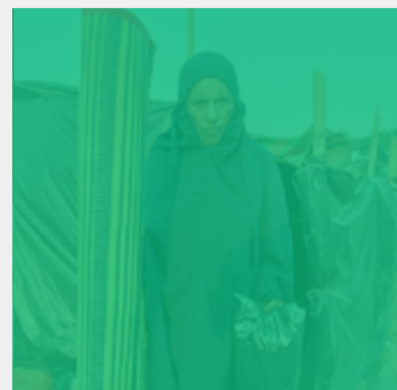




Annual Report 2024

Rohingya Hope
Initiative's
Annual Activity
Report 2024



Executive Summary

2024 was a pivotal year for the Rohingya Hope Initiative as we expanded and deepened our programs to serve Rohingya refugees.

RHI made significant progress in key areas. In Education, by rehabilitating a vital learning center and providing hundreds of children with access to schooling. In Healthcare, we launched an innovative medical training program to empower refugee community health workers and delivered critical services such as malnutrition screening and maternal care.

Through Economic Empowerment initiatives, we began equipping refugees with vocational skills and livelihood support to foster self-reliance. RHI also provided Emergency Relief during crises – notably responding to a devastating camp fire and delivering food aid during Ramadan – reaching vulnerable families with life-sustaining support. Meanwhile, we also raised awareness on the plight of the Rohingya and promoting interfaith community collaboration.

Key impact metrics are summarized in the Impact Metrics section of this report, highlighting the number of beneficiaries in each program. RHI's multifaceted efforts in 2024 have tangibly improved lives in the camps while laying groundwork for longer-term hope and resilience. The organization remains committed to transparency and effectiveness, and we thank our donors and partners for enabling this impactful year.



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Introduction

Founded in 2023, the Rohingya Hope Initiative (RHI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to empowering and supporting the Rohingya people through humanitarian aid, educational programs, and healthcare, while upholding their rights and dignity. RHI's mission is driven by the enormous needs of the Rohingya community, who have faced unprecedented displacement and now reside in vast refugee camps.

In Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, over 1.1 million Rohingya refugees live in one of the world's largest and most densely populated settlements. With a focus on sustainable development, healthcare, and emergency relief, RHI works across multiple program areas to address immediate needs and build hope for the future. This report provides a comprehensive account of RHI's activities and impact in 2024, organized by our key program areas.



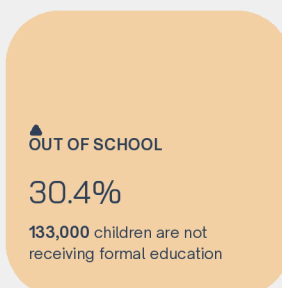
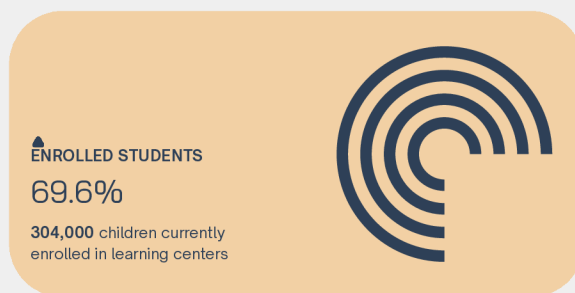
Education

Rohingya children in a refugee camp in Cox's Bazar. RHI's education programs aim to give these children access to schooling and a brighter future.

RHI believes education is a cornerstone of hope for Rohingya youth. In 2024, our flagship achievement in this sector was the repair and refurbishment of a Rohingya Refugee Learning Center serving primary grades. RHI has successfully built a vital learning center for Middle and High school students in the refugee camp, reinforcing our commitment to providing quality education to displaced children ensuring that refugee children continue learning in a familiar language and syllabus. RHI has also repaired a learning center for children who study for grade 1 to 4. It is more than just a building it stands as a symbol of normalcy and opportunity for a generation of Rohingya children who have known life only in exile.

Beyond infrastructure, RHI provided school supplies and learning materials to students and supported the recruitment of trained refugee teachers. Dozens of children now attend classes in a safe environment, gaining literacy, numeracy, and life skills. The curriculum not only covers academic subjects but also includes psychosocial support activities to help children overcome trauma. RHI also facilitated informal learning sessions for out-of-school youth and workshops for mothers on the importance of education. These efforts address the alarming gap in educational opportunities in the camps and help prevent a "lost generation" of Rohingya youth. By year's end, community feedback indicated improved attendance and enthusiasm for learning. RHI's education program, while still growing, has laid a strong foundation to expand reach in the coming year, with plans to establish additional learning centers and training programs for refugee educators.

