

Innovation in Education Care Program on People's Schooling Participation at LAZ DQ of Sidoarjo

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Abstract: This study describes a new strategy for generating human development effects through the education care program of LAZ Dompot Al-Qur'an Indonesia Sidoarjo. The distribution of zakat funds for scholarship programs is only incidental, with no monitoring for human development. This study is descriptive qualitative, with the researcher acting as the key instrument. Primary data was obtained through interviews with zakat institution administrators and several beneficiaries. The results show that the Education Program has succeeded in increasing community participation in contributing to support the education of underprivileged youth in Indonesia. Institutions are advised to mobilize volunteers as mentors for scholarship recipients who need additional academic support, develop educational applications that can be accessed by parents and students to facilitate the learning process, and emphasize the importance of contributing to the success of Indonesian youth education, especially through donations to LAZ. The recommendations from this research serve as a reference for institutions to strengthen public trust and manage prospective scholarship recipients, thereby ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Education Program.

Keywords: Innovation, Education Care, Participation Muzakki, LAZ DQ Sidoarjo

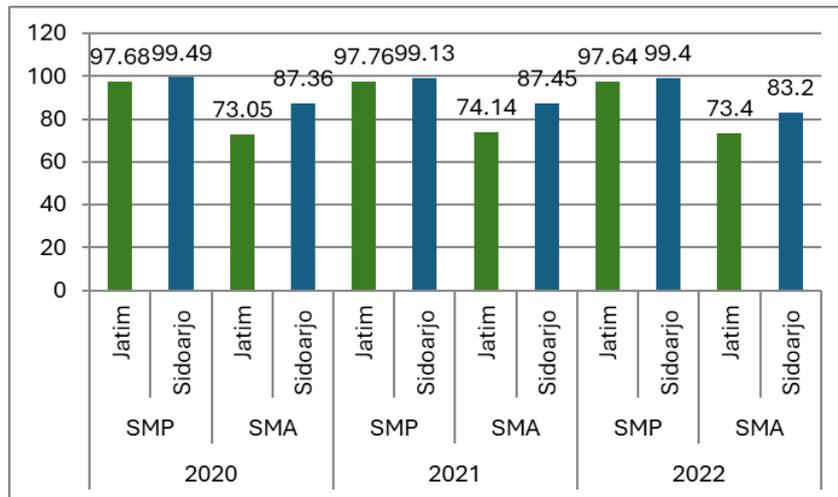
Introduction

Education is a fundamental privilege that is guaranteed to all individuals, irrespective of their socio-economic status. All Indonesians, irrespective of their background or conditions, are entitled to equal opportunities in education, as provided by Law No. 20 of 2003 on compulsory 12-year education. Nevertheless, the exorbitant cost of education frequently renders individuals from lesser socio-economic backgrounds incapable of pursuing advanced levels of education. Those from lower socio-economic backgrounds encounter significant challenges, whereas those from intermediate and upper socio-economic classes face minimal barriers in accessing higher education. This discrepancy emphasizes the necessity of a fair distribution of educational opportunities.

The government's dedication to improving the quality of education for the Indonesian populace is emphasized in Article 31 of the 1945 Constitution ¹. Nevertheless, the reality is that the government's efforts to promote education are at odds with the financial burden it places on the public. Access to education is mostly restricted to those with financial resources, as many families continue to struggle with the costs of educating their children. This situation impedes the full realization of the future potential of a significant number of Indonesian children, perpetuating significant social and economic inequalities.

The degree of community participation in adhering to government policies can be used to evaluate their effectiveness. Mubyarto defines participation as the willingness to contribute to the success of a program in accordance with individual capacity, without compromising one's own subsistence. The ratio of the total population enrolled in education—from Elementary School (SD), Junior High School (SMP), to Senior High School (SMA) or Vocational High School (SMK)—to the overall population of Indonesia each year is a critical indicator of community participation ². The School Participation Rate (APS) is employed by the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) as a mathematical index to quantify this participation rate.

Figure 1
School Participation Rate (APS) in East Java and Sidoarjo
2020-2022



Source: BPS (2023)

¹ Pemerintah Indonesia, *Undang-Undang Dasar Tahun 1945* (Jakarta: Warga dan Negara, 1945), 1–166.

² Umi Zulfa Rahmatin and Ady Soejoto, “Pengaruh Tingkat Kemiskinan dan Jumlah Sekolah terhadap Angka Partisipasi Sekolah (APS) di Kota Surabaya,” *Jurnal Pendidikan Ekonomi* 1, no. 2 (2017): 127–40.

