

CASE STUDY

Aziz Mai

ENTREPRENEUR PROFILE:

AGE:	44 years
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	9 kids
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	MARRIED
PHONE NO:	-
ADDRESS:	Basti SakhWali Kot Addu/Muzaffargarh
ENTERPRISE:	Grocery Shop

Aziz Mai wife of Shafi Muhammad lives in Basti Sakhwali, Tehsil Kotaddu, and District Muzafargarh. Aziz Mai has five daughters and four sons. She is married since twenty eight years. She was living happily with her family , since she came to know her husband is suffering from Blood Cancer . Clouds of sorrows covered her hut . She got stressed with a thought of how she will feed her 9 kids along with bearing the expenses of her husband's treatment



.She got cynic as was not having any permanent source of income for meeting the both ends . . . She sold her jewelry for her husband's treatment but unfortunately nothing worked and her husband died. She wept a lot, there was no one to take care of her children. She decided to work as a cleaner in houses to feed her children. She has to be strong , for her children because they

were solely dependent on her and were very small to support her. She determined to work hard . Previously , her kids were going to school , she wanted them to continue their schooling for their better future .

One day Awaz Foundation's Women Economic Empowerment project team arranged a meeting in her village and many women participated in it.. In the meeting they announced jobs for women for the renovation of earthen roads in the village and shared PKR 5600 per month will be the salary. AWAZ team also told the community about the selection criteria and how the interviews will be conducted for the selection of the women. Aziz Mai came up to the criteria as she was a widow and had 9 kids, so she was selected as a Road Maintenance Team member and started working on mud roads with her colleagues. In the beginning she faced many issues from her relatives and area fellows but when she thought about her children, she motivated herself and continued to work on roads. She was very happy when she had received first salary after fifteen days. She also saved some amount from her salary and enrolled her son and two daughters in school during job.

She was given three different types of trainings on; "Health and hygiene", "Basic Human Rights" and "Basic Business Skills" under the umbrella of Community Infrastructure Improvement Project. During the training, her own interest increased in reading and writing. So she started studying herself, after many efforts in learning reading and writing now she is able to write her name and can keep the record of her basic accounts.

From the saving which she received after completing 2 year earthen road maintenance cycle, she opened a grocery shop. Her business is thriving day by day and she is able to earn around Rs 1000-1500 with profit. Now she is looking forward to expand her business.. She is living a respectable life with her children and is very thankful to Awaz Foundation for spreading colors in her life.

COURAGE DISGUISED BEHIND the VEIL

COURAGE DISGUISED BEHIND the VEIL

Entrepreneurs Profiles:

Name: Amina Mai

Age: 36 years

Dependents: 5 kids

Marital Status: Married

Address: U/C Pounta Tehsil
Multan

Phone No:

Name: Waziran Mai

Age: 38 years

Dependents: 6 kids

Marital Status: Married

Address: U/C Pounta Tehsil
Multan

Phone No:

Enterprise: Grocery Shop.

Tough time turns lives of most people into a misery. There are only some who seek opportunities and try to find out ways by which they can lessen their problems. It is quite evident from many past events that only those become successful in their lives that have a spark and an ability to show fight. In developing countries like Pakistan there are many socio-cultural challenges that are being faced by most women and it is very appreciating that they always prove their critics wrong by overcoming them all. The following case is about two women Haseena and Nasreen who after addressing these challenges became successful in making their lives sustainable.

COURAGE DISGUISED BEHIND VEIL:

36 years old Amina Mai and 38 years old Waziran Mai are resident of Basti Mochi Pura of Union Council Pounta of Tehsil Multan. Amina's husband is a cardiac patient and Waziran Mai's husband is paralyzed. Due to their husbands' ailment and inability to work, they were economically weak and both of them have to work very hard in order to feed their kids. Amina Mai has 5 and Waziran Mai has 6 kids. The money, they were earning was not enough to address basic needs of such big families. Sometimes their kids have to sleep empty stomachs.

The road maintenance project of CIIP which is designed for needy and deprived women like them proves to be sign of relief for both of them. They come to know about it through word of

mouth. After passing the interview both of them got selected. In road maintainance, after one month they get salary which contributed as a regular source of income for them . They were economically bit relax as easily buy monthly grocery and can easily feed their kids.

They have attended all trainings that are being conducted by Awaz team. By taking care of health and hygienic condition of their surroundings health of their children improved and now they have to spend less on their treatment and medicines . They also got sensitized e on basic human rights and try level best to treat their kids equally with out discriminating daughters and sons They were sending both girls and boys to schools.

After getting the training about business and its management they have realized the fact that they can start a business of their own. But yet they didn't have enough resources in terms of money and support so, both of them decided to start a business in partnership . By joint investment of Rs. 50940 they started a grocery shop. The idea of grocery shop was appropriate as there was no other shop in their area. In the Basti where they live it is not considered appropriate for females to work, for the reason Amina's husband Muhammad Iqbal decided to run the shop, but both of them sometimes also sit in with him . They are now earning a profit of Rs. 300-350 /day

The profit is expected to increase in coming days and they are also looking forward to expand their business and bring in more items as per demand and need of the other residents of basti . Now their financial problems have been resolved to a greater extent and they are living a happy life. They are grateful to Awaz Foundation for helping and supporting them. They have regarded their present stability only the result of guidance that was provided by Awaz Team.

Arousal of Self-Reliance through Courage

Entrepreneur Profile:

Name: Bushra Bibi

Age: 34 years

Dependents: 7 kids

Marital Status: Married

Address: Basti Darkhan Wala Tehsil
Jampur.

Phone No:

Enterprise: Tailoring Shop

“Early age marriages” can be regarded as those harsh realities that are at present weakens the foundations of many under developed countries like Pakistan. Many young girls, each year by force are being pressurized to accept a life that in no way be of their own choice. The result of such acts are so brutal that they blurred the whole life of a girl and her life becomes miserable and a sign of ultimate destruction for others, but yet still it is observed in many areas of Pakistan. Bushra Bibi is one such victim of early age marriage, but how she fought is another delight for its reader.

Arousal of Self-Reliance through Courage

Bushra Bibi resident of Basti Darkhan Wala of Tehsil Jampur is 34 years old. She has 9 brothers and sisters and her father was a veterinary doctor. Due to the pressure of having so many children, the parents of Bushra Bibi married her at an early age of 16 years to her father's cousin Muhammad Iqbal, who was 40 years old; one can say that he was triple of her age. She was second wife of her husband. As it is natural that in such old age no one can work properly as his/her health doesn't allow.. Her husband also did not work and it became hard to feed seven kids .. Bushra Bibi took the responsibility and decided to go out in search of better opportunity to earn for meeting the immediate needs of her kids ..

