





Story date

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Building resilience in Yemen through integrated humanitarian and community transformation and leadership systems (BRIGHTLY) Project Code (2023-8)1445 -2-p027)



Venue of the story

Sector

Al-Arashi area, Al-Dhale'e district, Al-Dhale'e Governorate

FROM DESPAIR TO SKILLED WORKER: MUFID'S JOURNEY OF HOPE

Trapped in Despair

Mufid's Voice:

Sometimes, frustration gnaws at you. Every day feels like a battle, struggling to a family of nine. Food security? It's a distant dream in this place.

Trapped in a relentless cycle of poverty, Mufid Abdel Majeed knows the harsh realities of life in Al-Arashi area of Al Dhalea governorate. Unemployment strangles the region, leaving few job opportunities and Mufid, the sole provider for his family of nine, constantly battling to make ends meet. Limited income translates to a daily struggle for survival – food, healthcare, education – all seem like distant dreams. But amidst this despair, a glimmer of hope emerges, and Mufid's story takes an unexpected turn...

The Hook:

Will Mufid ever find a way to break free from this cycle of despair and provide a better life for his loved ones?

A Lifeline Appears

Hope arrives in the form of the BRIGHTLY Project, funded by the British Foreign Office (FCDO) and implemented by the Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA). This program offers a lifeline – cash assistance for vulnerable families in exchange for participation in community work through cash for work activity.

Mufid isn't alone. The BRIGHTLY Project targeted 77 families in Al Dhalea, all facing similar struggles. It's a microcosm of a larger issue – widespread poverty and lack of opportunity plaguing the region.

The project injected much-needed financial resources into these families' lives. But it goes beyond just cash. The cash for work (CFW) activity provides valuable skills development.

Mufid took the opportunity to train as a construction assistant. This newfound skillset empowers him. He's no longer just another unemployed man; he's a skilled professional with something valuable to offer.



Building a Brighter Future:

The impact goes beyond individual families. Mufid, previously ostracized due to his marginalized status, finds himself working alongside others facing similar challenges. This camaraderie breaks down social barriers and fosters a sense of belonging.

■ The BRIGHTLY Project is a ray of light in the darkness," says Mufid, his voice filled with gratitude. "Thanks to YFCA and the BRIGHTLY project, I can finally contribute to society as a skilled worker.
■



CFW workers in the worksite being instructed about workplace saftey.



The project's success is a testament to a well-rounded approach. Immediate financial relief is coupled with skills development, fostering self-reliance and long-term positive change. As Mufid thrives, so do the other beneficiaries, creating a ripple effect of hope and progress.

Mufid's story is an inspiration. It shows that even in the face of immense challenges, with the right support, individuals can break the cycle of poverty and build a brighter future for themselves and their families. The fight against poverty continues, but stories like Mufid's serve as a beacon, reminding us of the power of community, skill development, and a helping hand.