The graph indicates that the school enrolment rate for students aged 13 to 15 years (at the SMP/MTs level) is very high, with a range of 90 to 100 percent. Conversely, the school participation rate for students between the ages of 16 and 18 (at the SMA/MA level) in the Sidoarjo district surpasses the average rate in East Java. This suggests that the government's 12-year compulsory education policy has had a beneficial effect on student participation. Furthermore, the high school participation rates are further influenced by familial support and children's awareness of the significance of pursuing higher education ³.

Within Islamic economics, the distribution of wealth is very carefully monitored in relation to human welfare. DPU-DT's management of zakat makes a substantial contribution to the advancement of education. Asnaf zakat recipients have been able to access quality education as a result of the ongoing and expanding education programs ^{4 5}. Consequently, education is a solution that can be used to elevate mustahiq zakat recipients to the status of muzakki zakat contributors by improving their productive skills.

The objective of previous research conducted at LAZ Sukses in Depok City was to evaluate the efficacy of ZIS fund distribution at its associated institution, Terbuka High School ⁶. An additional study that demonstrated that numerous students accomplish a balanced performance in both academics and Qur'an memorization ⁷. The production of well-rounded students who excel in both academic and memorization achievements is a result of the combined efforts of professional management and the financial support from ZISWAF donations provided by PPPA Daarul Qur'an and the guardians of the santri. In their research at LAZ Ulil Albab, Sazali et al. identified a challenge in which some learners aspire to continue their education but are impeded by financial constraints ⁸. The results suggest that the mentoring activities at LAZ Ulil Albab, which include both coaching and educational empowerment for scholarship recipients, are highly effective and efficient. These students receive targeted empowerment initiatives in addition to financial assistance. The remarkable

³ Khairunnisa Khairunnisa, Siti Hartoyo, and Luluk Anggraeni, "Determinan Angka Partisipasi Sekolah SMP di Jawa Barat," *Jurnal Ekonomi dan Pembangunan Indonesia* 15, no. 1 (2015): 91–112, <https://doi.org/10.21002/jepi.v15i1.05>.

⁴ Zakaria Bahari, "Peran Zakat dalam Pendidikan Masyarakat Islam: Ulasan Kasus Zakat Pulau Pinang," *Media Syariah* 16, no. 1 (2014): 175–206.

⁵ Arif Rahman Hakim, Suyud Arif, and Hidayah Baisa, "Peran Zakat dalam Pembangunan Pendidikan di Kota Bogor (Studi Kasus Pendayagunaan Zakat Bidang Pendidikan Dompot Peduli Ummat Daarut Tauhid Cabang Bogor)," *Al-Infaq: Jurnal Ekonomi Islam* 5, no. 2 (2014): 243–72.

⁶ Nurul Ichsan Hasan and Rona Roudhotul Jannah, "Efektifitas Penyaluran Dana ZIS: Studi Kasus pada SMA Terbuka Binaan LAZ Sukses Kota Depok," *AL-FALAH: Journal of Islamic Economics* 4, no. 1 (2019), <https://doi.org/10.29240/alfalah.v4i1.775>.

⁷ Hidayatus Sholihah and A. Zaenurrosyid, "The Implementation of Tahfidz Islamic Boarding School Management Based on Ziswaf Fundings," (January 2020), <https://doi.org/10.4108/cai.27-8-2020.2303223>.

⁸ Hasan Sazali, Mailin Mailin, and Khairul Hisan, "The Effectiveness of Mentoring Access to LAZ Ulil Albab Education Scholarships in Medan City," *Nazhruna: Jurnal Pendidikan Islam* 4, no. 2 (2021): 409–18, <https://doi.org/10.31538/nzh.v4i2.1585>.

results of the structured mentoring program are caused by the combination of consistent coaching and specific schedule.

Pramestuty & Suryaningsih reported that the education sector in Indonesia had been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic⁹. 131 learners became orphans as a consequence of this unprecedented crisis. Many of these learners are unable to pay for school expenses as a result of their parents' job loss or their economic disadvantage. As a result, they are unable to pursue further education at more advanced levels due to financial constraints. LAZ Nurul Hayat's Generasi Berprestasi (Genpres) empowerment program provides assistance to orphans who are pursuing an equivalent a high school education. The program offers entrepreneurship training, Islamic mentoring, and volunteerism in addition to financial assistance¹⁰. Similarly, the Bekasi Cerdas program, which was established by BAZNAS Bekasi City, serves to inspire underprivileged pupils to realize their aspirations in Bekasi. The program is also dedicated to the promotion of equal rights for the impoverished, thereby assisting them and their families in breaking free from the cycle of poverty¹¹.