She started to earn through different means but things were not under her control. One day she came to know about road maintenance work by CIIP team, a project of Awaz foundation. It seems quite impressive to her. She applied for it and after passing through the phase of interview she got selected. Through this job , she felt positive changes in her life. She found a reliable source of income by which she can bring up her kids with dignity. Getting salary after 15 days of each month was a moment of extreme relief for her. Her economic conditions became stable. She was very happy for this. She became independent women and can easily support her family. After becoming the part of project Bushra Bibi has undergone many positive changes in her life not only economically but mentally as well. She participated in all the trainings under the umbrella of project and got a deep understanding about health and hygienic conditions. She practiced those in her daily life and observed improvement in the health of her family She has also realized the importance of education and now spending some money on kid's education. She is now also aware of basic human rights and duties.

The training on business enables her to understand the basics about how effectively she can start a good profitable business of her own , that could be a permanent source of income for her after completion of the project. Following what she has learnt has paved the way for her to start a business and as a result on November 1st, 2013 she had cultivated Barseen Grass. She did that by

taking money on loan on easy terms. The idea worked out for her and she earned a profit of Rs.20, 000 on it. She very successfully returned her loan.

After receiving her savings at the completion of her project, she bought a sewing machine of Rs. 15,350 for her son who was expert in tailoring and stitching. With the help of that sewing machine her son stitches clothes of fellow community members and earns a good amount. In order to sustain their economic conditions, they have planned to expand tailoring business on a wider scale. He is intended to purchase his own shop instead of rent. At the same time Bushra Bibi, is cultivating crops as a second source of income. Bushra Bibi and her family all are grateful to Awaz team, as she acknowledges without their support and guidance, it was hard for her to cope with this harsh phase of her life and that couldn't be transformed from a weak young lady to strong empowered and confident women.

CASE STUDY

Haseena Bibi

ENTREPRENEUR PROFILE:

AGE:	38 years
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	2 kids
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	Widow
PHONE NO:	-
ADDRESS:	UC Daira Deen Panah, Kot Addu/Muzaffargarh
ENTERPRISE:	Grocery Shop

Haseena Bibi wife of Muhammad Ejaz lived in Union council Daira Deen Panah, Tehsil Kotaddu, District Muzafargarh. She was married to Muhammad Ejaz twelve years ago. God gifted her a daughter and a son. Her husband's family adore Haseena and her. Muhammad Ejaz worked hard for the better livelihood of his family.



One day her husband went to Kotaddu city for some work, there he had an accident and died at the spot. This sudden incidence shakend Haseena Bibi and she got depressed . She was loosing her health with passing days In this distress instead of providing support , her inlaws showed her attitude considering her unlucky and responsible for their son'e sudden death . . They bear her only for the period of iddah(waiting period for widow) and afterwards forced her out of the house to with two innocent kids . She went to her parent's but they also refused to bear the burden of her children . Her son was only one year old and her daughter was three years old. So , she left her parent's home as well . .



Meanwhile, her grandfather who was living alone gave her shelter to live . He was too old to earn , but he thought she will take care of her .. Haneena was satisfied , because atleast his grandfather is with him and statys at home with kids , when she goes out for work. She started working in the fields and earns enough for feeding the kids and grandfather. One day she learnt about WEECIIP initiated by Awaz Foundation in her area for needy women like her. Haseena bibi thought that this job can change her life. She gave interview and got selected as a RMT member.. She was given three different types of trainings during CIIP. She started savings from her salary and constructed a room in her grandfather's house. She also enrolled her children to school from her savings. By this time she was happy to achiev all this after a facing hardships and distress from family .. She demanded her share of property from her father and her inlaws, as she has learnt about inheritance from the trainings. After successful completion of 20 month's cycle of road work, she received her savings of PKR 28,000/-. She established a utility shop in her own house,. She has also received training from Shell on enterprise generation and has decided to extend her shop along with farming vegetables apart from her shop. The idea worked out for her and she had earned a profit of Rs.20, 000 from it . She is also earning 100-150 rupees from her shop on daily basis and is thankful to Awaz Foundation for supporting her to build her life herself.

“I am thankful to AWAZ for showing me the path of cherished life” says Hameedan Bibi

Hameedan Bibi is the resident of a small village of union council 20 in District Vehari. She was married in the age of 24 with Muhammad Hanif. She has nine children. My husband worked his whole life to in supporting the family of eleven member with limited resources. We tried to fulfill our daily expenses in this limited resources. We were managing our lives somehow, but one day we came to know that my husband was suffering from diabatesa, due to which his health was getting poor day by day, and he was unable to earn any more for the family.

All means of income were stopped, family was very much worried, one day Hameedan son heard an announcement by AWAZ in which widows, divorced, separated, and women heading the families will be engaged on earthen roads maintenance, and they will be paid for it on fortnightly basis. That day was a blessing for me, I was one of those women who got the opportunity to become part of CIIP project. Hardships of my life started decreasing gradually.

My family supported me to work on the earthen roads but on the other hand there was a great resistance from the community to work on the earthen roads of the area. On the basis of my family support I took the courage and became part of CIIP project.

Hameedan says, “Opportunities like the one given to me through AWAZ WEE_CIIIP Project are a boon for a poor person.

I got salary on fortnightly basis through Tameer Bank and fulfilled my family needs. That was a very memorable day for me when I received Rs: 27680/- as my saving from AWAZ through Tameer Bank. As I had never seen such a big amount before in my life. With that amount I purchased “Spinning Machine” and started the business of yarn in my home. I supply it to the general community, in my union council and at Vehari City. Although my CIIP job has been finished but I have my own enterprise business now.

AWAZ has enhanced my skills on through its capacity building trainings. After the health and hygienic training I have paid more attention on the cleanliness of my home, I have started keeping pet animals separate from my kids, I am careful about the health of my children I spend less on their treatment and medicines . I am also sensitized e on basic human rights and try my level best to treat my kids equally without discriminating between daughters and sons. Now I am sending both girls and boys to schools.

“I learnt many valuable things in the Business Management training; I can now keep my own accounts in proper ledgers. I am proud to be a successful businessperson. I not only encourages other women in my neighborhood to go into business but also want to expand my business. I want to set aside a nest egg for my children’s future and want to buy a washing machine for myself.

