


# THE UNBREAKABLE SPIRIT

## AISHA'S PATH TO INDEPENDENCE

### FROM DESPAIR TO DIGNITY



Aisha Ibrahim Mufleh sits at the entrance of her father's modest home in Al Areed, Khayran Al Muharraaq district of Hajjah governorate. As the afternoon light falls on her face, she speaks not with self-pity, but with the quiet strength of a woman who has endured more than any mother should. Her hands, once used for tending livestock and farming, now rest empty in her lap, yet her eyes still reflect remarkable hope.

Before the war and her subsequent displacement, Aisha's family owned land and livestock, which provided food and income. However, everything changed when her husband died during their displacement. "Everything collapsed, The land, our livestock—gone." she recalls, her voice steady but softened by memory.

Arriving at her father's home with nothing but her five children, Aisha faced overwhelming challenges, including caring for her sixteen-

year-old son, who suffers from a severe disability caused by meningitis. Despite pressing needs, her reality was marked by hunger. "My children cry from hunger sometimes, and I couldn't provide even a piece of bread." she says. Although her father managed to receive some unconditional cash transfers on her behalf, it was meager support spread too thin across many needs, leaving them in despair.

Through the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), Yemen Family Care Association initiated an unconditional cash transfer intervention targeting the most vulnerable households in Abs and Khayran Al Muharraq districts, identifying families like Aisha's, who had fallen through the cracks of the humanitarian system. Once her eligibility was confirmed, Aisha received \$110 each month for six consecutive months.

“ This intervention has been a change; it's far more effective than food baskets because it allows us to meet diverse needs

Aisha shares smiling for the first time



Aisha could visit the local market and choose what her family needed from food to medicine for her son. The intervention not only addressed material needs but also eased her psychological burden; she felt more in control, no longer a passive recipient but an active provider for her family.

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comprising 1,531 individuals, who also benefited from the unconditional cash transfers. This YHF-funded intervention empowers families to prioritize their own needs, whether for food, medicine, or shelter. The community has also felt the impact, with local markets thriving again as cash circulates, allowing vendors to restock and neighbors to support one another.

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Yet, Aisha maintains a wish she often whispers: "I want livestock. Goats that can provide milk and grow—something that lasts beyond this project." Her words highlight both the success and limitation of humanitarian aid. The cash transfer has stabilized her family but is ultimately temporary. She hopes for ongoing support to reach even more families in need, so that hope is lasting.



Aisha's journey from despair to dignity embodies the fragile path ahead. With continued support, she can move from mere survival to stability. She envisions a future where her family can save, invest in small income-generating activities, and secure specialized care for her son. Conversely, if the project ceases, the progress made could unravel, returning them to the margins of society.