Despite the fact that the Sidoarjo district has a higher high school enrollment rate than other cities and districts in East Java, it continues to experience student dropouts. This problem is the result of students' inability to continue their education as a result of unpaid school fees and financial difficulties^{12 13}. Alternative solutions are necessary to address these challenges by enhancing human resources through education, rather than relying solely on government-provided educational assistance. The involvement of Amil Zakat Institutions (LAZ) is one potential solution (LAZ)¹⁴.

LAZ Dompot Al-Qur'an Indonesia (DQ) has long implemented its Education Care program in recognition of the fact that not all residents of Sidoarjo have equal access to education due to economic disparities. LAZ DQ is a zakat institution that was established to manage Zakat, Sadaqah, Infaq, and Waqf (ZISWAF) funds for the community's benefit. In order to accomplish this

⁹ Dita Kurnia Pramestuty and Sri Abidah Suryaningsih, "Pendayagunaan Zakat untuk Pemberdayaan Pendidikan melalui Program Genpres pada LAZ Nurul Gresik," *Jurnal Ekonomika dan Bisnis Islam* 5, no. 1 (2022): 130–45.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Muhammad Hasyim Asyari and Deni Irawan, "Analisis Pendayagunaan ZISWAF sebagai Solusi Pembiayaan Pendidikan (Studi Kasus Keluarga Kurang Mampu Kota Bekasi)," *Jurnal Ilmiah Ekonomi Islam (JIEI)* 9, no. 1 (2023): 486–92, <https://doi.org/10.29040/jiei.v9i1.7372>.

¹² Lid, "Miris, Kakak Beradik di Kemantren Tulangan Putus Sekolah Karena Tak Ada Biaya," *Teras Delta*, September 25, 2023, <https://www.terasdelta.com/2023/09/kaji-reza-berikan-bantuan-ke-bocah.html>.

¹³ Zaki Zubaidi, "3 Tahun Belum Bayar Tunggalan, 2 Siswi SMP di Sidoarjo Terancam Putus Sekolah," *Jatim Now*, 2022, <https://jatimnow.com/baca-40926-3-tahun-belum-bayar-tunggakan-2-siswi-smp-di-sidoarjo-terancam-putus-sekolah>.

¹⁴ A. H. Ayu, "Analisis Penyaluran Dana Zakat, Infaq, Shadaqah dan Wakaf (Ziswaf) untuk Pendidikan pada Lembaga Amil Zakat Al Washliyah Beramal Sumatera Utara," *PRAJA Observer: Jurnal Penelitian Administrasi Publik* 2, no. 3 (2022): 1–10.

objective, the institution implements four primary initiatives: education, economic development, humanitarian initiatives, and da'wah. LAZ DQ offers a diverse array of programs to assist muzakki in the distribution of funds to mustahik in need ¹⁵. Due to its status as a local institution from East Java, established in Sidoarjo, the author has chosen LAZ DQ as the subject of this research. LAZ DQ has navigated numerous challenges in its administration over the course of 12 years, resulting in a burgeoning network of partners who are involved in the management and distribution of ZIS funds. The Education Care program, in particular, has formed partnerships with numerous institutions in Sidoarjo, which has facilitated a more extensive distribution of education zakat. The objective of this initiative is to increase school participation by ensuring that orphans, underprivileged children, and academically gifted students who are also memorizing the Qur'an have access to education. The program is further subdivided into several initiatives, such as Besyafa (Beasiswa Yatim Dhuafa), Bestasi (Beasiswa Prestasi), and Pesantren OLABIZ (*Tahfidz and Entrepreneurship*).

The focus and objectives of this research are the primary differences from those of previous studies. The objective of this research is to investigate the implementation of the Education Care program by LAZ DQ Sidoarjo and its impact on the high rate of school participation in Sidoarjo. Specifically, it examines LAZ Dompot Al-Qur'an Indonesia. Furthermore, the objective of this research is to increase the benefits and empowerment of the Education Care program's beneficiaries by generating public interest in donating to LAZ DQ and evaluating the program's activities.

The purpose of this investigation is to evaluate the efficacy of the Education Care program that LAZ DQ Sidoarjo has implemented, as indicated by the background information. The research is anticipated to provide the government, particularly the Sidoarjo Regency Education and Culture Office, relevant institutions, and the broader community with valuable insights. Initially, it aims to illustrate the Education Care program's role in enhancing school participation and to emphasize its added value in the local education context. For example, it provides more students who were previously unable to access a full or high-quality formal education the opportunity to attend school. Secondly, the research is expected to offer recommendations and feedback to LAZ DQ regarding the program, as well as to provide an analysis that demonstrates the substantial contribution of the Education Care program to the enrollment of junior and senior high schools in Sidoarjo. Third, the research endeavors to increase community awareness and engagement in education, with the objective of promoting more active participation in the support of their children's educational pursuits.