CASE STUDY

Kausar Mai

ENTREPRENUR PROFILE:

AGE:	43 years
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	5 kids
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	Married
PHONE NO:	-
ADDRESS:	KatWala UC Patal, Kot Addu/Muzaffargarh

Kausar Mai wife of Nazir Hussain is a resident of basti Katwala, Union Council Patal, Tehsil Kotaddu, District Muzafargarh. She has three daughters and two sons. She was married to her uncle's son. They were living happily with their children. Her husband was a laborer and she used to stitch clothes. They were earning enough to meet their both ends. Once a gloomy day, she heard that her husband died accidentally at his work place. Due to stress and grief, she lost her senses. Her relatives and fellows, supported her morally, but they themselves were not financially sound who could support her kids. She was so hopeless and anxious about the future of her children. With the passage of time, she recovered herself, and decided to rebuild her life for a better life of her children.

She started working as a laborer, just to meet immediate needs of her children. One of Kausar's daughter was 16 years old so she decided to get her daughter married in order to ensure her better life. One way or the other she got a good proposal and finalized marriage of her daughter. Her family did not support her in this decision and boycotted her. They were expecting her to remain depressed and distressed.

She has also heard about WEECIIP initiated by Awaz Foundation in her union council. Kausar Mai gave an interview and got selected. She started working on road with her team members. One of the added values of this road maintenance work, was that RMTs were also given trainings. Through training she learnt the importance of toilets with respect to health and hygiene issues. Further to this she saved some amount from her salary given to her fortnightly. She built a toilet in her home with this saving.

She enrolled her younger son in the school along with the other two who were working as laborers. Previously, her sons were going to school, so the school head enrolled them in grade 7th and this way they continued their education. Kausar Mai was happy and confident to see this

change in her life. During , working as a RMT member in CIIP project she purchased a 5 Marla plot near her house . Moreover , through savings from her salary she married her second daughter as well . When she got commulative savings amount PKR: 28600,she established a grocery shop Her daily sale is now around Rs700-800 with a profit of 150 rupees /day. She was given training on leadership skills after which she had decided to take part in election and wanted to become a voice for women like her.

Kauser Mai's son in law found a proposal for her and her daughters convinced her to get marry . Finally , she got married to and man who works in army. . She is very thank full to Awaz for supporting her and giving her courage , in the time she needed the most.

Labor worker to a community leader

Shamim Akhter is the resident of village Haddanwala, union council Gajju Hatta of district Multan. She was born in a middle class, rural family and was the eldest of her eight siblings. Her father was a small farmer and he earned a sufficient amount for his family. He sent his children in school and Shamim got education till 5th grade. Life was going in a smooth way and Shamim spent her childhood in a good way.

At the age of sixteen she was married to her cousin, from there the new period of her life started. Shamim's husband worked as labor and his income was very low. She had to face many difficulties. She was blessed with four sons and five daughters, with this her life became more complicated. Sometimes her eyes filled with tears when she couldn't fulfill even the basic needs of her children as they were deprived of all those comforts which she enjoyed at her parental home.

Twelve years back her husband was diagnosed as a sugar and blood cancer patient due to which he was unable to do any sort of job. So, she has to work as maid in the richer families of the village to meet the needs of her family. She was very courageous and never lost her belief in God.

In June 2011, people from his village came in contact with AWAZ Foundation Pakistan, he came to know through the native activist that Awaz Foundation was recruiting impoverished and needy women to maintain rural roads on fixed wages for two years in different union councils of Multan and wages would be paid after fifteen days through easy paisa. She jumped at the opportunity, she went to Union Council office where the entire process of recruitment was to be done, she went through the interview process and got selected. There were four other women who were also selected now they were five women in the cluster.

After getting the job, Shamim became more active day by day. She got up early in the morning, did her household chores and then went to the job with her other colleagues, there she maintained the rural earthen roads. As per commitment she received her first salary after fifteen days. That was the happiest moment in her life after so many years. Her condition improved with the wages she earned.

Shamim was given different trainings' opportunities through AWAZ Women Economic Empowerment Community Physical Infrastructure Improvement Program (WEE-CCIP). The

first training that she received was “Road for Life” in which health and hygiene tips were taught to her. After receiving that training she kept her house and family clean. The second training build her capacity on the “Gender and Human Rights” That training brought a splendid change not only at individual level but at community level as well. Shamim said that it was disclosed to us that both men and women are equal. We should provide education to both boys and girls. I decided to share all the information with other people who didn’t attend the training and also raised my voice against early age marriages, due to the training she has not only got the learnt various skills but also stopped three early age marriages in her community. She has continued the education of her youngest son.

The third which she received was on “Business Management” through this training she enhanced her knowledge regarding the business management. After getting the business skills now Shamim is successfully operating a business of grocery shop and earning average profit Rs. 250/- per day. Shamim says that “I have a greater respect in my community due to which community prefers her shop,

Those trainings made me realized that females can also do so many things. She resolved the problems of her community at union council level, she has educated the community on the importance of National Identity Card, enrolment of birth and death in UC office. Now my community members acknowledge me as a community mother and no one submitted nomination against me in my UC for the local government election. After election when I will be selected I will try to overcome the issue of clean drinking water and sanitation, bribery, poor condition of roads.

Shamim say that before CIIP I was reluctant to face the males and I was not used to attend the local Panchayat in which decision were taken about the different matters of people. Now not only I sit in those punchayats but also give my opinion in the decision. I got this courage from CIIP, I am thankful to AWAZ who has reformed me from labor worker to a Community Leader.

Mukhtiar Mai “HEALING THROUGH COURAGE & CONVICTION”

In developing countries like Pakistan, a woman is highly dependent on their male counterparts. Life becomes so tough and miserable for them if they have to manage things without them. It demanded huge courage and patience from such women in order to maintain their lives on their own. There are many examples sets on the pages of history that can put new zeal for those who may face such situations. The struggle of Mukhtiar Mai is one such case which proves to be a very refreshing and breathe breaking in such hard times of fight for existence.

