

**ICNARELIEF**

2025



**ICNA  
RELIEF  
CHICAGO**

IMPACT REPORT

[WWW.ICNARELIEF.ORG](http://WWW.ICNARELIEF.ORG)

ICNARelief seeks to empower our neighbors by providing caring and compassionate service.



A volunteer helps guide a mother and her children to select food items as they visit our West Ridge food pantry.



Local school children visited our food pantry as part of a community civics project. They collected non-perishable food which they donated to our food pantry.

**SINCERITY  
SACRIFICE  
SERVICE**

**Charity begins at home.**  
**Charity begins with you.**



Food pantry Manager, Br. Shoaib Khairzada, escorts a visually impaired sister to her car while assisting her with the food that she received from our weekly food distribution.



Young volunteers holding ICNARelief stickers to be placed on food boxes. These boys, along with their community, held a food box packing event to support our food pantries



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A woman wearing a dark grey hijab and a light blue surgical face mask is smiling slightly. She is holding several wrapped gifts. One gift is a box of 'Rainbow Loops' cereal, and another is wrapped in blue paper with a colorful pattern of stars and planets. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a community center or event space, with other people and tables visible.

A mother gratefully accepts new gift-wrapped Eid toys for her children. These gifts were generously provided by our donors for our yearly Eid toy distribution to clients.



Volunteers make our work possible. Here, a young volunteer packs vegetables that will later be distributed to clients during our weekly food distributions.

**20,345**  
**NEIGHBORS**  
**SERVED IN**  
**2025**



Sr. Atya Kazmi  
Area Manager  
ICNA Relief, Chicago

## **2025 IN REFLECTION**

### **A Message from Our Leadership**

This work begins with people - neighbors who step up, volunteers who give their time, partners who open doors, and donors who believe in serving close to home. Because of you, ICNA Relief continues to respond to real needs in the communities we live and serve.

At ICNA Relief, our work is rooted in local service and local responsibility. Every program we operate responds to needs we see firsthand and address directly. Over the past year, our team supported neighbors through a transitional housing program for homeless women, food access, health services, education support, and more community-based initiatives designed to meet people where they are and respond to real conditions on the ground.

**20,345**  
**INDIVIDUALS**  
**FACING INSECURITY,**  
**WERE PROUDLY**  
**SERVED THROUGH OUR**  
**COMPREHENSIVE**  
**WRAP-AROUND**  
**SERVICES**  
**DURING 2025.**



**WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?**

**MAKE A LASTING IMPACT  
BY DONATING TODAY!  
VISIT [ICNARelief.org/Donate](https://www.icnarelief.org/Donate)**

**DONATE TO CONTRIBUTE AND  
HELP TRANSFORM LIVES IN OUR  
COMMUNITY.**

A happy recipient eagerly accepts a Ramadan food box from our team. Hundreds of families rely on these food boxes to assist them during the holy month.

**SUPPORT  
OUR  
MISSION**

What stands out is not only the scope of services delivered, but the care behind them. Each program reflects a deliberate, community-informed approach—practical support paired with cultural understanding, and immediate assistance balanced with longer-term planning. From strengthening family well-being to supporting students and seniors, our work is shaped by listening closely to local needs and responding with consistency and accountability.

This work is possible because of trust. Donors, volunteers, partners, and staff invest in ICNA Relief knowing their time and resources stay close to home and directly serve our shared community. As we look ahead, our focus remains clear: to strengthen local programs, deepen community trust, and continue meeting local needs with purpose and care.

With appreciation,  
Atya Kazmi  
Area Manager, ICNA Relief - Chicago

# HUNGER PREVENTION

## Compassionately Alleviating Food Insecurity

Hunger Prevention ensures families have consistent access to food during times of financial strain. Through pantry locations and mobile distributions, ICNA Relief provides culturally appropriate groceries, including fresh produce and halal options, to individuals and households facing food insecurity.

Committed to the vision of a hunger-free and healthy neighborhoods, ICNA Relief remains focused on providing “food for today and hope for tomorrow.” We welcome individuals of all backgrounds seeking help through our two brick and mortar food pantries, as well as our 3 mobile food pantry operations.



