



**ARAHA**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2019**



## APPROACH

*Delivering essentials, developing opportunities.*

## VISION

A stable, sustainable, and thriving Horn of Africa.

## MISSION

ARAHА strives to alleviate human suffering and build self-reliant communities by providing humanitarian aid and empowering individuals in the Horn of Africa and here at home.

## ADVANTAGE

We Are a unique aid organization. We focus only on the Horn of Africa. We speak the language of the region and we understand the local cultures. Our advantage helps us be well connected, well accepted and welcomed by the local communities.

We have years of experience in this area and we have the tools required to navigate the many challenges of working in the region. Our field offices and partners are officially registered, recognized, and respected by local governments in the Horn and abroad. We enjoy our work and we do it professionally while constantly striving to improve our efficiency and effectiveness.

## Directors Note

We hope you and your family are well as we all try to cope with the impending circumstances and challenges posed by Coronavirus. It is an understatement to say the world has been hit hard by the growing spread of COVID-19 pandemic. With thousands of people hospitalized and many more dead, we are just beginning to see the impact. In the Horn of Africa region (East Africa), the number of confirmed cases is rapidly increasing. To prevent the spread of the virus, many countries have started curfews ,lockdowns, closed off local markets, and restrictions on movements. These measures may seem helpful but are detrimental to the majority of the people, who heavily rely on day to day work to feed their families.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, food insecurity in the region was already alarmingly high due to the threat to the agricultural seasons by the ongoing desert locust outbreak and the ongoing phenomena of drought and flooding. Now, with the spread of the pandemic and economic shock resulting from the crisis, the magnitude and severity of food shortage is expected to be Catastrophic.

Due to the ongoing situation, we have canceled many of our fundraising events; unfortunately, this will have an impact on our work in providing aid for the most vulnerable. As you may know, small organizations like us heavily rely on donors and partners like you to provide aid for those in need.

We understand the incredible strain of uncertainty and social disruption this has caused everyone. However, your support and contribution are vital in these difficult times; no matter how small it may be. This is a time to watch out for each other particularly those who are most vulnerable among us. We – at ARAHA- remain hopeful that we will get through this difficult time together, and we hope you continue to be part of the ARAHA family.

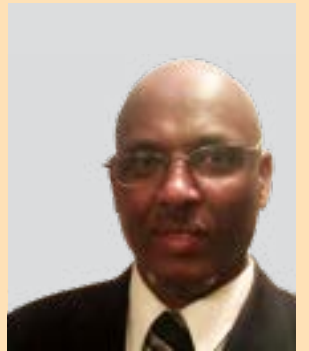


Mohamed Idris  
Executive Director

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Mohamed Idris  
Executive Director



Dido Kotile, PhD  
Board Chairman

## BOARD MEMBERS

Mahmoud S. Gamam  
Vice Chairman

Adam Alamin  
Secretary

Abdullah Mamdani  
Treasurer

Omar Ismail  
Jessica Zikri  
Jaylani Hussein  
Muath Asamarai  
Kadra Abdi

# 2019 Highlights



**20,000** families received food baskets in Somalia, Kenya, Sudan, and Ethiopia, and serving over 120,000 people.



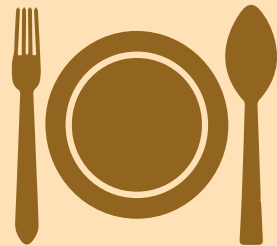
**65** fully powered electric-wheelchair distributed to people with disabilities in Mogadishu, Somalia.



**55** water wells installed serving over 80,000 people in Somalia, Kenya, Sudan, and Ethiopia



**583** orphans sponsored across the region.



**3,149** kids received nutritious meals through our school lunch program across the Horn.



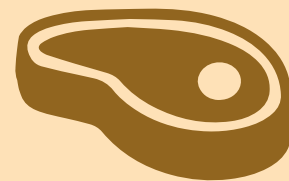
**71** college scholarships for students in need.