HEALING THROUGH COURAGE & CONVICTION

Mukhtiar Mai resident of Union Council Pounta is an independent woman, who at present is bringing up her 3 daughters with dignity and respect. Seven years back, her husband Farooq in

search of better opportunity to earn left for Qandahar, city of Afghanistan, and didn't come back. They took this decision for the better future of their 4 kids, who were of school going age. Her husband wanted to give good and prosperous future to her daughters and a son, which was not possible in the minimal earning he receives after day long struggle and hard work. He took this tough decision, but unfortunately it brought sorrows for the family. Mukhtiar Mai waited for her husband to return and didn't lose hope and patience. During this time, her family both in laws and parents supported her but they themselves were not financially strong enough to bear her responsibility for long. She herself had to shoulder the responsibilities of her kids. Mukhtiar Mai started labor in the fields. She earned very less money from which they could only fulfill their basic needs. Her kids quitted their school due to lack of resources but they didn't give up. At last, time passed away but with difficulties. Her son had grown up enough to take all responsibilities on his shoulders. At the age of 18, he started to work on daily wages. He went to fields, collected vegetables of different kinds like green chilies etc and then provided them in markets of big nearby cities. They started living a better life, with fulfillment of basic needs. Sometimes, when after suffering, we find a sigh of relief and think life will be smooth onwards, At once life plans another hard time for us. Same happened with Mukhtiar Mai. Her son lost his life in an accident, that ruined all her hopes. For a woman whose only hope and strength was her son, such shocking news jolted her completely and she lost her senses for one and half month. She stayed on bed helpless and clueless about what will be the future of her family. This was the time when she needed a mentor who could pick her up and supported her to fight against such unwelcomed situation. At this time, Mr. Rasheed who was the Ex- Sub Mayor of her Union council and a very active person of her village had helped her a lot. He not only supported her financially but also motivated her to again muster up her courage and took responsibility of her daughters to secure their future and lives.

Mukhtiar Mai had taken a decision to work again. She was very weak at that time, but she refused to depend on any undignified source of income. She started to work on daily wages. She earned 150-200 per day. One day she came to know about the WEE-CIIP project of Awaz Foundation which is specially designed for needy woman like her. She became interested in it and had applied but till then all the selection got completed. For her good luck, one of the RMT named Aziz Mai got married and she had to leave the team. So, she got job as a RMT in project with the support and guidance of Mr. Rasheed as a replacement of Aziz Mai.

She got stable when she received her first salary of 2250 PKR of 15 days. After getting the second salary her colleagues in the project, Shamshad and Zarina had suggested her to invest half month salary of her in a committee of 20,000 PKR. She accepted their advice and did the same. Moreover, side by side with her job she decided to start a business. From her salary, she had bought half kg of chickpea. She made an announcement in a mosque and every morning she used to sell them after cooking. Each morning village people came with their own bowls and buy her cooked chickpeas. She started to earn good money from it. Now her business got expanded and she used to sell them in more quantity.

Her economic conditions got better All of her daughters are now going to Madrasa from where they are getting their religious education. Mukhtiar Mai had also bought a goat of Rs.9000 3 months back. She is now planning to start a business of retail shop of plastic shoes and cut piece cloth from the savings, which she will get from the project. She is really grateful to Awaz Team and Mr. Rasheed for their support that turned her from a weakest and dejected soul to a prime example of courage and conviction.

CASE STUDY

"Nasreen Bibi is a new breath in the so called close ended societies"

Nasreen Bibi

ENTREPRENUR PROFILE:

AGE:	41 YEARS.
CNIC:	32402-9026274-6
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	9 KIDS.
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	MARRIED
PHONE NO:	0346-4118827
ADDRESS:	Dhora Hajana U/C kotla Mughlan Jampur
ENTERPRISE:	Milk Selling



Nasreen Bibi, a 41 years old woman is living in Basti Dhora Hajna of Union Council kotla Mughlan. She has 9 children (6daughters & 3 sons). Her husband is paralyzed from last seven years. She is an only bread winner in her family.

She has to earn money not only to run her household expenses but also to bear her husband's medical expenses. She has to work both at home and also she goes outside to earn for her family. She has to perform her duties both as father and mother. She being a very hardworking and courageous woman has started to work through different means. The money that she was earning was still not enough as their needs were more than what they were getting.

She came to know about WEECIIP project initiated by AWAZ CDS in their area. She got hope for better earning. In the beginning she was quite hesitant as many of her relatives did not allow her to do work on roads. But for her family she has to avail this opportunity and to step forward for her better future. She resisted all the comments and went to the UC office for selection. Luckily she got selected as per the criteria. She knew was a good opportunity for needy and deprived women as it is a reliable source of income that is only designed after keeping in mind the social position of a woman in our culture and society.

Naseera bibi participated in the three trainings on “health & hygiene, basic human rights and on business management skills”facilitated by AWAZ WEECIIP team .It left positive impacts on her mind and life. She began to take proper care of cleanliness of her home and surroundings, ask her kids to take proper bath daily. *“Keeping in view the importance of health and hygiene she constructed a latrine in her house”*. She did not discriminate between her son and 4 daughters any more . “Now her daughters were also going to school *l*”. During the training she came to know about legal age of marriage . Resultantly , she stopped the early marriage of her youger sister . She made her in laws realized the consequences of early age marriages of girls . Not only it is a crime in the eyes of law , but at the same time effects the health of a young girl . She got successful in convincing her relatives and finally . *“She stopped early age marriage of her younger sister”*.



By basic business management training Nasreen bibi e learned what the business is? How she can run a business? What type of skills are needed to be an entrepreneur?. She knew that she

will get savings at the project completion stage . So brainstormed , what sort of business she can run effectively. She after close examination about what sort of skills she has and what kind of expertise she can enjoy in terms of labor from her surroundings and market demand, she decided to collect milk from different villages and sell in near by tea hotels. Nasreen bibi has very carefully designed the whole process. She initially started from selling 2 kg milk and gradually she increased the quantity of milk .Now she collects 40kg milk on daily bases from different villages and sale it in Jampur city. Her eldest son Saif -Ullah helps her in this business. The profit that she is earning at present is quite appreciating and encouraging for us. She earns 4500 rupees fortnightly and approximately earns 9000 rupees / month . Her living status has improved much. Nasreen bibi has full family support now; her kids are giving proper time and help to their mother. Her son saif ullha is educated and maintaining her records very well. Nasreen bibi is maintaining her records in the form of ledger book provided by project team. Now, she is quite satisfied with her life, she is very grateful for AwazCDS and WEECIIP team for contributing with her in changing her life.

In a nutshell, the story of Nasreen Bibi is a new breath in the so called close ended societies who always try to grab the basic right of a woman in the society.