Br. Alaaeldin busy distributing halal turkeys to food pantry clients just in time for Thanksgiving. Our partnership with Zakat Chicago makes these turkey distributions possible.



A volunteer helps a client with fresh fruits and vegetables at our food pantry. Volunteers are the backbone of our weekly food distributions.

**1.5M**  
**TOTAL POUNDS**  
**OF FOOD**  
**DISTRIBUTED**



Always with a smile on his face, Br Yahya Dad hands out fresh produce to a client at our West Ridge food pantry during our weekly food distribution.



Br. Fareed Uddin, the food pantry Manager at our Glendale Heights location, prepares bags of qurbani meat for distribution to the many clients waiting in line.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

- Volunteer at one of our food pantries.
- Conduct a monthly food drive in your community.
- Donate halal meat.

**80,285**

**Pounds of meat distributed**

**Monthly + Ramadan food boxes distributed**

**4,077**

**13,464**

**Neighbors served**



Julie Drew, one of our dedicated volunteer English instructors, guides adult learners on the basics of reading and writing English at our Learning Lab location.

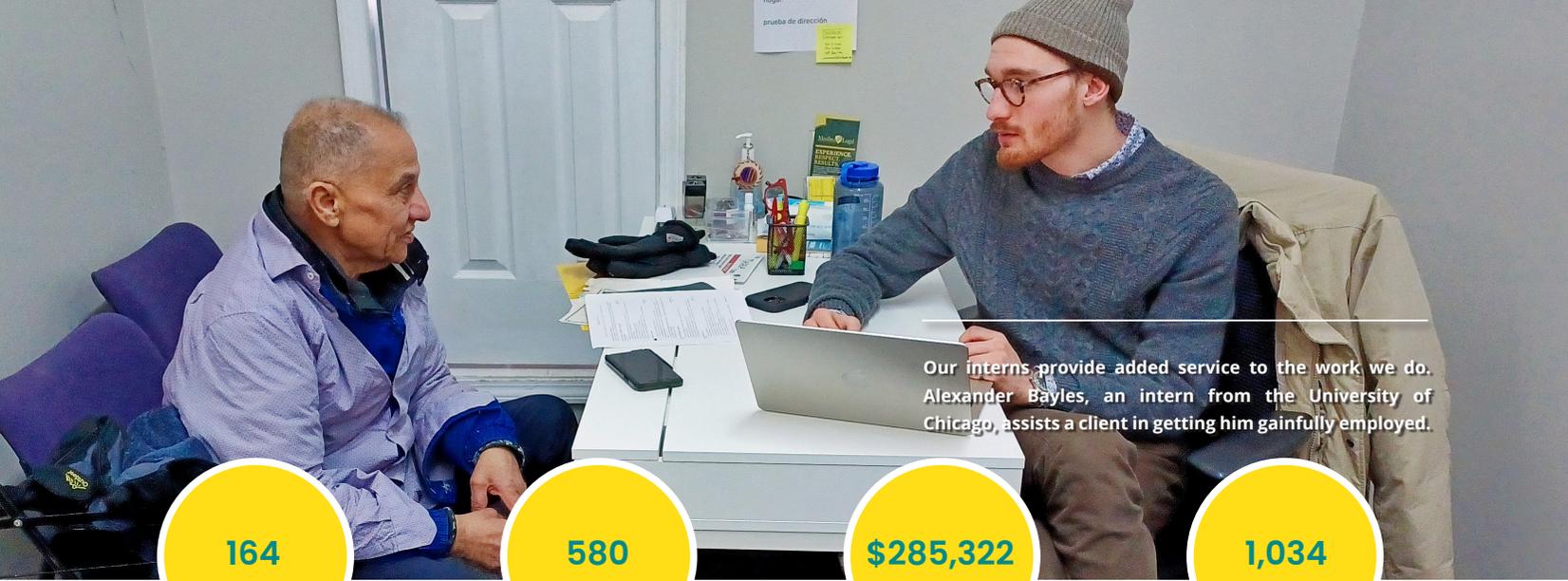
**3,568**  
**NEIGHBORS**  
**SERVED**

# REFUGEE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Support for Transition, Stability, and Long-term Stability

Refugee Services and Community Empowerment support newly arrived and resettled families as they navigate the early stages of life in the United States. Through individualized case management, families receive assistance with public benefits applications, employment access, English language classes, and skills development, helping them navigate foundational systems.