**27** housing units constructed in Sudan for families displaced as a result of tribal conflicts.



**400** students benefited from the construction of a water catchment system in their school.



**137,000** people received beef or goat meat for cooking to fight malnutrition.

# 20 years in the Horn

We are celebrating 20 years of work in the Horn of Africa region. Join us in our celebrations throughout the year as we highlight our work, those who impacted it and how you have helped us to make an impact.

Over the years you have helped us to shape the lives of millions of people. We hope to continue to do amazing work and help many more millions of people across the region. You can follow our celebration on our website or on any of our social media platforms.

You can also share your ARAHA story with us. What is your story with ARAHA? How did you come across ARAHA? What kept you on board for all these years? Share your experience with us to celebrate this incredible milestone.



@araharelief



ARAHA.ORG



## FOOD



*Hunger is not an issue of charity. it is an issue of justice.*

*~Jacques Diouf*



School meals play a large role in keeping students in school, fighting malnutrition, and keeping them focused and protecting them from being stunned. For many students across the world, school lunch is the only wholesome meal of the day they have. And in many places in the Horn of Africa region where poverty is the norm, most schools can't afford to provide any meals for their students.

During 2019, with the help of our donors and partners, we were able to provide over 1 million meals to 3149 students in 11 schools.

Since the inception of the program, ARAHA has received more applications requesting more feeding projects, those schools already benefiting the program has experienced a slight increase of their students with almost zero dropouts.

For our various other feeding programs which include our standard food baskets--which is sometimes supplemented with Rice from Rise Against Hunger or Feed My Starving Children--and meat distribution program. All of which added up to over 5 million meals distributed and thousands of people fed across the region.

Beneficiaries came from all walks of life and were identified by our field officers and local community leaders as 'most in need' of the care packages. Our food program targeted people in need in refugee camps, IDP camps, local villages, and schools.



## WATER



*"A drop of water is worth more than a sack of gold to a thirsty man"*

*~Unknown*

The sources of water are so scarce due to the current climate in the region toppled by a lack of infrastructure. As a result, people in many areas of the Horn of Africa have to walk many miles and spend many hours every day to get water. It is a daunting task for every household every day.

For the past twenty years, we have continued to build hand-pumped water wells, however, over the past couple of years, we have been transitioning more into sustainable water solutions suitable with the demographics and topography of each region and meeting the demands of different communities.

These solutions include building community hand-pumped or solar water wells, installing water catchments at schools, and our latests pilot program; building Sand dams.

This year, we built 55 community water wells serving more than 100 towns and villages in the horn region, providing clean water to more than 25,000 people and their livestock. Installed 2 Water catchments in two schools to collect rainwater every time there is rain reducing the cost of buying water, providing proper and healthy storage for the schools and reducing the spread of contagious diseases among students.

ARAHA has built one model solar-powered shallow well in Somaliland in partnership with Life for Relief and Development, to serve more than 3500 people and the water reservoir can hold more than 20,000 liters of water that can support the village even during the dry seasons.

## EDUCATION



*Knowledge is like a garden; if it is not cultivated, it cannot be harvested.*

*~African Proverb*



Education is the ultimate key to liberty, freedom, and self-sustainability. We have continued to emphasize the importance of education throughout many of our programs by combining food relief with education with our school lunch program or constructing water catchment systems at a local school. This way you are able to multiply the effects of our projects. At the end of the day, a child cannot learn on a hungry stomach or concentrate with thirst.

In addition to expanding the effects of our education program, we have continued to support already existing traditional educational supports.

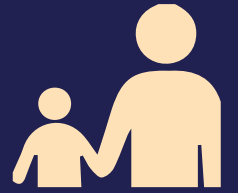
It is also important to realize the role school supplies play in the lives of students; Sometimes we take these small things for granted. But

imagine not having adequate seating and table in your classroom, forcing kids to squeeze in a small space, or a teacher not having the tools they need to teach or the student with inadequate textbook with torn or missing pages....It is unfair, to say the least.