CASE STUDY

Phapal Mai

ENTREPRENUR PROFILE:

AGE:	42 years
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	2 kids
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	Widow
PHONE NO:	-
ADDRESS:	Basti MohayWala UC Sanawan, Kot Addu/Muzaffergarh
ENTERPRISE:	Grocery Shop

Phapal Mai wife of Abdul Hamid lived in basti Mohaywala, union council Sanwan, tehsil kotaddu, district Muzafargarh. She had two brothers and six sisters, and she was younger among them. Her father was a labor and earned livelihood for his children. She got married with her cousin. Her husband was a driver of a landlord and drove his tractor. She was very happy in her home, her parents in law loved her. God has gifted her with two sons. She was very



happy with her husband and children. One day her husband came back from work in the evening, suddenly he was suffering from temperature which increased till night and he started vomiting. They tried homemade remedies but vomits didn't stop. In next morning she called her brother in law and told him about her husband's condition that he was not feeling well since last night. He took her husband to Sanawan hospital where doctors referred him to Nishter Hospital Multan on his way to Multan Abdul Hameed died. When Multan doctors examined him they told that he died due to heart attack. When his brother brought back his dead body to home a thunder arrived there. Phapal Mai was unable to believe that her life is ended. She wept a lot but no one could change the life decisions. She has two sons, elder one was twelve years old and younger one was six years old at that time. Phapal Mai relatives advised her if she keep weeping like this then who will take care of her children.

She slowly returned to her life and start working in the fields for her children. Landlord of the area also helped her as a widow of his driver but children were growing and their expenses were increasing.

One day Awaz Foundation team visited village and arranged a meeting there in which people were told by AWAZ team that they will give jobs to widow, divorced or those women whose husband had done second marriage and don't take care of their first wives, and they will be given PKR: 5600 salary.



Phapal Mai was also present in that meeting, she was the first one who was agreed for the job and then many other women also agreed for the said job. AWAZ team shared the entire process of selection of women in the project.

Phapal Mai was also selected as she was a widow and was looking after 02 sons.

Phapal Mai along with seven other women started working on earthen roads, Phapal Mai told that “When I got my first salary I was very happy as I have not seen sufficient amount from a long period of time”. she got 4500 every month and remaining amount was saved as saving by the bank in her saving account. she admitted one of her sons in school. she got three different types of trainings during work in which she was capacitated on health & cleanliness, human rights and basic business education. during the health & cleanliness training she came to know the importance of toilet in the home in. she started saving money and constructed a toilet in her home and she also guided other people around her to educate their children about toilet.

Phapal Mai life becomes much better after being the part of WEE_CIIP projejt. She has started a business to make her financial condition better. she helped her elder son to start a business of a grocery shop from money of 10000 which she had saved from her salary. After the completion of two year cycle of road maintenance, she has received savings of PKR:28000/-, she invested that amount in her business which was run by her son at that time. Now her shop is running successfully and daily sale is 800-1000 rupees. she has also cultivated onions in one Kanal area from PKR: 5000 savings. she has further planned to expand her business in future and is now very happy from her business. My life became colorful. She is spending a satisfied and happy life with her children. She is very thankful to Awaz Foundation which supported her life after the death of her husband.

Revival of Happiness

My husband and all those who criticize me now greatly appreciate me the way I tackled with bitter realities of life with huge confidence and uplifted the family from crucial stage. It was definitely a critical journey but now I am very glad the way I contributed to overcome all these difficulties faced by my family. Time has changed and now my house is full of happiness. Now I am the decision maker of my family including all social & economic matters says Buksh Ellahi. Baksh Ellahi was born in 1963 in Union Council Shah Pur Ubbah of Tehsil Shujabad in District Multan. I opened my eyes in a very deprived home. However my parents did best for me within the limits of their resources. I got married by the will of my parents with Faiz Ahmed Zafar and shifted to my new house at chak sardar pur of similar union council in 1990 with lot of hopes for the happiness of better life. My husband worked in fields (Contract Land) and I looked after the home.

Life was running smoothly with my husband, but my in-laws created issues when I had no kids even after the nine years of marriage. It was a really tense situation for me but the support of my husband at this stage was very positive for me. After nine years of stressed period almighty ALLAH blessed me a beautiful daughter and after her three years I also gave birth to another daughter. My in-laws again burst on me when I had no son, on the basis of that they made second marriage of my husband. I got separation after the second marriage of my husband and went back to my parent's home.

I worked hard to make my both ends meet and to fulfill the basic needs of my daughters. I started working in the fields, & involved in wheat harvesting, cutting bushes, cotton picking and could hardly scrape Rs. 2500/- on monthly basis. I could barely make ends meet on this meager income. I stopped the education of my elder daughter.

In May 2011, I came to know that an organization named as AWAZ Foundation Pakistan was offering employment for vulnerable deprived women, but for that you must fall in their selection criteria. I took part in that process, entered in interview process and luckily got selected for that job of earthen road maintenance work. The people of Shah Pur Ubbah were not very receptive to the idea of female working on earthen roads, they pointed fingers on me and spread all sorts of rumors, but I had my brother's support.

I regularly started to perform my duties. I took a relax breath at time of receiving 1st salary. "I love my work, getting paid for doing something for my area. In order to generate additional income, I also did hand embroidery work. With my job and hand embroidery work I steadily strengthened my financial position and enhanced my capacity to meet my daily expenses. I have re-admitted my daughter to school.

When I gradually becoming more economically strong, my husband contacted me for the settlement purpose and he told me that he was suffering from diabetes and was not able to earn the money, he second wife and two children were dying of hunger. I recalled him his and his family attitude, he regretted for his and his family bitter attitude with her. With my husband's and in-laws several apologies and efforts of my brothers I had settlement with my husband. He took me and my daughters with him to his house.

Awaz foundation Pakistan team has brought great courage in me to compete against vulnerable condition. Despite of my settlement with my in laws, they did not stopped blaming me for not having son, some time I also consider myself as responsible for this, but the gender equity and human rights training conducted by AWAZ enabled me to understand all realities and rights regarding male and female. When I shared this information with my husband and other family member, they also got clear understanding regarding this. After that they had never made me responsible for not having my son.

When AWAZ arranged "Basic business management training" I also participated in that and learned various business related skills. I have planned business (general store) as an enduring solution of livelihood. I initiated my business right after receiving my saving; with the passage of time my business is flourishing day by day. Now ALHAMDULILLAH I am earning more than Rs. 7000/- per month. "I am happy with what we have. We are in a much better financial position than we have been in years.