Rohingya Education Program Current Enrollment Status School-age Children Statistics



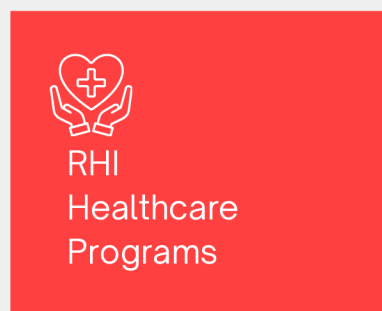
Healthcare

A community midwife weighs a new born baby at a clinic in Kutupalong camp. RHI's healthcare initiatives build local capacity and provide critical medical services.

In 2024 RHI launched an ambitious healthcare capacity-building effort alongside direct aid. A centerpiece was the introduction of our Local Medical Assistant and Family Planning (LMAF) Program, which provides medical training to Rohingya refugees. Through the LMAF program, RHI is empowering Rohingya youth with formal healthcare education, enabling them to serve as community health workers in the camps. (Perceptions of appropriate treatment among the informal allopathic providers: insights from a qualitative study in two peri-urban areas in Bangladesh - PMC) The first cohort of trainees, including both men and women, began an intensive 16-week training covering first aid, preventive care, maternal-child health, and family planning. This initiative not only builds skills (with trainees earning a recognized certificate) but also addresses the severe shortage of healthcare providers in the refugee community.

Meanwhile, RHI continued to deliver essential health services in partnership with local clinics. We organized regular mobile health camps for remote camp blocks, offering consultations, basic medicines, and referrals. Focus was placed on maternal and child health – for example, RHI supported antenatal checkups and nutrition screenings. In collaboration with Action Against Hunger, our volunteers helped identify and refer cases of severe malnutrition in children to appropriate clinics. RHI also participated in vaccination drives and health education, promoting hygiene and disease prevention to combat frequent outbreaks in the congested camps.

Notably, during a diphtheria outbreak early in the year, RHI's trained community health workers assisted international medical teams in community outreach and patient follow-up. They provided translation, cultural liaison, and aftercare monitoring for recovered patients – a role praised by partner NGOs. By year's end, RHI's healthcare program had not only directly served hundreds of refugees (through screenings and clinics) but also strengthened the community's own capacity to handle health issues. In 2025, we plan to expand the LMAF training to a larger cohort and establish a small RHI-run clinic focusing on primary care. RHI's healthcare efforts contribute to a healthier, more self-sufficient refugee community.



Economic Empowerment

Daily life in Kutupalong camp: children and families engage in small-scale trading and activities. RHI's economic empowerment initiatives aim to foster self-reliance through skills and livelihood support. The protracted displacement of the Rohingya has made economic empowerment a critical need – refugees have limited formal work opportunities and rely heavily on aid. In 2024, RHI took initial steps to enable refugees to rebuild livelihoods and regain dignity through work. Our approach centered on skills training and income-generating projects. RHI's mission to “empower and support” the community through sustainable aid is embodied in these efforts.

One key initiative was launching a vocational training program for Rohingya women and youth. We organized training courses in skills such as sewing, tailoring, handicrafts, and basic device repair. Dozens of participants (primarily women) graduated with practical skills to generate income. RHI provided sewing machines and toolkits to help jump-start home-based micro-enterprises. In parallel, we offered small grants to refugee entrepreneurs (selected through a careful vetting process) to start or expand tiny businesses like vegetable stands, tea stalls, or handicraft sales. One success story is a youth group that received tools and materials to produce handmade soap, which they now sell within the camp – improving hygiene while earning modest profits for their families. RHI also facilitated community marketplaces where refugees could safely trade goods and services, fostering a sense of normalcy and financial activity in the camps.