To fulfill these educational rights, we shipped three containers of school furniture to Somaliland and Somalia, benefiting more than 2700 students in 14 primary schools, and distributed books to an additional 10 schools across the region.

Furthermore, to help high school graduates go after their dreams, we continued to expand our college scholarship program by sponsoring more than 20 students in Somalia, and 51 more in Sudan.

## ORPHANS



*Not everyone can be an orphan.*

*~Andre Gide*



The orphan program has long been a fundamental component of our organization and one of our longest-running and most important projects. We proudly provide food, shelter, a quality education and even Eid gifts to lift the spirits of orphans across the region.

The donor-orphan relationship is a special one in which an orphan feels empowered, and the donor feels a sense of humanity. Each donor receives personalized information about the orphan they sponsor and semi-annual reports on the child's wellbeing.

Over the years, many children who have gone through our program become productive citizens who attend university, have careers and start families of their own.

Our approach of taking care of orphans at ARAHA is simple; it is to have the orphan live with an immediate family or relatives. Also, we make sure if there is more than one orphan from the same family – brothers and sisters - that they stay together with the same guardian where they live in a healthy family atmosphere and they do not have to suffer another emotional trauma of separation after the loss of their parents or one of them.

In 2019, we had 583 new orphans being sponsored which includes a sponsorship from our partners at Red Crescent of UAE who sponsored 257 in Kenya. Furthermore, we distributed Eid gifts to more than 1000 kids across the region, bringing joy on the holiday occasion.

## HEALTH



*It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.*

*~Mahatma Gandhi*



Over the years, we have tried to work with local community leaders and the community at large to identify the needs of the people. The need for medical equipment in the region is very high, to say the least; but more specifically ambulances... especially in rural communities.

When it comes to medical emergencies, time is life. Every minute the time passes by, a person's life is at risk of loss. Imagine a to-be-mother with labor trauma, or an old man having a heart attack; both can't reach the hospital because there are no ambulances to take them there, and walking would be impossible.

This year our team in Somalia fulfilled the need of one community in Garowe town, Puntland with a donation of an ambulance from MN. The

Ambulance received by the local administrations and elders, who identified the Mother and Child health center in the town as the perfect recipient. To make sure that the ambulance remains as public property and used for the good of people; we signed a bilateral agreement with the government and partner organization. We also send a special thanks to the Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota for helping us to make this happen.

We also shipped two containers of medical supplies to Somalia and Somaliland. Distributed to two public hospitals to increase their capacity and service. These additional equipments will help the hospitals save thousands of lives and assist many more people in need of care.

## SELF RELIANCE



*Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.*

*~Helen Keller*



They say disability is not inability, but a challenge to overcome. But this challenge can be even more grueling for people in poverty, living in a region prone to conflict, drought and poor infrastructure. This year, we partnered with UMR (United Mission Relief) to enhance the lives of a few deserving individuals.

Pictured above was a life-changing moment for 65 people in Mogadishu, Somalia--many of whom were confined to their homes since they didn't have access to any kind of wheelchair. But after our team assembled and distributed a fully equipped electric-powered wheelchair, the recipients can now have full independence to experience life outside seated comfortably and moving about as they please.

Some of them will now be able to follow their dreams and attend schools, while others can now go outside and make a living.

Sometimes we undermine the value a simple thing as a wheelchair can bring to a person's life. Forgetting the many doors and opportunities it can open for a person. Not to mention the boost of morale, confidence, self-pride, motivation and much more...But more importantly, for them to know that they are cared for and not forgotten.

## ENERGY



*The Sun never repents of the good he does, nor does he ever demand a recompense.*

*~Benjamin Franklin*

*Photo: Corrie Wingate | Green Planet*



ARHA has always promoted clean energy for households, one such project is the distribution of solar lanterns in remote areas villages; where many families rely on kerosene lanterns or charcoal which are unsafe and not environmentally friendly. In addition to this, these solutions do not provide sufficient lighting for the entire room.