¹⁵ DQ, "Tentang Kami – Dompot Al Quran Indonesia," 2023.

Method's

A qualitative approach was employed to investigate the existing issues. Descriptive data is typically collected in the form of written words or sentences from individuals or groups that can be observed in qualitative research.¹⁶ The researcher's objective in this context is to investigate a variety of aspects associated with LAZ DQ Sidoarjo, with a particular emphasis on its ability to offer educational scholarships. In order to accomplish this, a case study approach was implemented, which enabled an exhaustive data collection over a predetermined duration to conduct a comprehensive analysis of a bounded system ¹⁷. The unit of analysis in this investigation is LAZ DQ Sidoarjo. The objective of the research is to evaluate the governance of the Education Care program and the optimization of this program for APS in Sidoarjo.

A research informant is an individual who possesses knowledge that is pertinent to the object or issue being observed ¹⁸. The informants in this study will consist of the Collection Manager and Empowerment Manager of LAZ DQ, representatives from the recipient school, and beneficiaries of the Education Care scholarship. The informants who will be interviewed in this investigation are listed below:

Table 1
Interview Informant Data

No.	Name of Informant	Age	Position
1.	Muhammad Agung Fitrianto	30 y.o	HRD and Empowerment Manager (with 2 years of service to date)
2.	Akhmad Ariel Marzuki	18 y.o	Awardee of Education Care Scholarship
3.	Jamilah	38 y.o	Ariel's Parents
4.	Holiyah	34 y.o	Teacher at DAFI (with 8 years of service to date)
5.	Keisha Huwaida Zahirah	15 y.o	Awardee of Education Care Scholarship
6.	Nayla Nur Aslamah	15 y.o	Awardee of Education Care Scholarship
7.	Febiola Cindy Asaria Safin	17 y.o	Awardee of Education Care Scholarship
8.	Agung Puji Utomo	30 y.o	Fundraising and Partnership Manager (with 4 years of service to date)

¹⁶ Hardani, Helmina Andriani, Jumari Ustiawaty, Evi Fatmi Utami, Ria Rahmatul Istiqomah, Roushandy Asri Fardani, Dhika Juliana Sukmana, dan Nur Hikmatul Uliya, *Buku Metode Penelitian Kualitatif & Kuantitatif*(Yogyakarta: CV. Pustaka Ilmu Group, 2022).

¹⁷ Adhi Kusumastuti dan Ahmad Mustamil Khoiron, *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif* (Yogyakarta: Sukarno Pressindo, 2019).

¹⁸ Rukin, *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, ed. revisi (Makassar: Dr. Rukin, 2021).

Innovation of the Education Care Program at LAZ DQ Sidoarjo

The origins of LAZ DQ can be traced back to the year following the establishment of the Darul Fikri (DAFI) Islamic Boarding School in 2010. DQ, which was initially known as the Humanitarian Social Organization, functioned as a platform for the collection of funds to support the educational expenditures of orphaned and underprivileged students at the Darul Fikri (DAFI) Al-Qur'an Science Boarding School in Sidoarjo. On November 11, 2011, LAZ DQ was formally established. Seven years later, the organization initiated the process of obtaining a license to establish itself as a Humanitarian Social Institution, which is dedicated to the collection of funds for zakat and natural disaster relief. Consequently, in 2019, DQ initiated the process of rebranding itself as Lembaga Amil Zakat (LAZ). The Education Care program was initiated at this time. DQ is currently acknowledged as a provincial-level LAZ by the Director General of Islamic Guidance (Dirjen Bimas Islam) of the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, in accordance with No. 78 of 2021¹⁹.

“The Education Care (EC) program's origins are inextricably linked to the establishment of DQ. DQ was initially established in 2011 with the primary objective of providing assistance to orphans who were memorizing the Qur'an at the Darul Fikri Islamic Boarding School in Sidoarjo through education. In 2010, the boarding school was established in response to the high demand from orphaned and impoverished students who lacked the financial resources to pursue an education. DQ was established as a social institution that was committed to raising funds for these impoverished children, with a particular emphasis on Qur'an memorization, in light of the boarding school's status as a tahfidz institution. Consequently, DQ was established. The initiative was rebranded as the Education Care (EC) program in early 2019, expanding its scope to include economic, social, and da'wah activities. The education component was converted into the dedicated Education Care program” (Interview with Mr. Muhammad Agung Fitrianto, March 13, 2024, Sidoarjo).