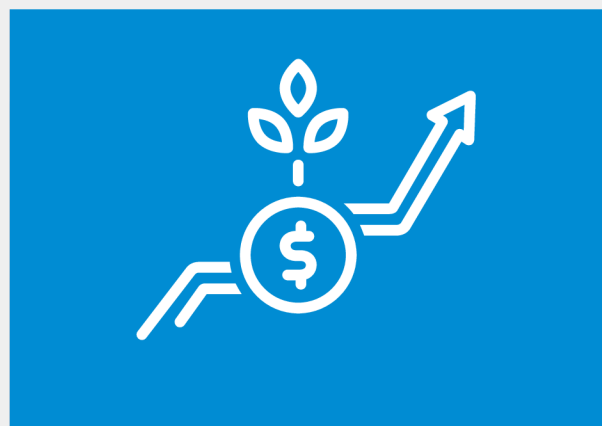
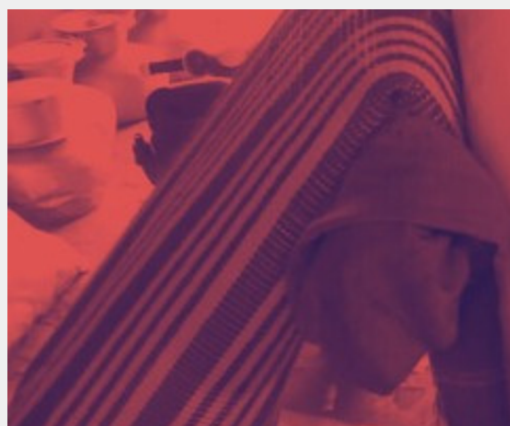
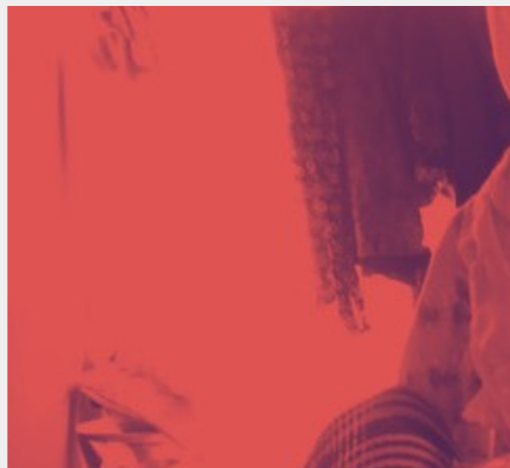
Based on current information from humanitarian organizations like UNHCR and the World Food Programme, an estimated 95% of the Rohingya refugee population in Bangladesh remains dependent on humanitarian assistance for survival.



95%

Economic Empowerment

These economic programs remained modest in scale during 2024, as we focused on proof-of-concept and learning. Nonetheless, the impact on participants was evident: trainees reported increased confidence and hope for the future, and beneficiaries of micro-grants began earning small but meaningful incomes. By focusing on skill-building and leveraging refugees' talents, we strive to restore a sense of purpose and financial stability to Rohingya families. These efforts complement our relief work by enabling refugees to "help themselves," aligning with global calls to enable livelihoods in protracted refugee situations. In the coming year, RHI aims to expand vocational training to new trades (such as carpentry and embroidery) and partner with fair-trade organizations to market refugee-made goods beyond the camps.



Emergency Relief

A devastating fire tore through Camp 05 in Cox's Bazar on January 7, 2024, destroying shelters and displacing thousands. RHI provided emergency relief supplies – such as clothing and mats – to affected families. Humanitarian relief is at the core of RHI's work, especially when disasters strike the already vulnerable refugee population. In early 2024, RHI mobilized a significant emergency response after a tragic fire erupted in Rohingya Refugee Camp 05 in Cox's Bazar.

In the early hours of January 7th, a massive blaze swept through Camp 05, destroying hundreds of shelters and displacing thousands of refugees. RHI's local team sprang into action alongside other responders. We coordinated the distribution of emergency supplies to families who lost their homes in the blaze. Specifically, RHI provided new clothes for children, mats for the community mosque, and warm clothing and blankets to affected households enduring the winter night without shelter. These items helped meet immediate needs for modesty, comfort, and dignity after refugees escaped the flames with virtually nothing. RHI staff and volunteers, many of whom are refugees themselves, worked around the clock to ensure relief reached the most in need, including unaccompanied minors and pregnant women. Our rapid response, though modest in scale, was an important part of the collective humanitarian effort that week, with over 300 individuals receiving direct aid from RHI after the fire.



Ramadan Iftar Initiative

Throughout 2024, RHI also delivered ongoing relief to combat hunger and hardship in the camps. During the holy month of Ramadan, we ran two special initiatives: the Ramadan Food Basket distribution and the Annual Iftar program. Through the “Sharing Blessings” Ramadan Food Basket Initiative, RHI provided staple food packages to refugee families to help them observe Ramadan despite food ration cuts. Each food basket contained rice, lentils, cooking oil, dates, and spices enough to support an average family for the month.

