



STORIES OF HOPE

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From	Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA)
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Venue of the story	Juban district, Al Dhale district, Al Dhale governorate, Yemen
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MALNUTRITION GOT A KNOCKOUT!

Alawi Jamal is a 17-month-old child who was suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) along with other serious complications: loss of appetite, severe diarrhea, dehydration and unconsciousness. He was in a critical health condition that would result to his death if no prompt treatment was in place.

Alawi lives with his destitute family in Al Dhabyania Alsufia village in Juban district of Al Dhale' governorate; which considered one of the hardest-to-reach localities with high malnutrition rate in the governorate. The mountainous terrain of the area makes it very challenging for inhabitants to have access to the health facilities in the neighboring areas.

Alawi's father desperately took him to the DFID/YFCA supported Therapeutic Feeding Center (TFC) in the 22nd May Hospital, Juban district to save his life. "Alawi is our one and only child, we were having nightmares that we could lose him because of the malnutrition. We have [been

awarded] Alawi after being married for eight years and my wife might not be able to be pregnant again for infertility problems. We were helpless with no money for treating our [dearest] child. Finally we managed to come over to the hospital after traveling for 40 kilometers/ 5 hours" father says.

Dr. Reem Al-Najar, one of the YFCA's caregivers at the TFC reflected: "When Alawi arrived to the hospital he was in a critical condition. His weight was only 7.2 Kg and his mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) was 10.5 mm. Based on these observations, Alawi was promptly admitted to the TFC where he was put under rigorous medical care for 7 days, then luckily his MUAC was improved to 12 mm and weight to 8.5 kg. The malnutrition got a [knockdown] again here!".

Meanwhile, Alawi's parents got a nutrition sensitization on how to get a balanced healthy diet for minimal cost though. Furthermore, the family was given transportation allowances so they can have a safe trip back!