There has been a growing demand for education from pupils from a variety of backgrounds, including orphans and children from impoverished families, as the DAFI Islamic Boarding School has expanded and developed. LAZ DQ was established in response to this in order to secure funding for these orphans, enabling them to attend the school and become Qur'an memorizers. DQ broadened its scope beyond education to encompass a variety of sectors following its rebranding as LAZ. The education program was renamed Education Care, the humanitarian program was renamed Humanity Care, the

¹⁹ DQ, “Tentang Kami – Dompot Al Quran Indonesia,” 2023.

da'wah program was designated as Dakwah Care, and the economic program was named Economy Care. The Education Care program is a scholarship initiative that aims to improve the quality of education by focusing on the memorization of the Qur'an and providing educational access to orphaned and underprivileged children. This program includes several sub-programs, such as Besyafa (Beasiswa Yatim Dhuafa), Bestasi (Beasiswa Prestasi), and Pesantren OLABIZ (*Tahfidz dan Entrepreneurship*).

The Education Care program and LAZ DQ have both experienced substantial expansions. Each year, the number of students has consistently increased, and the number of graduates has solidified DAFI Pesantren's position as one of the top schools in East Java. The expansion of school accommodations for both boys and girls, which initially consisted of a single building in Sarirogo, is indicative of this progress. The campuses now encompass junior and senior high schools situated in Sarirogo and Anggaswangi, Sidoarjo as well. This development underscores LAZ DQ's dedication to the pesantren's overall growth and development, in addition to its provision of educational scholarships.

“Initially, we had only one campus in Sarirogo, where the DQ program concentrated on the development of the pesantren in addition to scholarships. In addition to scholarships, a waqf program was established to support the construction of the pesantren. Consequently, dedicated facilities for junior high and senior high (MA) education, as well as distinct buildings for boys and girls, have been established. The campus initially consisted solely of a junior high school building; however, it has since expanded to encompass a senior high school (MA) building” (Interview with Mr. Muhammad Agung Fitrianto, March 13, 2024, Sidoarjo).

LAZ DQ is also expanding its presence in other regions, in addition to developing its primary school partner in Sidoarjo, the DAFI Islamic Boarding School. LAZ DQ collaborates with a variety of educational institutions in Sidoarjo, such as SMK YPM 8 Sidoarjo and several other private schools. The Al-Hikmah Foundation is a partner of the Blitar branch of LAZ DQ in Bence, Blitar, and the Hulu Sungai Utara branch in South Kalimantan is also dedicated to educational initiatives, with a primary concentration on providing scholarships for orphans. LAZ DQ distributes donations in two distinct methods through its Education Care program. The initial is routine support that is offered to its partner schools at the commencement of each new academic year. The second type of assistance is incidental assistance, which is rendered in response to specific requests. This type of assistance is not routinely scheduled; for instance, individuals who are unable to pay tuition fees for exams may apply for

assistance from LAZ DQ. Incidental or submission assistance is the term used to describe this type of assistance.

“DAFI is the primary school associate of LAZ DQ in Sidoarjo. Nevertheless, numerous DQ branches also engage in partnerships with other educational institutions. For example, the Blitar branch collaborates with the Al Hikmah Foundation in Bence, Blitar, to offer scholarships to orphans, which remains the primary initiative. In the same vein, the Kalimantan branch is committed to educational initiatives, providing direct support to schools in their endeavors” (Interview with Mr. Muhammad Agung Fitrianto, March 13, 2024, Sidoarjo).

Scholarships are contingent upon the fulfilment of specific criteria by beneficiaries of the Education Care program. These requirements are consistent with the school's admission process, which is comparable to the New Learner Admission (PPDB) selection process, which is based on the school's established criteria. LAZ DQ's primary responsibility is administrative, as it works in close collaboration with the school to ascertain a student's eligibility for a scholarship. Consequently, the organization's role is predominantly administrative. This process was confirmed in an interview conducted by the researcher with informant four on March 23, 2024.

“In this context, scholarships are not exclusively granted to orphaned and underprivileged children, nor are they contingent upon academic accomplishments. Scholarships may not be awarded to children who are unable to demonstrate a sincere commitment to their studies or who lack the requisite effort. It is anticipated that students who receive scholarships will exhibit a strong dedication to their education” (Interview with Ustadzah Holiyah, March 23, 2024, Sidoarjo).

