

## A SHELTER OF HOPE: RESTORING DIGNITY AND SAFETY FOR A DISPLACED FAMILY IN HAJJAH

In the Abs district of Hajjah governorate, Yemen, Abdu Mohammed Ibrahim Sayigh and his family of six faced constant fear and hardship. Displaced from their home, they struggled to survive in a makeshift hut that provided little more than symbolic cover.

### A Life Unfit for Humans

Their shelter, a crumbling structure of mud and straw, posed a continual danger. **“We were living in a shelter made of mud and straw. It offered no protection from the sun, rain, or snakes. Every night, I feared for my children’s safety,”** Abdu recalls. The family was exposed to harsh weather—scorching sun by day and strong winds and rain by night. With no door or solid walls, they were vulnerable to intruders and wildlife.

The toll was severe, especially on Abdu’s pregnant wife and five young children. The harsh conditions led to complications for his wife, while his children frequently fell sick from the cold, dust, and insects. **“I saw the exhaustion in their faces every day, and it broke my heart that I couldn’t protect them,”** he shared, reflecting the profound helplessness that overshadowed their lives.



Abdu with the Project Coordinator, sharing his story of transformation and hope.

### A Turning Point Through Collaborative Aid

Hope arrived through the coordinated efforts of community committees and the Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA), supported by the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF). Identified as a high-priority case, Abdu’s family was assessed by a field team. **“When the enumerators of the YFCA came and saw my previous shelter, I felt like someone finally heard us,”** Abdu said. After a thorough verification process, his family was approved for a life-changing intervention: the construction of a Transitional Shelter (TSK). The project team coordinated with a local landowner to secure a plot, and soon, a safe and dignified shelter was erected for Abdu and his family.

## Transformation and Renewed Hope

The impact was immediate. The new TSK provided solid walls, a secure door, and a robust roof, offering protection from the weather and external threats. For the first time in a long while, the family could sleep in peace. **“The new TSK changed everything. We now have walls, a door, and peace of mind. My children sleep safely, and my wife recovered. This support gave us dignity and a fresh start,”** he stated. The safe environment led to tangible health improvements for his children. Abdu’s wife finally had a clean, safe space to rest and later gave birth safely. The constant anxiety that once defined their lives was replaced by stability and privacy.

This intervention went beyond providing mere physical shelter; it restored the family’s dignity and hope. From the project team’s perspective, this safe shelter lays the foundation for long-term stability. With his family secure, Abdu’s mental state improved dramatically, allowing him to focus on rebuilding their lives. **“I started thinking about how to work again, how to rebuild our lives, and how to give my children a better future,”** he explained.



Abdu proudly stands with his newborn in front of their new Transitional Shelter, a symbol of protection and dignity for his family.

Economically, the stability of a permanent shelter allows Abdu to seek work without the daily stress of insecurity, paving the way for self-reliance. The signed agreement with the landowner ensures continuity, giving the family a sense of belonging and a solid platform from which to rebuild.

Abdu Mohammed Ibrahim Sayigh’s story is a powerful testament to how targeted humanitarian aid can catalyze profound change. The provision of a transitional shelter by the Family Care Association, through the project **“A Foundation for a Sustainable Future,”** did not just offer a roof—it restored safety, health, and dignity. This intervention transformed a narrative of despair into one of hope, demonstrating that with the right support, even the most vulnerable families can begin to dream of a brighter, more secure future.