Imagine a group of teenagers covered in blankets gathering around a fire on a cold late night with notebooks and textbooks to study for an exam. As they shiver and protect their books from the sparks of the fire; their minds grapple with the difficulty of studying in this condition. This is the exact condition our executive director came across during one of his trips to the Horn.

The solar lanterns we distribute, provide sufficient light for an entire room and last the whole night. In addition, it is safe, environmentally friendly, makes it easier for students to study during the night, and promotes socialization.

In the past few years, we have also started to work with local schools in the installation of solar panels to promote clean energy, provide lighting for dark classrooms, equipment, and ultimately enhance teaching and learning for students.

We continued to fulfill these objectives in 2019 and distributed solar lanterns to 300 families in Isiolo, Kenya and also installed solar panels in the local school. All in all, we were able to impact over 1000 people in the town.

## EMERGENCY AID



*When you're providing emergency aid, you're fighting hunger; you're filling stomachs.*

*~Ertharin Cousin*



In 2019, many parts of Somalia was hit with a series of severe floods after devastating droughts earlier in the year-- further aggravating the already fragile food security situation in the country.

One of the hardest-hit area was Beledweyne; a city with a river running through the middle of it; cutting the city in two halves. Heavy rains caused flash floods on both sides of the river followed by large scale flooding.

This caused a massive displacement of more than 52000 families. Meanwhile, several villages under Beledweyne town have been surrounded by the floods with all routes cut off. As rainfall progressed, casualties and devastation increased with many more areas affected.

Our teams on the ground quickly mobilized to prepare food baskets and emergency aid kits for flood victims. We distributed food baskets to 2,400 people in Beledweyne, Somalia, and 4,200 people in Zaila, Somaliland and 2,400 in Djibouti. In addition, we shipped 6 containers of rice with the support of our partner Rise Against Hunger to provide aid to over 12,000 people in Zaila, Somaliland.

## LIFE SAVER CAMPAIGN



Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.

~Helen Keller



Giving a platform to the public to support others has been a positive step forward to merge humanitarian aid efforts with the concern and care of the public. ARAHA's lifesaver campaign has proved to be one such platform, motivating people to crowdfunding campaigns and raise thousands of dollars every year.

In 2019, our supporters started 10 lifesaver campaigns raising close to \$30,000 for causes ranging from flood relief, sand dam construction, water well projects, food distribution, and orphan support. These campaigns have made an impact on over 50,000 people across the Horn of Africa region.

One example is the construction of water catchments systems for three schools Somaliland.

Students and teachers will benefit from clean drinking water harvested from the roof of their school, there is no need for running costs or having to deal with a lack of water availability.

It is because of projects like these that we can multiply our impact on the lives of many. But also, empower the donors to act, raise awareness, give, promote, and campaign for a cause that's dear to their hearts.

## OUR PARTNERS (2019)

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the people responsible for making all of this possible. To our donors, volunteers, collaborators, partners, supporters and staff: thank you for making 2019 a wonderful year!



**Continued:** The Wasily Foundation, Direct Background Search, The Ayudar Foundation, and Midwest Home healthcare Inc.

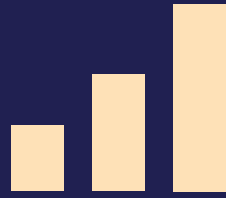
## ACCREDITATION

ARAHA has been recognized by multiple organizations for its financial health, accountability, and transparency. Including a four-star rating from charity navigator, the premiere charity evaluator, for four consecutive years - ranking us in the top 8 percent of all U.S. charities.