In total, 250 food basket packages were delivered during Ramadan, benefiting approximately 1,250 people by reducing the burden of food insecurity. In parallel, our “Nourishing Hope” Iftar Initiative organized community iftar meals at local centers. With support from donors, we supplied prepared hot dinners to several hundred fasting individuals each evening, creating a sense of community and normalcy at sunset.

Over the 30 days of Ramadan, RHI served an estimated 4,000 iftar meals. These gatherings not only alleviated hunger but also lifted spirits by allowing refugees to uphold cultural and religious traditions together.



Qurbani Meat Distribution

In mid-2024, during Eid al-Adha, RHI extended its relief efforts beyond the Bangladeshi camps. Through the “Revitalizing Lives” 2024 Meat Distribution Initiative, we collaborated with local partners to distribute fresh Qurbani (sacrificial) meat to Rohingya communities inside Rakhine State (Myanmar), as well as to displaced Rohingya in other areas.

This initiative provided a rare source of protein and a moment of Eid joy to families who seldom have the luxury of meat in their diet. In total, the campaign reached approximately 25,000 Rohingya – including those in remote villages and in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps – ensuring that even some of the most isolated and vulnerable Rohingya could partake in the Eid al-Adha celebration. For many recipients, the fresh meat was the first meat they had eaten in months, significantly supplementing their nutrition and reminding them that they are not forgotten by the international community.

In addition, RHI maintained a stock of emergency supplies (tarpaulins, jerrycans, and water purification tablets) for the monsoon season when floods and cyclones threaten the camps. Thankfully, 2024 saw no major cyclones hitting Cox’s Bazar directly; however, heavy rains caused localized flooding. RHI teams distributed plastic tarps and ropes to reinforce shelters and safe water kits to families in flood-prone zones as a precautionary measure.

RHI’s emergency relief efforts have been life-saving and compassionate. By responding swiftly to crises like fires and by addressing chronic needs like food security, we help stabilize conditions in the camps. Our approach emphasizes working closely with refugee community volunteers for needs assessment and distribution, ensuring fairness and cultural sensitivity. Moving forward, RHI will continue to strengthen its emergency preparedness (including first-aid training and stockpiling) so that we can respond even more effectively to whatever challenges arise.



Engagement

Community engagement and public awareness are integral to RHI's mission, as lasting change for the Rohingya will require global action and understanding. In 2024, the Rohingya Hope Initiative actively engaged stakeholders and the broader public to keep the Rohingya crisis in focus and to promote peaceful coexistence.

RHI has a dedication to promoting interfaith community development, bringing together people of different faiths and backgrounds in support of the Rohingya. This year, we organized several interfaith outreach events in Bangladesh and the United States. For example, in Cox's Bazar, RHI facilitated dialogues between Rohingya Muslim community leaders and members of the Bangladeshi host community, including Buddhist and Hindu representatives. These meetings, often held in local community centers, were aimed at building mutual understanding, dispelling misconceptions, and reducing tensions. They resulted in joint statements of solidarity and small cooperative actions (such as a host community youth group joining to help clean a refugee clinic area). On the international front, RHI partnered with faith-based organizations in the U.S. (mosques, churches, temples, and synagogues) to host webinars and panel discussions about the Rohingya plight, emphasizing common values of compassion across religions.

RHI also amplified the voice of the Rohingya through storytelling and information campaigns. We published insightful articles and reports on our website – for instance, “Understanding the Plight of the Rohingya: A Compassionate Response” which outline the complex history and resilience of the Rohingya people. These pieces serve to educate donors, volunteers, and the public about why the Rohingya fled Myanmar and the challenges they face in camps, thereby fostering empathy. We ensured to include personal narratives of Rohingya men and women whenever possible. Throughout the year, RHI's leadership gave presentations at universities, humanitarian conferences, and community gatherings, calling for sustained aid and a diplomatic resolution that would enable the Rohingya to return home safely with rights guaranteed. On social media and in our communications, RHI highlighted key issues such as the impact of aid funding cuts on refugee rations and the need for quality education for refugee children. We ran a social media campaign during the anniversary of the 2017 exodus in August, sharing survivor stories and urging followers to contact their representatives about Rohingya human rights.



