

NAVIGATING HARDSHIP FATMA'S STORY OF SURVIVAL AND STRENGTH



In the rugged, sun-scorched landscapes of Ad Dali' governorate, where conflict and displacement have frayed daily life, the story of Fatma Mansor Ali Saleh unfolds—a testament to vulnerability and resilience. Fatma, a 38-year-old displaced woman,

lives with her family of nine in the village of Awish. Her husband's irregular work as a daily laborer leaves them in precarious survival, heavily dependent on aid. A single illness could plunge them into debt, a constant threat.



In the Lakmat Al-Doki Health Facility, Fatma receives vital care and support for her pregnancy.

When Fatma learned she was pregnant, she felt fear rather than joy. Without a stable income, even basic antenatal care seemed unattainable. As her pregnancy progressed, fatigue overshadowed the expected energy of motherhood. By her sixth month, her health had deteriorated alarmingly.

Her journey to the Lakmat Al-Doki Health Facility was driven by desperation. Although the distance was long and costs steep, neglecting her condition was not an option. Upon arrival, the healthcare team, part of the integrated lifesaving project funded by YHF

and implemented by YFCA, diagnosed her with severe anemia and acute malnutrition. Her critically low hemoglobin levels posed threats to both her life and her unborn child.

What followed was a comprehensive lifeline. Fatma received essential laboratory tests, medication, vitamins, and referrals for supplementary feeding. She attended Infant and Young Child Feeding Counseling (IYFC) sessions, learning vital information about nutrition for herself and her baby. **“During my first visit, I was surprised that the center provided comprehensive and free services,”**

“ Without this intervention, my situation would have been unbearable ”

Fatma reflects

Although her recovery was not immediate, regular follow-ups led to gradual improvements in her health. However, the final challenge arose during labor. Lacking funds for transportation, Fatma faced the prospect of an unassisted home delivery. In a demonstration of the project’s commitment, a midwife traveled to her home, skillfully guiding her through a difficult breech delivery, ensuring the safety of both mother and newborn.

This integrated intervention profoundly impacted Fatma's life. The successful delivery marked the birth of a child and the renewal of hope for her family. She continued to receive free immunizations, breastfeeding support, and postnatal care, alleviating the financial burden that once overshadowed her health concerns. "I could never afford these costs," she emphasizes, her relief evident.

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صحة رعاية
Fatma attending an Infant and Young Child Feeding Counseling session, gaining essential nutrition knowledge



Today, Fatma looks to the future with optimism. The sustained support has led to lasting change, enhancing her family's understanding of maternal and child health practices and fostering long-term well-being. The integrated model—combining nutrition, medical treatment, counseling, and follow-up—empowered her to take an active role in her family's health.

The project at Lakmat Al-Doki, providing integrated assistance across six sectors, has reached thousands of displaced and vulnerable individuals like Fatma. It serves as a vital buffer against suffering, easing the immense financial and health burdens borne by families affected by conflict. For Fatma Mansor Ali Saleh, the health facility was not just a clinic; it became a sanctuary where her strength was restored, her child's life secured, and her family's future rekindled—illustrating how targeted, compassionate intervention can restore dignity and cultivate resilience amid overwhelming hardship