

Zee Memorial Fund (ZMF)

Purpose

To provide short-term financial relief to people of Bangladeshi origin in dire need living in Greater Houston.

Background

In 1999, BAH Board of Directors (BoD) established this emergency fund to help the distressed and the needy people in our community. This fund was created to honor the late Secretary General Mr. Syed Zahid (known fondly as “Zee”), and named after him in an effort to keep his spirit alive. Zee was indomitable and had served BAH with total dedication despite his health condition. As one of the few people with a bold vision about a home away from home, he started pioneering the campaign "we must build a Bangladesh Center" back in 1997. Although we had more skeptics than believers in that fervent dream, Zee never had a shred of doubt about our ability to realize that dream! So the journey began and the rest is history.

Specific Uses

This fund has been used to help the needy in paying medical bills, food, apartment rentals, death in the family, immigration & legal help, clothing, temporary shelter, family crisis (death, divorce), accident, sending dead bodies to Bangladesh, student tuition relief, etc. In a nutshell, for the unfortunate victims of fate, the ZMF has been a beacon of hope.

Highlights of Past Activities

- In 1999 to 2002 ZMF had helped needy families (where names are kept anonymous) in paying medical surgery, medical bills, apartment rentals and food.
- In 2003 ZMF had raised \$5,000 to help Musa family in negotiating to pay off the house notes of over \$100,000.00.
- In 2004 ZMF had raised \$2,050 to help Mustafizur Rahman and Lamiya fund.
- In 2006 ZMF had raised \$1,400 under “Zee Memorial Fund” and helped the Russell Family.
- In 2007 ZMF had raised \$18,000 to help three families in distress and crisis.
- In 2009 ZMF had raised \$2300 to help families in crisis to pay for apartment rentals and food.