is eligible to receive Zakah by sh kifah 3 views • 10 months ago	 2:49 What's so special about Zakat by Sh Kifah 2 views • 10 months ago	 1:51 Zakat Chicago Helps ICNA Relief Food Pantry 6 views • 10 months ago	 2:50 Zakat Chicago made a huge impact on SANAD food... 13 views • 10 months ago	 10:00 Zakat: Its wisdom and impact on social order by Dr... 7 views • 10 months ago
 3:32 Who is eligible to receive Zakah by Prof Inamul Haq 2 views • 10 months ago	 4:16 Blessings of Ramadan by Dr. Kaiseruddin 2 views • 10 months ago	 3:47 When do I pay Zakat by Sh Hassan 27 views • 10 months ago	 1:51 Are there consequences for not giving Zakah by Sh... 9 views • 10 months ago	 4:52 How important it is to give Zakah by Prof Inamul Haq 47 views • 10 months ago	 2:31 How important it is to give Zakah by Sh Hassan 34 views • 10 months ago
 1:33 Can Zakah be given to relatives by Sh Kifah No views • 10 months ago	 3:19 Is Zakat due on funds with restricted access By Sh... 3 views • 10 months ago	 2:27 How important it is to give Zakah by Sh Rizwan 38 views • 10 months ago	 19:12 Zakat 649 views • 7 years ago		

Watch informative videos about Zakat featuring local scholars!

Establishing Zakat as a Living Institution