LAZ DQ Sidoarjo has not fully realized the potential of the scholarship recipients, despite the simplified scholarship requirements that have been provided. LAZ DQ has not required any form of contribution from the prospective beneficiaries once they become scholarship recipients since the program's inception. This is primarily attributable to the students' already rigorous schedules in the pesantren and at school. Consequently, LAZ DQ continues to face a challenge in formulating a strategy that guarantees that scholarship recipients from DAFI Pesantren and partner schools are directed in a manner that will enable them to make significant contributions to the institution upon their graduation.

“...In the context of DAFI, we concentrate on the development of students who are capable of memorizing the Qur'an. Nevertheless, we have not yet provided these scholarship recipients with an introduction to the LAZ curriculum, which encompasses the essence of LAZ, as well as the processes of collection, distribution, and administration. Their primary focus is on their academic and memorization responsibilities, which is why they are unaware of these elements. This area still necessitates further development. We must investigate methods to ensure that DAFI graduates who receive scholarships from DQ receive specialized guidance regarding LAZ, thereby ensuring that they are adequately prepared in this regard” (Interview with Mr. Muhammad Agung Fitrianto, March 13, 2024, Sidoarjo).

Dormitory supervisors *musyrif* and *musyrifah* supervise students' activities 24/7 after they are officially designated as scholarship recipients. Similarly, the school closely supervises all students, not just scholarship recipients, in the academic field, with progress evaluated every three months through the Mid-Semester Summative (STS). Disciplinary actions are imposed on students who violate rules, regardless of whether they are in the dormitory or at school. As previously stated, the school is accountable for the quality of its pupils, while LAZ DQ is responsible for the administrative duties. DQ shares posts on social media to recognize the accomplishments of pupils who achieve exceptional results. Conversely, in the event of severe rule violations, DQ is prepared to impose penalties, such as the reduction or termination of scholarships, following discussions with the school.

The scholarship amount that each student receives is contingent upon the capacity of their parents to pay tuition fees on a monthly basis. LAZ DQ does not automatically approve scholarship applications; rather, they meticulously evaluate the family's economic circumstances and the potential accomplishments of the prospective recipients to ascertain the appropriate level of monthly operational assistance for the school. The researcher made a surprising discovery: the scholarship is kept confidential from the students by LAZ DQ, the school, and the parents. The purpose of this is to safeguard the psychological well-being of the students, preventing them from feeling inferior as a result of receiving scholarships based on financial need rather than academic achievement. This discovery was verified through interviews, during which the scholarship recipients were oblivious that they were receiving financial assistance from LAZ DQ.

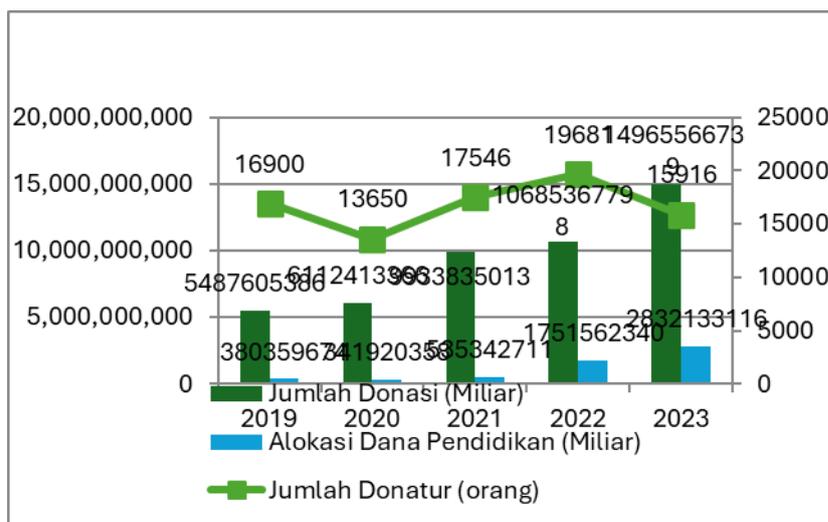
“The scholarship is only known to the parents and Ustadzah. The purpose of this action is to safeguard the psychological well-being of the children, as

the scholarship was granted solely on the basis of their family's economic hardship, rather than their academic accomplishments” (Interview with Ustadzah Holiyah, March 23, 2024, Sidoarjo).