## FINANCE



**Audited by:**  
Abdo Eick & Meyers LLP

**Opinion:**  
In our opinion, based on our audit and reports of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as of December 31st, 2019, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

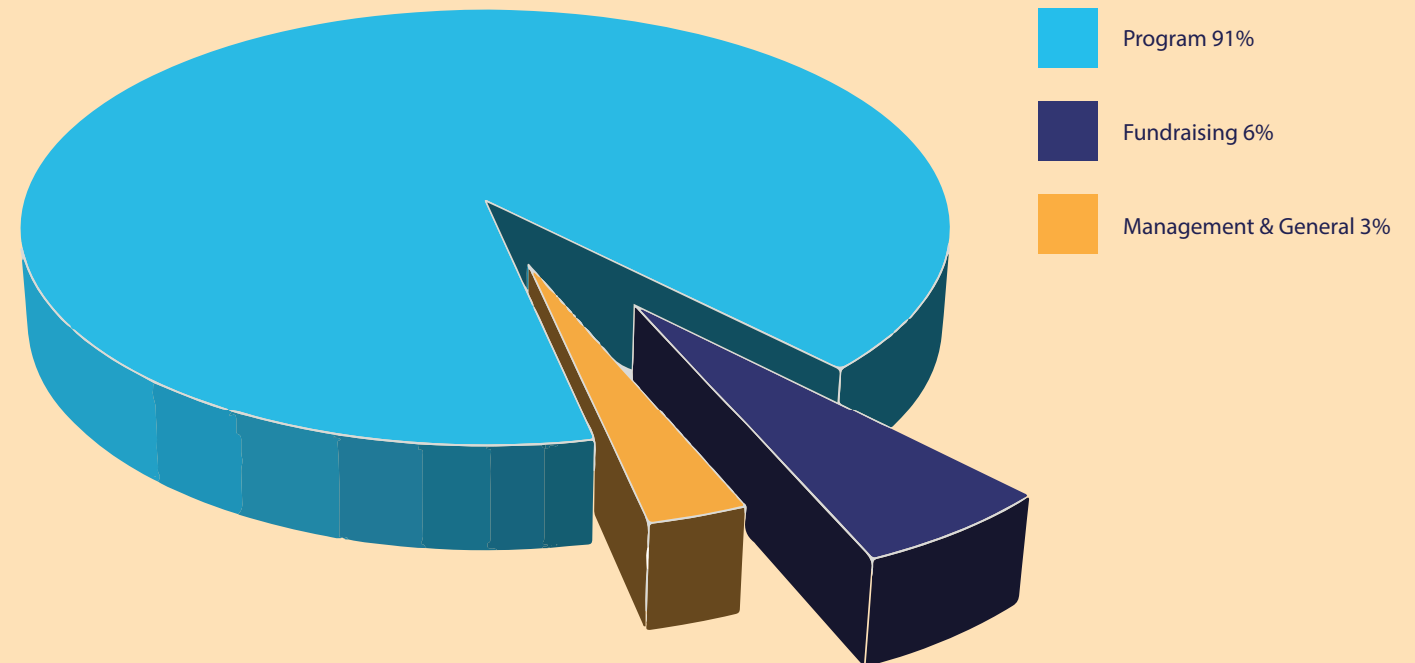
ARAH is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit, tax-exempt organization based in Minnesota. All donations are tax-deductible. Tax ID #41-1989714.

# BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	DOLLAR AMOUNT
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,172,903
Accounts receivable	400
Pledges receivable, net	44,905
Inventory	30,397
Prepaid expenses	1,794
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,250,399</b>
<b>Agreement deposit</b>	<b>100,000</b>
<b>Property and Equipment</b>	
Land and improvements	45,675
Building and improvements	219,886
Furniture and equipment	71,374
Vehicles	25,400
<b>Total Property and Equipment, Cost</b>	<b>362,335</b>
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(92,430)
<b>Total Property and Equipment, Net</b>	<b>269,905</b>
<b>Intangible Assets</b>	
Mailing list	350
Software	16,282
Website	3,485
<b>Total Intangible Assets, Cost</b>	<b>20,117</b>
Less Accumulated Amortization	(8,644)
<b>Total Intangible Assets, Net</b>	<b>11,473</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,631,777</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts payable	164,262
Accrued expenses	89,361
Security deposit	2,898
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>256,521</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	
Undesignated (Without donor restriction)	68,019
Board designated (Without donor restriction)	329,226
<b>Total without donor restrictions</b>	<b>397,245</b>
With donor restrictions	978,011
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>1,375,256</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>1,631,777</b>

