



Boys, who got an arm and a leg chopped off during the decade-old civil war in Sierra Leone, play soccer at a special camp for amputees, in Freetown. All As One charity group is dedicated to providing the destitute children with a loving home and education



If you would like to adopt a dog or add your voice to those already speaking up, perhaps you should become a K9 Friends volunteer

Everybody else, not just Muslims, should try to give generously to fellow human beings or to good causes, like animal rescue or even towards protection of the environment

Your generosity counts

With Ramadan well upon us, we're reminded that it's that time of the year when we put self aside and others first

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RAMADAN PERIOD IS also known as the time of charity.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, 'Whoever draws nearer (to Allah) by performing any of the (optional) good deeds this month, shall receive the same reward as performing an obligatory deed at any other time; and whoever performs an obligatory deed in (this month), shall receive the reward of performing seventy obligations at any other time.'

Thus, everybody else, not just Muslims, should try to give generously to fellow human beings or to good causes, like animal rescue or even towards protection of the environment. It doesn't have to be cash, it can also be a good deed or just spending time with the unfortunate members of the society.

The most important thing to remember here is: Do not expect any reward from the person. So if you want to donate your finances, time, cash or simply lend your skills to a good cause, here are a number of charities organisations and causes across the country you can choose from.

On the same note, extreme vigilance should be observed as unscrupulous people take advantage of citizen's generosity to advance their own habits. Many kind-hearted people are vulnerable and a number have fallen prey to such criminals.

Every year, the authorities issue warnings against such people who operate briefcase charity companies, collecting money for poor victims, only to pocket the cash themselves.

King's Revival International Charitable Trust FZCO

This Dubai based care and support ministry caters for the old, poor, orphans and widows in the Middle East,

India, Sri Lanka, Phillipines, Pakistan and some countries in Africa. The parent church also provides counselling and other needs like food and clothing to its outreach ministries. Donations can be sent either in cash or kind, like clothing and other essential materials by calling 04-2861577 or e-mail kriect@emirates.net.ae

Dubai Autism Centre

Dubai Autism Centre (DAC) is a nonprofit organisation in the UAE that serves children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. DAC relies on grants, donations and fundraising to operate its programmes. You can also volunteer your services at the centre. Call 04-3440966 for donations and offers of support, or visit <http://www.dubaiautismcentre.ae>

Dubai Centre for Special Needs

The Centre caters for individuals with special needs. It's a charitable non-profit organisation that depends on caring, generous individuals and companies throughout the community for support of all kinds. The Centre accepts donations of funds, equipment and services, help with fund raising activities, volunteers at classrooms and many of its students need sponsorship. Visit www.dcsneeds.ae or call 04-3440966 to find out how you can help.

All As One

This group is dedicated to providing the orphaned and destitute children of Sierra Leone with a loving home, education, medical care and a chance for a better future. The children of Sierra Leone have paid a high price due to war, poverty and HIV/Aids. Visit www.aadubai.org or call 04-3116578 to find out more.

Al Noor Training Centre for children with Special Needs

This centre for children with special needs is run under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs. It's committed to helping special needs children from their infancy to adulthood, its goal being to integrate its students into society. Al Noor Training

Centre opened its doors in 1981 and has been developing its training programme to ensure that the Special Children it caters to receive quality and enriching experiences towards a more independent and functional life. Visit www.alnooruae.org or call 04-3404844 for more details.

The Dhaka Project

Every child deserves the opportunity to build a full and rewarding life. The Dhaka Project brings hope to the children of Dhaka and Bangladesh by providing sustainable skills and dignity needed to better their lives. The project seeks professionals as well as volunteers, financial assistance, educational books, food for babies and children, toiletries and anything that your heart desires to make a difference for the people of Dhaka and Bangladesh. Visit www.thedhakaproject.org for more information.

Feline Friends

This is a non profit making organisation that helps cats in the UAE. Volunteers rescue and re-home stray cats and kittens, promote the control of street cats by sterilisation and provide care and relief to sick and injured cats and kittens. Visit their website at www.felinefriendsuae.com or call 02-66655297.

Gulf For Good is a Dubai based charity under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum. By taking part in a Gulf for Good adventure challenge, participants raise funds which are then donated to handpicked charities in the region where the challenge is held. The challenges available are a mixture of moderate to strenuous adventures, ranging from high altitude treks to hiking, biking, kayaking and even camel trekking in magnificent landscapes. To participate in their events, visit www.gulf4good.org or call 04-3680222