The public profile of LAZ DQ is also positively influenced by the presence of students who excel while receiving Education Care scholarships. The regular scholarship program campaigns, which are disseminated online every Friday through platforms such as WhatsApp, as well as engaging content posted on social media channels like Instagram, Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), LinkedIn, and YouTube, which invite donations, further enhance this. In addition, LAZ DQ generates revenue through a variety of methods, such as the distribution of partnership proposals, the organization of study sessions at mosques, the direct collection of donations from donors' residences, the circulation of infaq boxes, and the maintenance of relationships with community leaders. Other strategies include utilizing the skills of student interns to develop creative content that promotes LAZ DQ and initiating campaigns on crowdfunding platforms such as Kitabisa.

“.....We have the option of implementing additional strategies, such as initiating campaigns on external crowdfunding platforms (such as Kitabisa), profiling exceptional scholarship recipients, and providing interns with the opportunity to contribute by creating creative content that promotes DQ” (Interview with Mr. Agung Puji Utomo, March 25, 2024, Sidoarjo).

Figure 2.
Data Chart of the Number of Donors and Donation Acquisition of DQ in 2019-2023



Source: DQ Financial Report 2019 - 2023 (DQ, 2024)

The Education Care program's long-term sustainability is demonstrated in the graph above. At LAZ DQ, the effectiveness of a program is evaluated using four benchmarks, according to informant eight, an officer. The program's performance is evaluated by evaluating donor engagement. If there are numerous donors who continue to respond favourably when amil staff disseminate flyers about scholarships, the program is performing well. Subsequently, the aggregate amount of donations and the quantity of contributors are assessed. Third, the program's success is evaluated by the results for the beneficiaries—scholarship recipients who are able to complete their education and cultivate positive attitudes, skills, and knowledge. Lastly, the scholarship recipients' level of Qur'an memorization is assessed, as Pesantren DAFI is a Qur'an memorization pesantren. The program's effectiveness is significantly influenced by the quantity of verses that have been memorized. This perspective is consistent with the viewpoints of informant one.

“.....The scholarship is intended for a Qur'an memorization program that is particularly appealing to benefactors due to the fact that each verse that the students memorize generates continuous jariyah rewards for them. The program's ongoing interest is guaranteed by this aspect, which is one of the primary factors that attracts donors. Furthermore, the status of a Qur'an memorizer is highly regarded, particularly when it is combined with the status of an orphan. The program's appeal is further enhanced by the fact that orphans are purportedly in close proximity to the Prophet. Donors are effectively engaged by this promotion strategy, which has sustained their interest and support for the program to this day” (Interview with Mr. Muhammad Agung Fitrianto, March 13, 2024, Sidoarjo).

The table's data suggests that Indonesians are consistently inclined to assist others through charitable giving, as evidenced by the consistent annual increase in donations ²⁰. The substantial sum of money raised is indicative of the robust public interest and support for the diverse programs provided by LAZ DQ. A variety of factors contribute to the growing number of donors and donations, including LAZ DQ's dedication to preserving donor trust and the organization's effective marketing strategies. This is accomplished by providing monthly financial reports that are easily accessible in the Amilio DQ magazine. These reports can be obtained at the DQ office or through LAZ DQ fundraisers.

²⁰ Faozan Amar, "Implementasi Filantropi Islam di Indonesia," *Al-Urban: Jurnal Ekonomi Syariah dan Filantropi Islam* 1, no. 1 (2017): 1–14, https://doi.org/10.22236/alurban_vol1/is1pp1-14.

Furthermore, the website and financial audit reports of LAZ DQ demonstrate the transparency of their donations. Consequently, it is unsurprising that LAZ DQ has maintained the designation of a WTP (Wajar Tanpa Pengecualian) financial institution for seven consecutive years since 2016.

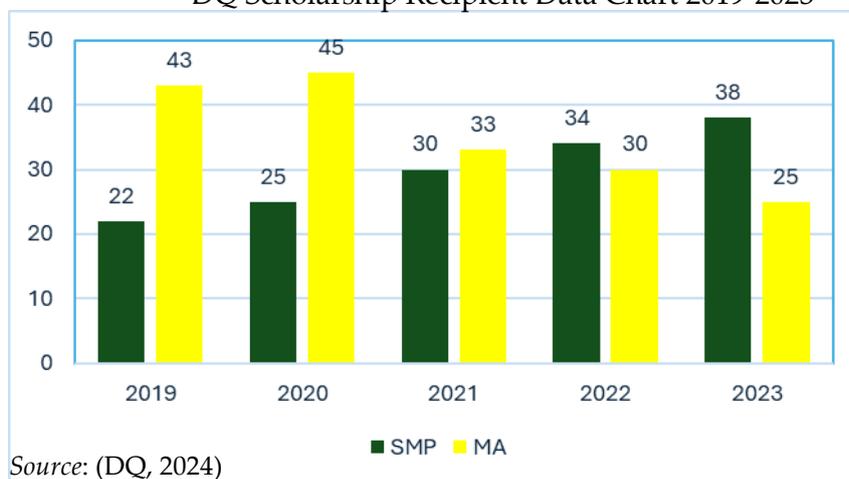
Impact Of Education Care Program on Community School Participation