The program also provides practical support during periods of transition, including short-term financial assistance, seasonal distributions such as Eid gifts and toys, and donated vehicles that facilitate access to work, school, and services. Refugees are given access to critical tools and resources that can help them to rebuild their lives and contribute to society.



Our interns provide added service to the work we do. Alexander Bayles, an intern from the University of Chicago, assists a client in getting him gainfully employed.



164

Client Sessions



580

Hours of ESL + Sewing Classes



\$285,322

Financial Assistance Facilitated



1,034

Eid Toys Distributed



Effective case management is critical in supporting our clients. Here, Br. Shoab Khairzada works with a new client to understand how we might be able to assist him.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

- Mentor a refugee family.
- Sponsor rent or other needs for vulnerable families at \$1K a month.
- Donate your used car.



What a difference your donation can make. Here, excited children receive gift-wrapped Eid toys from our donors to help them celebrate the holiday.



Senior sisters meet once a month in order to socialize, get informed, have fun, and to connect with each other at our regular senior programs.



# MUSLIM FAMILY SERVICES

## Strengthening Lives with Compassion and Care

Muslim Family Services strengthens individuals and families through culturally responsive counseling, education, and advocacy. The program includes mental health and religious counseling, community workshops addressing family and social concerns, and dedicated senior programming that fosters connection, learning, and engagement.

Muslim Family Services also includes FATE (Foster Advocacy, Training, and Education), which works to improve outcomes for Muslim children in foster care by supporting caregivers, advocates, and service providers through culturally informed training and education.

**453**  
**NEIGHBORS**  
**SERVED**



Our resident Clinical Counselor, Sr. Sarah Murad, along with graduate student, Br. Arman Azmi, lead a workshop at a masjid on mental health and it's importance in the Muslim community.



Senior brothers meet regularly for our monthly gatherings. These get-togethers allow them to not only connect with each other, but to get informed about a variety of topics.

### WANT TO HELP?

- Volunteer at our events.
- Find out more about becoming a Muslim foster parent.
- Sponsor a senior program.
- Organize a community workshop.



The Green Deen goes on a nature walk with our partners from Project Taqwa. These outdoor get-togethers allow us to connect with nature, while offering Islamic reflections.



Our Women's Transitional Housing building.



# WOMEN'S TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

## Supporting New Beginnings

A young widow with two children—a boy and a girl under the age of five—was staying in a public, overnight city shelter. The shelter offered little more than a place to sleep and housed adults of all ages and circumstances, including individuals struggling with substance use. With no family around, limited English, and no support system, she faced each night with uncertainty and no clear path forward.

One evening, an ICNA Relief case manager happened to be assigned to that shelter. Seeing her wearing a hijab, the mother quietly approached

and asked, “Can you help me? I see you are Muslim like me.” That brief exchange became the turning point. The case manager immediately began advocating for her safety, and ICNA Relief’s team mobilized to respond.

The family was temporarily moved to a hotel while comprehensive intake, assessments, and case planning were conducted. Shortly after, the mother and her children entered ICNA Relief’s Women’s Transitional Housing program, where support extended far beyond housing. Through coordinated case management, she received



Transitional Housing Case Manager, Sr. Shajia Azmi, provides case management support to a new sister who has been accepted into the program.

**WANT TO HELP?**

- Volunteer as a mentor.
- Donate apartment kits for our sisters when they move into their new homes.
- Sponsor a night of shelter for only \$89.



