

EMPOWERED BY SUPPORT: TAWHEED'S PATH TO DIGNITY

In Ma'rib Governorate, Yemen, where the scars of conflict are etched into the landscape and the lives of its people, resides Tawheed Maqbool. A 42-year-old father of seven, Tawheed's life has been a relentless test of resilience. Born with a visual impairment that progressed to complete blindness, his world has long been defined by challenges that would overwhelm many. The ongoing war forced his family to flee their home in Amran District for the precarious safety of Sheikh Zayed Camp in Ma'rib City, compounding these difficulties exponentially.

As an internally displaced person (IDP) with a disability, Tawheed found himself trapped in a cycle of hardship. The primary breadwinner for his family—his wife and five young boys and two girls—he struggled to secure stable work. Their

existence became a daily struggle for survival, often limited to just two meals a day, typically consisting of little more than bread and tea. **"I am a displaced person who depends on daily wage labor and sometimes on aid,"** Tawheed reflected, capturing the precariousness of their life.

This cycle of despair was broken by a critical intervention. Through a multi-sectoral project implemented by Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA), in partnership with the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), Tawheed's family was selected to receive unconditional cash transfers (UCT) for food security. This assistance targeted severe food shortages in camps like Sheikh Zayed, where remoteness and limited transportation make accessing basic food items a significant challenge.

The impact was immediate and profound. The cash assistance provided Tawheed with the means to meet his family's urgent needs with dignity and choice. **"The services have helped me greatly, especially the cash transfers for food"** Tawheed shared. **"Thanks to generous assistance, I was able to buy basic food for my family, and I now feel safe."**



UCT empowers beneficiaries like Tawheed to buy food, restoring dignity and choice for his family.

Support went beyond immediate relief. Recognizing the need for sustainable solutions, the project provided Tawheed with vocational training and material assistance tailored to his abilities. This empowerment was transformative; for the first time, he acquired skills that allowed him to generate a sustainable income. The helplessness he once felt was replaced by a newfound sense of purpose and self-reliance. No longer solely dependent on aid, he became an active provider for his family, experiencing the dignity that comes with self-sufficiency.

The change in the Maqbool household was palpable. The constant worry that shadowed their home began to lift, replaced by the smiles of children whose basic needs were being met. Tawheed emerged not just as a survivor but as a pillar of strength for his family and an inspiration within his community. His journey from despair to hope demonstrates that with the right support, even profound vulnerabilities can be transformed into strengths.

Tawheed's story is a powerful testament to human resilience and the catalytic power of thoughtful humanitarian aid. It underscores that effective support does not merely save lives; it restores hope, rebuilds dignity, and fosters the courage to overcome adversity. His journey from relying on daily wages and aid to achieving self-reliance illuminates a path forward, proving that even in the darkest circumstances, hope can be rekindled, and lives can be rebuilt, one step at a time.



Tawheed shops confidently, choosing nutritious food for his family with the help of UCT.



Tawheed returns home with food, greeted by his joyful children.