Engagement

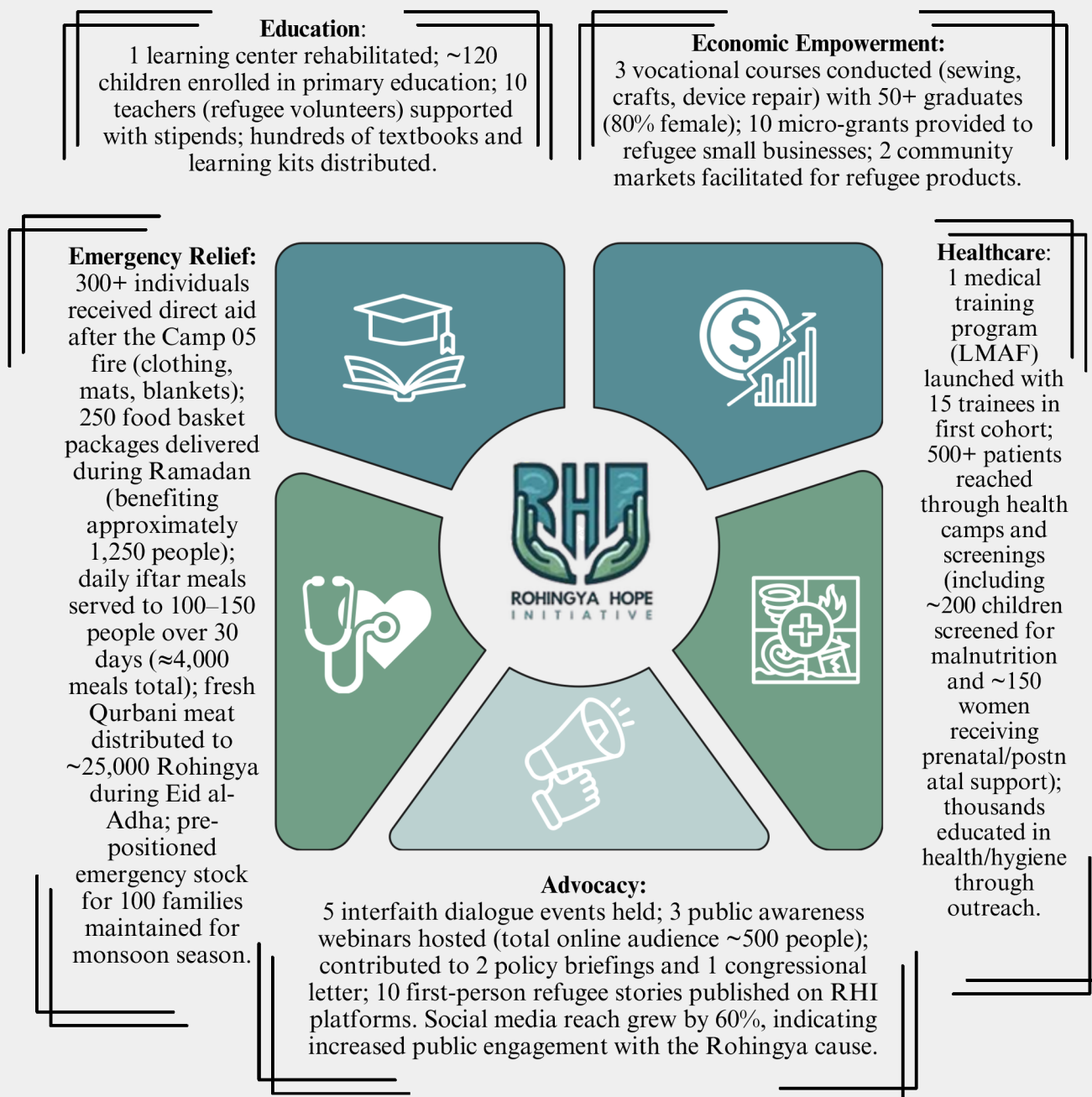
Importantly, Rohingya youth volunteers have been emerging as advocates through RHI's platform. We provided media training to a group of articulate young refugees who now speak at events (virtually) to share their experiences directly. One young woman, for example, spoke on a UNHCR panel about gender-based violence risks in the camps, helping shape more nuanced policy discussions.

Through these advocacy efforts, RHI has helped keep the Rohingya crisis on the agenda of donors and policymakers and nurtured goodwill between refugees and host communities. We recognize that humanitarian aid alone is not enough – advocacy for durable solutions and refugee rights is essential. RHI will continue to be a voice for the Rohingya people, guided by the conviction that awareness and solidarity are powerful tools in the quest for justice and lasting hope.



Impact Metrics

To quantify our impact in 2024, the table below summarizes key metrics across RHI's program areas:



(All figures above are RHI internal estimates.)

These metrics reflect a year of both breadth and depth in our interventions. While numbers alone do not capture the full story, they demonstrate RHI's growing capacity to deliver aid and effect change. We continually strive to improve our monitoring and data collection to better track outcomes and inform our programs.



