



Australian Afghan Hassanian Youth Association

Humanitarian Assistance Policy

Purpose and scope

The Australian Afghan Hassanian Youth Association Inc (**AAHYA**) is committed to respecting, protecting and supporting the rights of all our stakeholders.

Providing humanitarian assistance

AAHYA is committed to providing our humanitarian assistance in accordance with the Core Humanitarian Standard. This means that when we assist communities and people affected by crisis, we recognise and are working towards:

1. understanding and meet their needs.
2. giving support when they need it.
3. providing support that helps them to recover, prepares them to respond to a similar emergency in the future and does not cause harm.
4. informing them about the support you can expect and how you should be treated. We will do our best to give them a say in decisions about the support provided.
5. ensuring that they can report problems if they are unhappy with the support we provide or with the way our staff treat them. A person who makes a complaint will be protected from harm. We will take action in response to complaints.
6. working together with other organisations that provide support. We try to combine our knowledge and resources to better meet their needs.
7. learning from experience so that the support we give improves over time.
8. ensuring that the people who work for us have the skills and experience to support them.
9. managing resources in a way that is responsible, limits waste and has the best result for the communities and people we assist.

We also seek to coordinate and complement the work of other organisations providing assistance in the community, particularly local community leaders and organisations. We recognise and understand that supporting local leaders is central to the sustainability of our programs.

Empowering our stakeholders

We are committed to providing humanitarian assistance in a way that:

1. promotes the empowerment of our primary stakeholders.
2. promotes and supports the role and leadership of people and organisations that are local to the community.

3. includes people with disabilities and encourages them to participate in making decisions about programs that affect them.
4. promotes gender equality and equity and does not discrimination in relation to gender identity.
5. encourages children to participate in programs that target and affect them. This includes making sure that our complaints-processes are child-friendly.

How do we achieve this?

We consult with marginalised members of the communities we assist, including women and girls and people with disabilities or advocacy organisations.

Once a program is designed, we also seek the input of marginalised members of the community in relation to how it should be implemented.

We also seek to ensure that AAHYA is an inclusive and diverse organisation. This helps to ensure that AAHYA is an organisation that is truly representative of our primary stakeholders and that internal decisions are made by people with a lived experience that is shared or aligned with those stakeholders.

Collecting and sharing information about our humanitarian initiatives

We regularly communicate with our members, donors and other stakeholders about our humanitarian initiatives and other core programs.

We are committed to ensuring that, when sharing stories, images, messages and other information about our primary stakeholders, we do so in a manner that respects the dignity, values, history, religion, language and culture of the affected people (including children) and protects their safety and rights.

We do this by:

1. Ensuring we collect and share information, images and stories in a manner that is consistent with ACFID's Fundraising Charter.
2. Collecting free, prior and informed consent from primary stakeholders to share their information.
3. Ensuring that our information, images or stories that harm people or the environment.