A new resident of the Women's Transitional Housing program is shown how to access the building on her first day at her new home.

access to counseling, health services, and financial guidance, as well as ESL classes, job-readiness support, and a vehicle to call her own. Volunteer mentors stepped in to provide encouragement and loving assistance, while food, clothing, and empowerment classes stabilize daily life. Her children had access to age-appropriate resources, including educational support through ICNA Relief's Back2School initiatives.

This is what ICNA Relief's work looks like in practice: not a single service, but a coordinated network of care designed to help individuals move from crisis toward stability and independence. These

outcomes are possible because of community support! Donors, volunteers, staff, and partners ensure that when a neighbor asks for help, a door is ready to open.

Women's Transitional Housing provides a safe and structured environment for women and their children as they work toward long-term stability. Residents receive housing alongside individualized support, including case management, employment readiness, counseling connections, and financial planning; all designed to help families move forward with clarity and confidence.



**336**  
**TOTAL NUMBER**  
**OF PEOPLE**  
**SERVED**

Br. Ibrahim helps an International Medical Graduate volunteer to properly extract blood from an individual in order to assess his cholesterol and blood glucose levels.

## HEALTH SERVICES

### Addressing Healthcare Disparities

Health Services address barriers to care by connecting under-served individuals to preventive screenings, Telehealth support, and community wellness initiatives. These services focus on early detection, follow-up care, and improving access for those who face challenges navigating traditional healthcare systems. From our free Telehealth program, which allows patients to see a primary care physician, along with lab tests, and follow-up visits- at no cost, to our free health screenings, along with the free children's dental cleanings and checkups, as well as the free flu vaccinations we help to provide to the community.



A volunteer is guided as he properly administers blood testing on an interested individual visiting one of our mobile health screenings.



## WANT TO HELP?

- Volunteer at future health screenings.
- Donate to support our testing equipment.
- Host a free health screening at your community organization.

This young girl gets her teeth cleaned and examined for free at our Muslim Services office location right before the start of the new school year.



# 25

## CHILDREN'S DENTAL CLEANINGS + SCREENINGS



# 135

## INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS DISTRIBUTED

A young girl bravely receives her yearly influenza vaccine from a nurse, at our West Ridge ICNA Relief office.



Parents and their children eagerly awaiting their turn to select their own new backpacks filled with school supplies as well as all of the food, games, and fun!



A young boy patiently waits in line to receive his new backpack with school supplies at our mega distribution.

## BACK2SCHOOL

### Providing Students Tools for Success

Back2School is a year-round education support program that serves students, parents, and educators. In addition to providing backpacks and school supplies, the program offers parent support, classroom resources through the annual EMPOWER Classroom Grant, and planned after-school tutoring initiatives designed to strengthen academic confidence and learning continuity.

More than simply a school supply initiative, this program addresses critical needs for children while easing the financial burdens of families in need. It creates confidence, while ensuring that students enter classrooms ready to thrive.



Families with their young children enjoy free snacks and treats, lunch, and ice cream during our yearly Back2School mega distribution event.

Hundreds of families brave the summer heat in order to receive free new backpacks, food, as well as games and events at our yearly event at the Chicago Forest Preserve!

### WANT TO HELP?

- Host new school supply drives.
- Donate backpacks and supplies \$25/backpack with supplies
- Become an ambassador in your community.

**2,300+**  
STUDENTS  
SUPPORTED



These two sisters enjoy some of the treats provided to those who attended our mega-Back2School distribution.

Islamic Circle of  
North America  
(ICNA) Relief



Supervisor, Sr. Beena Farid, and her team of volunteers help to distribute vital items to victims of a building fire from the local community.

## DISASTER RESPONSE

### Providing Hope in Times of Crisis

Disaster Response provides timely assistance to individuals and families affected by natural disasters. ICNA Relief mobilizes supplies, coordinates support services, and assists with recovery efforts, responding with speed, organization, and care during moments of crisis.

### WANT TO HELP?

- Assemble Disaster Relief kits for families after an emergency.
- Join our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and get trained to help during disasters.
- Donate to support restoration and cleanup efforts for affected communities.