Ongoing/Future Projects

Solar System for learning centers

A critical solar energy intervention at the learning center, located in Tankhali Tajmalkhola, Camp-13, Block-C2, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. The school and madrasah, serving over 800 Rohingya students and staff, currently suffer from unreliable electricity, compromising safety, education, and daily operations. To address this urgent need, a comprehensive solar power system is proposed. The project will install Solar Home Systems (SHS), classroom lighting, fans, and battery storage for energy backup. It also includes security lighting around the premises. The total estimated cost is USD 10,000, covering equipment, installation, training, and sustainability planning.

The project will be implemented within three weeks, followed by routine maintenance and monitoring. It emphasizes sustainability through local technician training and a school-led maintenance model. Community ownership will be promoted to ensure accountability, with potential scaling based on institutional feedback and performance.

Clean water and Sanitation

A deep tube-well system to provide safe and sustainable drinking water for estimated 3,500 residents including 800 students and staff in Tankhali Tajmalkhola, Camp-13, Block-C2, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. The area faces a severe shortage of clean water due to contaminated surface sources and unreliable shallow wells, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases and daily hardship particularly for women and children. The project includes a hydrogeological survey, drilling a deep tube-well (1000-1200 ft), installation of a submersible electric pump, water quality testing, and community training in maintenance and hygiene. Total estimated cost is USD 7,500.00, covering equipment, installation, and training. The initiative aims to ensure continuous access to clean water, reduce disease, and empower the community through active participation and locally trained caretakers. Implementation will be completed within 45 days. A sustainability plan includes forming a water user group and regular system monitoring, ensuring long-term functionality and community ownership.



Women Empowerment

This proposal outlines a six-month vocational training program to empower 25 orphan Rohingya women/girls (ages 14–20) in Tankhali Camp-13, Cox’s Bazar, through certified sewing skills. These girls, highly vulnerable due to displacement, lack education and livelihoods, and face risks of child labor, early marriage, and psychosocial distress. The project, led by Rohingya Hope Initiative, includes structured training in stitching, embroidery, and dressmaking, delivered by two female refugee trainers. A fully equipped training center with sewing machines, materials, and psycho-social support sessions will be established. Graduates will receive sewing starter kits and support to form a cooperative or link with local tailoring shops. Expected outcomes include economic self-reliance, improved mental well-being, and community engagement. With a total estimated budget of USD 12,000.00, the project emphasizes sustainability through cooperative formation and local trainer involvement. It aims to provide dignity, skills, and income opportunities to some of the camp’s most at-risk girls.

