From village teacher to community health worker: Rashid’s story

The soldiers entered Rashid’s village with gunshots. “They cut throats with machetes and set houses on fire,” says Rashid, who fled his house to hide in the jungle as soon as he heard the soldiers.

Fleeing to Bangladesh on a wooden dinghy, Rashid knew that his dream of serving his community by teaching English had come to an end.

Rashid suddenly found himself in one of the world’s biggest refugee camp. As more and more people from his village arrived, he realized he could still serve his community.

“A few weeks into my stay at the camp, our community leader approached me to tell me about Medical Teams International and their health worker programs,” Rashid says with a smile.

Medical Teams’ community health worker program trains local Rohingya refugees to detect diarrhea cases in communities, provide oral rehydration salts, and refer the most severe cases to Medical Teams’ in-patient unit.

“I knew that I could make a difference as a community health worker, so I signed up and received training,” Rashid says proudly.

He now spends his days walking through his community, visiting households and referring sick people to Medical Teams’ clinic.

It’s been less than a month in Bangladesh for Rashid. Life there is difficult, but Rashid is grateful for the training he received so he can help his community.
You respond when people are in crisis. Thank you.

**YOU ACT**
**WHEN FAMILIES ARE SUFFERING**

**SURVIVORS OF NATURAL DISASTERS**
You shipped **2,000 hygiene kits** and **27 pallets of Over-the-Counter medicines** to people in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico whose lives were devastated by hurricanes.

**SYRIANS CAUGHT IN A CIVIL WAR**
You’re keeping **three Primary Health Centers open in N. Syria** by funding operational costs like fuel for power and salaries for doctors, nurses, and midwives.

**YOU HEAL**
**PEOPLE WHO ARE HURTING**

**ROHINGYA FLEEING ATROCITIES**
You’re enabling Medical Teams to **quickly scale up health care services** in Bangladesh for some of the 600,000+ Rohingya refugees who have fled Myanmar since August 25. Overcrowded settlements coupled with rainy season could lead to **disease outbreak**.

You helped...

**Deploy teams of medical volunteers** who, along with community health workers, plan to reach 110,000 people in the next three to six months.

**Set up the first diarrhea management unit** in the Kutupalong camp – severe, untreated diarrhea can claim the life of a child within two to three days.

**Build and staff a primary health clinic** where we saw 100 patients in the first two days.

**Train Rohingya volunteers** to reach out to their neighbors with urgent health and hygiene messages.

**YOU LOVE**
**IN THE FACE OF INJUSTICE**

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You Love...