Firefighters come to the rescue in the middle of the night as they are busy containing a fire at an apartment complex in Chicago.



Families line up awaiting ice cream at our yearly Eid toy distribution event. Gift-wrapped toys were distributed to all the children in attendance to help them celebrate Eid.

## RAMADAN 2025

**\$72,840**

ZAKAT AL-FITR  
DISTRIBUTED

**448**

HOUSEHOLDS  
RECEIVED ZAKAT

**2,171**

IFTAR MEALS  
DISTRIBUTED

**1,358**

FOOD BOXES  
DISTRIBUTED

**193**

ACTIVE  
VOLUNTEERS

**507**

VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

**21**

PARTICIPANT  
MASJIDS

**1,300**

EID GIFTS  
DISTRIBUTED

**2**

CAR  
DONATIONS

**566**

CASE  
MANAGEMENT

**45**

DRIVES +  
DISTRIBUTIONS

# GET INVOLVED!

YOU Can Make All the Difference

## SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Make an impact by donating today!  
Visit [ICNARelief.org/Donate](https://www.icnarelief.org/Donate)  
Donate to contribute and help transform lives in our community.



SCAN TO DONATE!

## JOIN OUR TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS

Be the change you want to see.  
Sign up to volunteer at  
[ICNARelief.org/Volunteer](https://www.icnarelief.org/Volunteer)  
Volunteer and make a difference in the lives of neighbors in need.



SCAN TO VOLUNTEER!



# 691

## VOLUNTEERS IN 2025





Make  
a lasting  
impact for  
families in  
need.