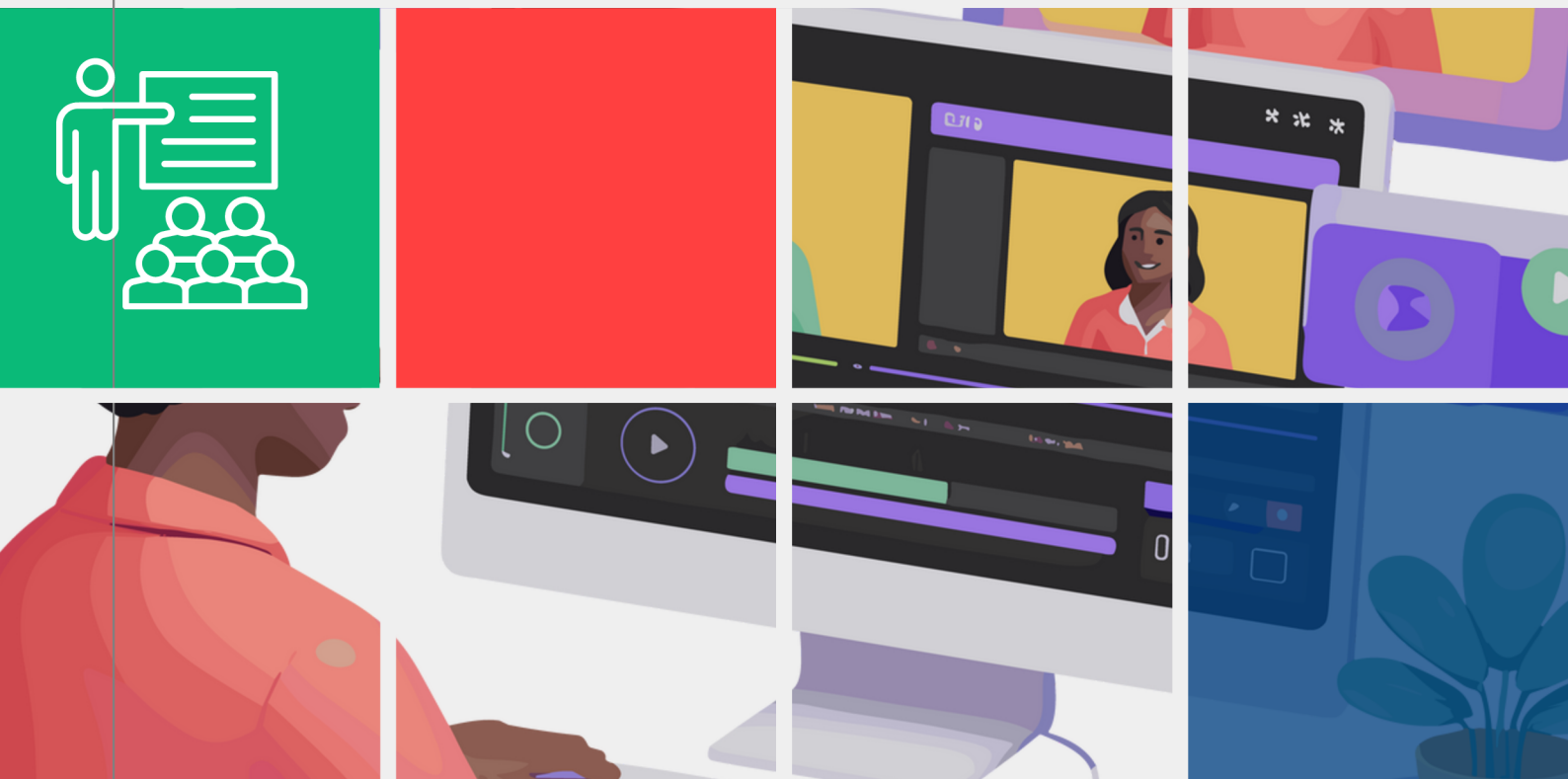
Sports and Youth empowerment

Youth Empowerment Through Sports” project aims to engage 200 Rohingya youth (ages 12–25) in Cox’s Bazar refugee camps through structured physical activities to prevent distress and exposure to drugs, crime, and violence. Due to limited educational and livelihood opportunities, many Rohingya youth remain idle and vulnerable to harmful influences. This initiative proposes regular football, volleyball, and group sports sessions, along with mentorship and team-building programs, to foster discipline, teamwork, and mental well-being. Key activities include equipment procurement, hiring four community-based trainers, organizing weekly training and monthly tournaments, and implementing peer mentorship. The three-month project includes monitoring and evaluation and concludes with a youth-led model for sustainability. The total estimated cost is USD 15,000. The project promotes community ownership through youth leadership and local partnerships, aiming to replicate the model across camps. With your support, this initiative will build a healthier and more resilient generation of Rohingya youth.