This program added many positive things in my social life; I learnt about the usage of mobile phone and enjoying its benefits, due to this mobility factor now I am more social, participate in community social events (marriages, deaths, mela, Urs, etc) I have better linkages with area fellows. After the capacity building training, I also got confidence to go in Government offices, bank, NADRA, UC office, Hospitals etc..) vendors' dealing, customers etc.

Now peoples' perception regarding this program and my character has also changed positively as they have seen that this program has add lot of betterment in the lives of vulnerable women. Now community members have keen interest to participate in this program.

I am happy that I can control my destiny now.

RMT worker to Hygiene Promoter

Shamshad Mai is 43 years old and is the resident of village Qazi wala, in union Council Kotla Mughlan of District Rajan Pur in Punjab. Her father was a farmer and she was the eldest of her six siblings. She has come a long way from her humble beginnings. Married in the age of 26 years, with her cousin Muhammad Ijaz and gave birth to two daughters. Ijaz was unemployed at the time of marriage and was rude towards her and often tortured her mentally and physically.

Despite of my husband's ill-treatment and rejection, I tried my best to save our marriage. Ijaz abandoned me and my daughters and went to Karachi to become an automobile driver. There he married another woman and never returned to me and my daughters. I went to Karachi to meet him and tried to convince him to own me and my daughters. Ijaz on the other hand not only refused to live with us but also beat me up and asked me to leave Karachi. I returned with my daughters to my parent's house and started living with them. Although Ijaz had not been a kind husband, I carried hopes of his return until the day I received the news of his accidental death in Karachi. It was never easy for me to live off my parents as a widow with my two daughters who were now growing up. I have started working in the fields but the wages were meager and not sufficient for me to make both ends meet. It was then when I learnt about the CIIP project executed by Awaz Foundation in our area. I had applied for the position of a road maintenance worker and got selected for the job. It was not easy for me to work on the road in the area where there is prevalence of customary practices, with the support of my parents, I had started working for the maintenance of earthen roads in our union council, for that I was paid Rs. 2250 on fortnightly basis. Through my wages I was able to fulfill the basic needs of my family. I was also able to bear the expenses of my younger daughter's health treatment who at that time was suffering from cancer in her legs, back and head. I regularly attended all the three trainings conducted by the project staff. These trainings influenced my perceptions and personality. It was beginning of a new change of me. I came to know about the human rights, gender and gender roles. I had also developed business skills.

After the trainings I did not consider my daughters as burden any more. Instead, I am bringing them up on the principles of gender equity. I am sending my daughters to school and have also convinced my brother to educate his children. In partnership with my Uncle I have also opened up a grocery shop as a result of my learning from the business management training and am currently earning a profit of Rs. 200-250 daily from my business.

I also participated in the training on health and hygiene practices in CIIP project. With my improved knowledge on the subject, I have started mobilizing my community members by raising their consciousness regarding health, hygiene and sanitation issues. In October, 2013, a

team from Muslim Aid (an International NGO) visited my village. I met the team and was found to be helpful for them in resolving issues pertinent to health and hygiene among the rural community. They hired me as a resource person for their WASH project for organizing health sessions in 40 communities for rural women and girls of Basti Khokhar, Basti Chor, Basti Rustam Laghari and Basti Shahnawaz Pur in District Rajan Pur. During my nine month's contract with Muslim Aid, I had led health training in all these communities and received a salary of Rs. 5000 per month. That additional income which I had generated from my communication skills was the blessing of AWAZ's capacity building trainings.

According to feedback from my community members, I have been influential and helpful in creating awareness related to health and hygiene practices which they now implement in their homes and communities. Community has made latrines in their homes after my community sessions on health and hygiene. I have received an offer to work as a community resource person for another project by Muslim Aid which I am planning to accept.

Shamshad Mai's family no longer has to struggle to make ends meet, they are saving money and their economic conditions are improving

CASE STUDY

"I am no more destitute" says Saeeda Mai

ENTREPRENEUR PROFILE:

AGE:	42 YEARS.
CNIC:	32402-2485758-0
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	2 KIDS. (Sons)
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	Widow
PHONE NO:	0344-4469693
ADDRESS:	Dhora Hajana U/C kotla Mughlan, Jampur
ENTERPRISE:	Rickshaw – Qing Qchi

Saeeda Mai, a pleasant middle aged woman elegantly dressed in a Maroon and pink dress, a specimen of her own work, runs a small scale business of Rickshaw –



Qing Qchi with her son in Basti Dhora Hajna of Union Council kotla Mughlan.

She is a widow and has two sons. She was spending a very comfortable and happy life with her husband, but one day he met with sudden death due to electric shock.

This incidence changed her entire life pattern. She had no other means of income. With the passage of time, the situation grew worst for her.

She started working in fields and as a maid in houses of the rich families in the area, her meager income from Rs: 2500 to 2800 was not enough to sustain the family. Often she has to borrow from other people to meet her household expenses.

In such difficult times a neighbor told Saeeda Mai about the Earthen Road Maintenance project of WEECIIP of AWAZ CDS. At first, despite being impressed from this program, she had many reservations in her mind. She was hesitant, as it was very strange for her to go out and to work on the earthen roads of the union council. She thought a lot on it, discussed with other villagers and came to know that it is a good opportunity for needy and deprived women who are widows, separated, divorced or running the household with large number of family members. She also heard that it is a reliable source of income that is only designed after keeping in mind the social position of a woman in our culture and society. CIIP project was made for 4 years, in which 02 years were for maintaining earthen roads and 02 years for initiating the business by saving which they will receive in the end of 02 year cycle round. So, she took heart and decided to become its part, she applied for it and eventually got selected as per the project criteria.

After maintaining the earthen roads and timely disbursal of her salary on fortnightly basis, her financial circumstances started getting better. The three trainings that were on “health & hygiene, basic human rights and on business management skills”, that she had attended under the umbrella of WEECIIP had left positive impacts on her mind and life. She had started to give proper attention to cleanliness of her home and surroundings, asked her kids to take proper bath on daily basis. She is also educating them on equal basis. One of the big impact of the training of “Basic human Rights” was that *when she came to know about the official marriage age. She stopped early age marriage of her team member Bachul mai's younger daughter and realized her parents to wait for better time so that she could be able to manage her household work and also could maintain her physical health”*

The training on business had taught her the basic skills that are required by any person to start a good business. She was already worried about the future of her family after the completion of her project. She decided to take initiative about starting her own business. She was aware that she will get savings after project completion, so she has started her brain storming that what sort of business she can run effectively. She has a support with her eldest son, she decided to start a business of cycle repairing. Being a woman can't handle that sort of business. So, instead of continuing it they have decided to go in such type of business that Saeeda Mai herself can run it successfully .