**7,950**  
SERVICE HOURS  
IN 2025



# CHICAGO TEAM

**Dr. Saima Azfar** Director Midwest Region

**Atya Kazmi** Area Manager

## OUTREACH

**Asma Jarad** Content Strategist

**Raul Gonzalez** Outreach Coordinator

**Sophia Hasan** Outreach Coordinator

**Saber Ikram Ali** Volunteer Coordinator

**Abdullah Hameed** Outreach Coordinator

**Nasreen Khan** Outreach Specialist

## REFUGEE SERVICES

**Beena Farid** Refugee Services Supervisor

**Faiza Khan** Case Manager

**Mustapha Kamal** Case Manager

**Anwaar Saadeh** Case Manager

**Nour Eddin Al Majzoub** Case Manager

**Ahlam Al Jebory** Case Manager

## MUSLIM FAMILY SERVICES

**Sarah Murad** Clinical Counselor

**Sh. Omer Haqqani** Religious Advisor

## HUNGER PREVENTION

**Fareed Uddin** Pantry Manager

**Khairzada Ahmad Shoaib** Pantry Manager & Case Manager

**Ibrahim Ali Shamseldin** Pantry Assistant Manager

**Alaaeldin Elmubarak** Pantry Assistant

## TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

**Munazza Shahzad** Transitional Housing Coordinator

**Shajia Azmi** Transitional Housing Case Manager

## HEALTH SERVICES

**Zakariya Sirajullah** Health Services Manager

**Hafiza Anum Shaheen** Telehealth Medical Assistant

**Shabnam Shakil** Telehealth Physician Assistant

## GRANTS & FINANCE

**Safiyah Qureshi** Grant Administrator

**Mohammad Usman** Finance Coordinator

**David Zverow** Program Consultant

## OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

**Shehla Alavi** Administrative Assistant

**Maleeha Rahman** Administrative Assistant



# PARTNERSHIPS

## Strengthening Communities Through Collaboration

Access DuPage  
Ahmad Family Fund  
Ajyal Learning Center  
Al Falah Academy  
Al Rehman Academy  
Al-Aqsa Community Center  
Alawad Medical Center  
Al-Huda Academy  
American Muslim Community Organization  
American Pakistan Foundation  
APPNA/Pakistani Physicians Society  
Arab American Family Services  
Arif Foundation  
Bloomingdale Township Mental Health Auxiliary  
Bridge Communities  
Bright Beginnings Montessori  
Building Peaceful Bridges  
Carriers of Light  
Caterpillar Foundation  
Catholic Charities USA  
Chicago Muslim Medical Alliance  
City of Chicago Office of the Mayor  
College of DuPage  
College Preparatory School of America  
Community Collaboration Initiative IUPU  
Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago  
Culver's  
Chicago Region Food System  
Crumb Cookies  
DarusSalam Masjid  
DuPage County Health Department  
DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform  
DuPage Foundation  
Faith Lutheran Church Glen Ellyn  
Falak Restaurant & Banquets  
Fatima Zabiha Foods  
Forest Preserves of Cook County  
Forging Opportunities for Refugees in America  
Galaria Capital Management  
Giveaseed Foundation  
Glenside Public Library  
Greater Chicago Food Depository  
Hayat Clinic  
ICNA Chicago  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights  
Illinois Department of Children & Family Services  
Illinois Public Health Association  
Illinois Senator Ram Villivalam

Immigrant Solidarity DuPage  
Inner-City Muslim Action Network  
Islamic Center of Naperville  
Islamic Center of Peoria  
Islamic Center of Western Suburbs  
Islamic Center of Wheaton  
Islamic Community Center of Des Plaines  
Islamic Community Center of Elgin  
Islamic Cultural Center of Greater Chicago  
Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America  
Islamic Foundation North  
Islamic Foundation of Peoria  
Islamic Foundation of Villa Park  
Islamic Society of Northwest Suburbs  
Kiwanis Club of Glendale Heights  
Levinson's Bakery  
Masjid Al Farooq  
Masjid Al-Huda  
Masjid Uthman  
Mecca Center  
Milton Township  
Mosque Foundation  
MUHSEN  
Muslim American Society  
Muslim Association of Bolingbrook  
Muslim Association of Greater Rockford  
Muslim Civic Coalition  
Muslim Community Center  
Muslim Society, Inc  
New Royal Distributors Inc.  
Noblest People Islamic Center  
Northern Illinois Food Bank  
Omaha Community Foundation  
Orland Park Prayer Center  
Recycle Processes Inc  
Refugee Action Network  
Representative Kevin John Olickal  
S & K Medical Center  
Sabeel Food Pantry  
Sanad Food Pantry  
Swedish Hospital  
Syrian Community Network  
UChicago Medicine AdventHealth GlenOaks  
University of Illinois at Chicago c/o Mary Bunn  
Viator House of Hospitality  
Village of Glendale Heights  
Waraich Charitable Foundation  
Wise Academy

Charity  
begins  
at home.

Charity  
begins  
with you.



**ICNARelief**



Evelyn Washington, one of our dedicated food pantry volunteers, assists a new client during our weekly food distribution.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### MAIN OFFICE

1698 Bloomingdale Road  
Glendale Heights, IL 60139

Mondays: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM  
Tuesdays: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM  
Wednesdays: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM  
Thursdays: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM  
Fridays: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM  
Saturdays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed

### GLENDALE HEIGHTS FOOD PANTRY

1781 Bloomingdale Road  
Glendale Heights, IL 60139

Mondays: Closed  
Tuesdays: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Wednesdays: Closed  
Thursdays: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Fridays: Closed  
Saturdays: 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed

### REFUGEE SERVICES & COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

2811 West Devon Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60659

Mondays: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Tuesdays: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Wednesdays: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Thursdays: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Fridays: Closed  
Saturdays: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed

### WEST RIDGE FOOD PANTRY

2809 West Devon Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60659

Mondays: Closed  
Tuesdays: Closed  
Wednesdays: Closed  
Thursdays: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Fridays: Closed  
Saturdays: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Sundays: Closed



Brothers Mustapha Kamal and Alaaeldin Elmubarak help to distribute winter coats, hats, and gloves to clients in need. Our partnership with Zakat Chicago allows us to provide this service.



844-414-4862



chicago@icnarelief.org

**ICNARelief.org**



**Dr. Saima Azfar**  
Regional Director

**Atya Kazmi**  
Area Manager