# REVENUE & EXPENSES

SUPPORT & REVENUE	UNRESTRICTED	TEMP RESTRICTED	TOTAL
<b>Revenue and Support</b>			
Contributions	304,116	1,660,910	1,965,026
In-kind donations	3,065,179		3,065,179
Rental income	42,689		42,689
Miscellaneous income	17,084		17,084
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	1,278,831	(1,278,831)	
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b>	<b>4,707,899</b>	<b>382,079</b>	<b>5,089,978</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Program services	4,440,649		4,440,649
Supporting services			
Management and general	165,522		165,522
Fundraising	292,558		292,558
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,898,729</b>		<b>4,898,729</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>(190,830)</b>	<b>382,079</b>	<b>191,249</b>
<b>Net Assets, January 1st</b>	<b>588,075</b>	<b>595,932</b>	<b>1,184,007</b>
<b>Net Assets, December 31st</b>	<b>397,245</b>	<b>978,011</b>	<b>1,375,256</b>



# A lasting Legacy

How you can leave a bequest ( last will and testament) to ARAHA

## Bequest

### Leaving a Gift in Your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will is a unique way of supporting ARAHA, without impacting on your present income or bank balance. It allows you to leave a legacy of money, property, shares or goods beyond your lifetime.

#### Benefit of having a Will

Not having a valid will in place at the time of death, may leave the heir decision process up to the state court system. By having a Will prepared in advance; your wishes for the distribution of your estate will be carried out without any complications.

#### Wording of your bequest in your Will

It may read:

*"I give, devise, and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ [dollar amount, property, or percentage donated] to the American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa (ARAHA), a nonprofit organization as described in section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, with headquarters located at 3900 Jackson Street NE, Suite #10, Columbia Heights, MN 55421, to be used for delivering essentials and developing opportunities for those who live in the Horn of Africa."*

Also, it can be more tax advantageous to leave part of your **Retirement Plans and IRAs** to charity. To name a charity as a beneficiary, you need to complete a beneficiary designation form with the financial institution where the account being managed. Beneficiary forms can be changed at any time. There are other types of bequests which are acceptable by the IRS. Please consult with your lawyer or financial advisor to ensure your wishes are honored.

**5** simple steps to making a difference in the life of a person in need:

- Step 1:**  
If you do not have a Will, you need to create one.
- Step 2:**  
If you already have a Will, then all you need to do is add a short legal amendment to your existing Will.
- Step 3:**  
Decide on what type of gift you would like to leave.
- Step 4:**  
Discuss your wishes with your family to ensure that the reasons for your decision are understood.
- Step 5:**  
Notify ARAHA regarding your intentions so we can recognize you accordingly.





# 5 WAYS TO GIVE

*Giving is easy, so long as  
it comes from the heart.*

## **Go Online**

[www.araha.org](http://www.araha.org)

## **Text Us**

text the word  
"araha" to  
91999

## **Call Us**

763-270-5351  
[info@araha.org](mailto:info@araha.org)

## **Mail Us**

ARAHA  
P.O.BOX 21134  
Minneapolis, MN 55421

## **Stop by our office**

ARAHA  
3900 Jackson St. NE #10  
Minneapolis, MN 55421

3900 Jackson St. NE STE #10 Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Toll-Free: 1-866-99-ARAHA | Phone: 763-270-5351

Fax: 763-270-5349 | Email: [info@araha.org](mailto:info@araha.org)

**WWW.ARAHA.ORG**