She after close analysis about what sort of skills she has and what is the market demand, Saeeda mai decided to invest her saving of Rs: 28000/= which she received from project savings and other amount she herself saved from her salary amount in purchasing a Rickshaw – Qing Qchi for her eldest son . Saeeda Mai has very carefully designed the business plan. She firstly started business from her less saving of Rs: 55000/= rupees and earned Rs: 500/ = profit on daily basis. After the investment of her all savings she started earning Rs. 15000 per month.

She did not stop when life started to get comfortable. In fact she is always exploring new avenues of business that have the potential to make a positive difference in her life. She has recently bought 2 goats in 1400/= rupees for business point of view and will sell on maximum profit on Eid-ul_Azha (Islamic Festival).

Saeeda Mai has got her family support; her kids are very cooperative to her mother. Her eldest son is educated and maintaining her records very well. Saeeda Mai herself is also maintaining her records in the form of ledger book.

Saeeda Mai now is quite contented with her life, she is very grateful to Awaz CDS and WEECIIP team for contributing her in changing her life. She said that, ***“There was a time when her financial situation was so poor, and no one was ready to help her out, even her relatives had left her. Now, after putting her life back on track and attaining empowerment, her worth got enhanced in the eyes of her relatives and society.”*** She said that she would definitely love to expand her business.

She thinks that the major reason of poverty is that people lack initiative and there is no collective action. She is always encouraging other women in the area to work like her.

CASE STUDY

“When I was walking home with my first salary, I was very excited. I felt I had treasure in my hands” says Shahida Mai

ENTREPRENEUR PROFILE:

AGE:	36 YEARS.
CNIC:	36303-3057632-2
PHONE NO:	0341-5644312
ADDRESS:	ALIWALA U/C HAMID PUR KANORA
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	5 KIDS.
PHASE:	01
MARITAL STATUS:	MARRIED
ENTERPRISE:	EMBROIDED DUPATTAS

Shahida Bibi, a resident of Basti Ali Wala of Union Council Hamid Pur Kanora, lives with her husband and five children. Her life was going with pace when her husband but one day she came to know that he was suffering from a disease due to which he was unable to go out and earn for his family. The life of whole family became vulnerable as they have no other source of income. With poverty comes frustration says Shahida Bibi.

After her husband's inability to work, all responsibilities of earning money came on the shoulders of Shahida. She not only had to run the home but also had to arrange money for the proper treatment and medication for her husband. She being a very hardworking and courageous woman has started to work through different means.

The money that she brought home was hardly enough to support the family. With this income, Shahida Bibi could not send her children to school. This pained her a great deal because having been through the grinding cycle of poverty herself; she wanted a better future for her children. She wanted her sons and daughters to go to school, have good food to eat and nice clothes to wear.

Shahida was willing to try anything for her children. When a Social Mobilizer from Awaz Foundation Pakistan: Centre for Development Services came to her area, she became one of several women who became part of Earthen Road Maintenance Project of CIIP. At first, despite being impressed by it she also has certain reservations in her mind that how she will face her family and the other villagers by working on the earthen roads. After seeing the positive side of the project she decided to become part of this program so, she had applied for it and eventually got selected. After receiving her first salary she says that **“When I was walking home with my first salary, I was very excited. I felt I had treasure in my hands”**.

That financial support has decreased my financial issues.

In addition to maintain Earthen Roads Shahida was also offered an opportunity to participate in a training course conducted through AWAZ social Mobilizer. The training dealt with “health & hygiene, basic human rights and on business management skills” and Shahida attended all sessions diligently.

She had started giving proper attention to the cleanliness of herself, children, her home and surroundings. She also had stopped discriminating between her son and 4 daughters. She is also educating them on equal basis.

The training on business had taught her the basic skills that are required by any person to start a good business. I can now keep my own accounts in proper ledgers and I know some things about how to make more profit. In order to engage her husband in the business she first planned to start the business of cycle repairing. But, soon they realized that this business requires special expertise, so instead of continuing it they have decided to go in that type of business which Shahida herself can run in a better way.

After close examination of her own skills and expertise and marked demand she decided to sell embroidered dupattas in the market and in the community. She made a business plan, at first she did complete analysis of the market, then she purchased simple dupattas in bulk from Multan, she did an agreement with supplier at Chungi No 11 in Multan. She purchased raw materials and then gave those dupattas and things to different girls and ladies who were expert in different kind of embroideries and skills with agreed margins. After their completion, she took those embroidered dupattas to different shops in Multan and further sold them on profit. Her business is now going very well and also she has also decided to further flourish it.

In the beginning, she did all these things by herself. She herself did the embroidery but now she is doing it with the help of other by outsourcing their expertise. In this way Shahida is not only herself getting benefit but also providing platform to many other girls of her community. At present, she has engaged more than 400 females in her project which lived in different locations. The type of embroidery that they are doing on clothes is according to latest fashion and trends. Shahida used to discuss with different shopkeepers about the market demands and also judged it by herself through market analysis.

The profit that she is earning at present is quite encouraging and fascinating for us. Shahida makes around Thirty thousand rupees a month, and more in Eid seasons. Her cash flows are of Rs. 01 lac. Her living standard has been improved so much. Now she is regarded as very powerful women of her area. She has bought a bike for her son and a T.V. She is also planning to expand her business to different markets. For that purpose she has also did a business visit to big city like Karachi and did different analysis about its market and tried to build market linkages over there.

Shahida has full family support; her kids are giving proper time to their mother. Her daughter is educated and maintaining her records very well. Shahida now is quite satisfied with her life, she is very grateful to Awaz and CIIP team for contributing with her in changing her life.

She is proud of what she has achieved and has plans of diversifying her business.

CASE STUDY

Shanaz Mai

ENTREPRENUR PROFILE:

AGE:	42 years
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	3 kids
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	Married
PHONE NO:	-
ADDRESS:	Basti HoWalaUC Patal, Kot Addu/Muzaffergarh
ENTERPRISE:	Grocery Shop

Shahnaz Mai wife of Usman Ahmad lives in basti Howala, tehseel Kottadu, District Muzafargarh. She has two sons and a daughter. Her husband is not mentally sound . Her father is a mean person and got his own marriage in exchange with her sister in law. After the marriage Shahnaz Mai came to know about the mental illness of her husband . Certainly , she got worried 'that how she will live with him but afterwards accepted her father's decision as the God's will. . She thought to get the treatment of her husband in a hope to see him well and mentally healthy . Her husband due to instability of mind beats her as well but she bears with patience and hope for his recovery . God gifted her with two sons and a daughter.