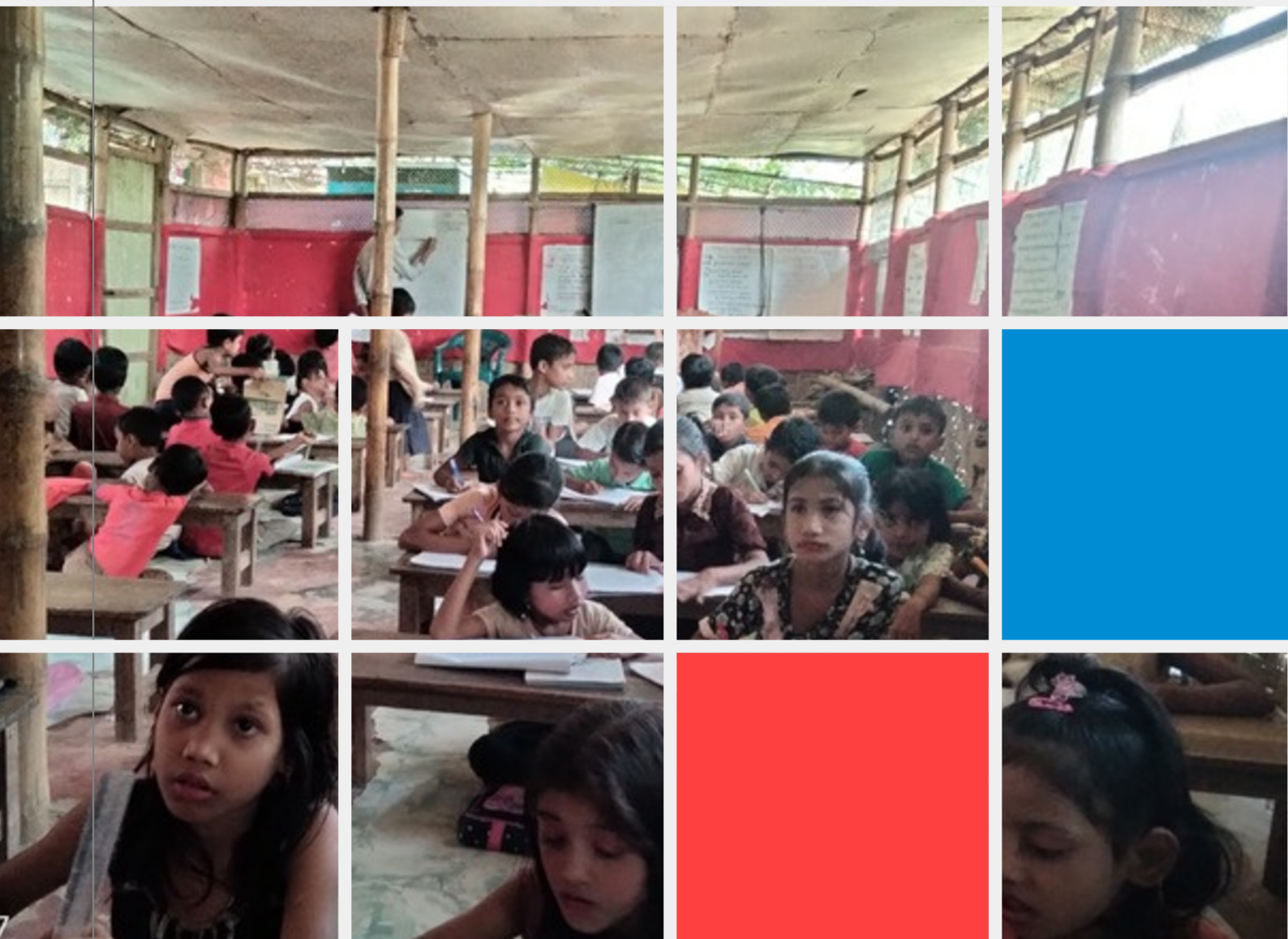
Media Training

This project proposes a media and digital literacy training program for 50 Rohingya refugees aged 15–50 in Cox’s Bazar refugee camps with the estimated budget of USD 10,000.00 to combat the growing threat of misinformation, disinformation, and harmful online content. With low media literacy and limited access to verified information, many refugees fall prey to false narratives spread via platforms like Facebook, WhatsApp, and TikTok, often leading to fear, confusion, and division within camps. The program will include a 5-day intensive workshop covering topics such as social media ethics, identifying fake news, and creating responsible content. Participants will receive toolkits and engage in practical exercises, peer discussions, and follow-up mentorship to ensure long-term impact. The initiative also promotes peer-led community awareness.



The Rohingya Hope Initiative made meaningful strides in 2024 towards improving the lives of Rohingya refugees and advocating for their future. From classrooms bustling with eager young learners, to community health workers treating patients, to families breaking fast with dignity during Ramadan, RHI's presence has been a source of relief and hope. We are proud of the trust the community has placed in us, and we remain accountable to them and to our supporters. 2024 was not without challenges – resource constraints and complex on-ground conditions persist but the resilience of the Rohingya people continues to inspire our mission. RHI is deeply grateful to our donors, partners, and volunteers who made this year's achievements possible. Your generosity and solidarity have directly translated into meals served, lessons taught, and lives saved. We also acknowledge the cooperation of the Bangladeshi authorities and UN agencies that facilitated our work in the camps.

Looking ahead, 2025 will be a year of consolidation and growth. RHI plans to expand educational opportunities to higher grade levels, increase the scope of medical training, and initiate new pilot projects in livelihoods (such as community gardens). We will also continue to amplify the voices





Make a Difference Today

The Rohingya Hope Initiative works to protect lives, restore dignity, and support Rohingya communities affected by displacement and persecution. Our work is made possible by the generosity of supporters who believe in justice and compassion.



- You can donate online at <https://rohingyahopeinitiative.org/donate/>
- or donate via Zelle using the email rohingyahopeinitiative@gmail.com.
- You may also scan the Zelle QR code to donate quickly and securely.

Thank you for standing with the Rohingya and supporting hope in action.