As the primary collaborator of LAZ DQ's Education Care program, the Darul Fikri (DAFI) Al-Qur'an Science Boarding School, in conjunction with a variety of other school partners, derives substantial advantages from this initiative. It enables gifted students who are confronted with financial or familial obstacles to enroll in the program. In addition, the program has a beneficial effect on the parents of the students who are recipients of the Education Care scholarship, as demonstrated by an interview with informant three, a parent of a student participating in the program.

“Alhamdulillah, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the support. DQ provided funding for Ariel’s three years of schooling, which enabled us to allocate additional resources to her junior siblings’ education. Ariel is the oldest child, and her siblings are currently enrolled in kindergarten and elementary school” (Interview with Ms. Jamilah, March 15, 2024, Sidoarjo).

Figure 3.

DQ Scholarship Recipient Data Chart 2019-2023



LAZ DQ has substantially promoted educational involvement in the community for more than a decade. Its influence is not limited to its central location in Sidoarjo; it extends to twelve regions across three provinces: East Java, South Kalimantan, and DKI Jakarta. The Education Care program has provided support to numerous students who were at risk of dropping out of school, either through direct assistance or enrollment in DQ partner schools. Tuition assistance, which is directly furnished to the financial institution of the school, as well as

provisions for school materials and uniforms, are included in this scholarship support.

“...We offer scholarship assistance to students, santri (Islamic boarding school students), and college students in the form of tuition fee coverage, thereby eliminating the necessity for them to pay these fees. We also provide the school's financial administration with a variety of school necessities as part of this support. Furthermore, we provide uniforms and schoolbooks as a form of support” (Interview with Mr. Agung Puji Utomo, March 25, 2024, Sidoarjo).

The Education Care scholarship recipients' aspirations are in alignment with the vision and mission of Pesantren DAFI. The students who opted to attend Pesantren DAFI did so in order to alleviate the financial burden on their parents, memorize the Qur'an, and receive a religion-based education, as indicated by the interview results. The LAZ DQ scholarship program also allows students to pursue education in disciplines that align with their talents and interests by forming partnerships with a variety of schools. This is corroborated by an interview with informant two, who is presently pursuing automotive engineering at SMK YPM 8 Sidoarjo and is a recipient of the Education Care scholarship.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue my education at the high school level. I was able to enrol in the automotive machinery program at SMK YPM 8 Sidoarjo due to my interest in machinery” (Interview with Akhmad Ariel Marzuki, March 15, 2024, Sidoarjo).

The scholarship program has a substantial impact on students and santri, facilitating their growth as more disciplined and organized individuals, with a particular emphasis on financial responsibility, emotional regulation, and time management. Students are encouraged to develop independence within the pesantren environment, particularly for those attending Pesantren DAFI, as they are responsible for managing their own requirements. Despite the initial difficulties many students encounter in assimilating, the supportive environment and camaraderie among peers enable scholarship recipients to persevere until graduation. In addition, the program is advantageous for families, as the guidance provided by musyrif and musyrifah (mentors) who assist students in resolving any issues they encounter also alleviates concerns for parents.

Conclusion

The Education Care program, which is overseen by LAZ DQ, has made a substantial contribution to the growth of high school enrolment at the junior and senior levels in Sidoarjo. In contrast to other institutions, the scholarship program has effectively supported a new generation in their pursuit of higher education, despite the relatively low number of recipients. The accomplishments of these scholarship recipients are a source of pride for the program's supporters and donors, as they serve as a testament to the beneficial effects of their contributions, which may include school materials, uniforms, or monetary donations. Additionally, contributors are afforded an ongoing opportunity to participate in charitable activities, which fosters ongoing donations and support for the program's sustainability.

In order to solicit donations for its initiatives, LAZ DQ implements numerous approaches. Initially, it generates captivating content that is disseminated on social media platforms. Subsequently, it implements campaigns via crowdfunding platforms that are established by third parties. Third, it emphasizes beneficiaries who have achieved specific milestones. Additionally, LAZ DQ solicits direct donations by participating in community events, establishing stands or booths, disseminating brochures, flyers, and magazines, and providing donation pick-up services. The program continues to be successful and expand its network across various regions through effective collaboration among LAZ DQ, donors, Education Care scholarship recipients, and partner institutions.

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