Her financial condition was very poor ; she was not having enough money for her husband's treatment. One day she attended a meeting arranged by Awaz Foundation team, where she came to know about Community Infrastructure Improvement Project. Awaz team told that jobs will be given on the basis of criteria and proper interviews would be conducted in union council Patal. She gave interview and likely selected as a RMT member. She was happy and started working on earthen roads of her area. She got PKR: 4500 as salary every month with which she started treatment of her husband and with the rest of the money fed her children .

She enrolled her daughter and one son in the school and bought a goat from her savings. When she was given business training she started her own business, she made a nursery of plants as an alternate source of income.

Her business is running good. From the savings, she invested in another business and started growing vegetables . Now her husband is also getting well and helping her in her business and they both are living a happy life with their children.

She thanked Awaz Foundation. Now she is managing her husband's treatment from Lahore with a hope of his early recovery , so that one day he himself could support his family

CASE STUDY

AFTER RECEIVING 1ST SALARY I BOUGHT MILK FOR MY LITTLE ORPHAN GRANDDAUGHTER AND FULFILLED THE BASIC NEEDS OF FOOD AND CLOTHES FOR MY CHILDREN, SAYS **TASLEEM MAI**



42 year old Tasleem mai is living in Basti Malik Muhammad Cluster-2 Islam pur Union council Bukhara in Tehsil Jampur of District Rajan pur. She belongs to a poor family, her parents had not enough money to meet the basic needs. Her parents had been working in landlords' fields and lived hand to mouth because of insufficient wages. She has four sisters. Due to Lack of money they were deprived of basic education. Her family was depressed and they lived in extreme poverty. When she was 18 years old her father got married to her cousin. Her husband was also farmer and his income was very little. Her husband was an old man.

There is no concept of small family since past generations so; she gave birth to ten children; eight sons and two daughters. She had not been able to protect all children and complete their

needs. So she worked on daily wages and faced difficult circumstances. Tasleem mai was very upset from her poverty. Her children were also deprived of general and religious education.

One day Awaz Foundation team came to her village and declared about Community Infrastructure Improvement Project for destitute women. She was interviewed on interview day and selected for CIIP road work. She was very happy to find this job because her financial problems will be addressed through this job. After receiving 1st salary she bought milk for her little orphan granddaughter and fulfilled the basic needs of food and clothes for her children.

Now she became strong after getting this job.

During this job she has attended three training, 1st training on “Basic Health and Road for Life”. She learnt about health and hygiene and started practicing of hand washing, she kept her house, kitchen and children clean. Second training which she received was of “Gender Equity and Human Rights”, she got skills about the importance of CNIC card, birth certificate, death certificate and marriage certificate. She pays proper attention and gives equal rights to her children. She acts upon all values of equal rights.



In last training was on, “Basic Business Management Skills”, she has come to know about importance of business and saved some money from salary for future emergencies. She has learnt business plan and value chain, and planned for her future after the CIIP job ends.



She saved twenty thousand rupees for her business and at the end of her job she started successfully grocery shop business because this was need of her village. Now she is taking six hundred rupees daily profit from this business. Her monthly income is exceeding six thousand rupees. She is doing successfully a non-traditional business. She planned for exceeding her business and increase her income for the better future of her children. She is thankful to AWAZ who has supported her and her family to meet the both ends of life.

CASE STUDY

Zohran Mai

ENTREPRENUR PROFILE:

AGE:	35 years
NO OF DEPENDENTS:	5 kids
PHASE:	06
MARITAL STATUS:	Married
PHONE NO:	-
ADDRESS:	Basti HoWalaUC Patal, Kot Addu/Muzaffergarh
ENTERPRISE:	Grocery Shop

Zohran Mai wife of Abdul Aziz lived in Basti Arainwala, union council Sanawan, Tehsil Kotaddu, District Muzafargarh. She had three sons and two daughters. She was living a happy life. Her husband Abdul Aziz was a laborer and she also worked in fields. They were earning well and were feeding their children properly.

One bad day came into Zohran Mai's life which changed her whole life; it was an evening when both husband and wife came back to home after work, she was doing house work chores and her husband was playing with children when a serious pain started in his head and body, he started shouting due to pain. She ran towards her husband and took him to Sanawan doctor.

Doctors prescribed some tests and told that he will be admitted in hospital due to his serious condition. There was no savings in home, she borrowed money from relatives and came back to doctor. After doing test doctors told that her husband is suffering from stomach cancer.

She became very much tense; there was no earning hand in home. She thought if she will lose hope then who will support, feed my children and arrange money for my husband treatment. She had a small piece of land which she sold and send her husband to Lahore for treatment and started working in houses of others. She took her daughters out of school because there was no one who could take care of home and young children. Her husband treatment was very expensive she sold her home and shifted to her parent's home. After her husband's inability to work the responsibilities of Zohran Mai increased, as from now she had to work as both father and

mother. While performing her duties for her kids she also had to manage money so that she can go for proper treatment and medication for her husband. She being a very hardworking and courageous woman has started to work through different means. The money that she was earning was still not enough as their needs were more than what they were getting.

Zohran had one day come to know about the road maintenance project of CIIP. At first, despite being impressed by it she also has certain reservations in her mind. She was hesitant because she thought that either it was appropriate to go out and to work on roads or not. She after knowing that it was a good opportunity for needy and deprived women as it is a reliable source of income that is only designed after keeping in mind the social position of a woman in our culture and society. So, she had applied for it and eventually got selected. She receives salaries timely and this thing helped her to meet immediate and major expense of home timely.

She was given three different types of trainings during work, i.e health & cleanliness, human rights and basic business education. After that she realized the importance of toilet in home. She saved money from it and constructed it and also continued her husband's treatment.

Her husband is comparatively stable now and works to some extent as well .. She enrolled her children again in school after joining CIIP. She is very happy that God has blessed her in shape of giving health to her husband and making her capable of earning. She is very happy from her job. She thinks that if she doesn't have this job she could not take care of her children and her husband.

She got savings of PKR 28000 and with that amount she had started a utility shop which is running very good. She is earning 1200-1600 and getting profit 150-200 rupees on daily basis. She has decided to expand her business.

She is very thankful to Awaz Foundation and says 'it is the organization which has helped to save herself and her family's life'. May God bless Awaz Foundation forever Ameen!