Case Study of Suman

Suman's* family has lived in Kucha Mohtar Khan Mori Gate in East Delhi for almost 40 years. This is a highly populous area, with a population of about 22,46,749. There are many congested areas around it like Kashmere Gate, Tis Hazari Kot, Malka Ganj, Ram Bazar Chandni Chowk and Old Delhi Railway Station.

Suman is a married woman, she is about 25 years old and she has three children, the third child was born in December 2020 after a major operation. Apart from her three children in the family, Suman takes care of her sister-in-law and mother-in-law, Harjani. Her Husband doesn't do anything. Rather, she recently shared that she faces domestic violence at her house.

Suman says that she got married at the age of 18. Her parents live at Loni Shahdara, Delhi. Being the eldest in the house, she had a lot of responsibility for the house and family. She had dropped out of the regular schooling in the 8th class itself. Apart from taking care of her siblings in the house, the responsibility of all the household work was also on her shoulder. The financial condition of the house was not good. Suman’s father got her married without delay and without her consent. Suman did not want to get married at a young age. She wanted to continue her study but nobody allowed her. But after marriage, whenever she used to see her sister in-law reading, she wished to study further. Time passed by and she became a mother of two children. But the desire to study further remained.

Changes came after coming to BUDS (PACE program)

When we were doing a field visit in the community and were telling some girls about the pace project, she also started listening to us very carefully. Suman asked us about the PACE center. She asked “Can I also continue my studies?” Then BUDS field staff told her about the BUDS and that she could continue her studies by coming to the center for two hours every day. Her enthusiasm for studies has been immense. She participates very enthusiastically in all the activities that take place during the studies.

Help from BUDS (Dry Ration)

Suman's husband does not do any work, whenever he feels like, he does labor for his expenses. He does not pay attention to the children's food and their needs. Due to this her financial condition was very bad. Acknowledging her financial condition, BUDS provided ration to her family several times.

Education: **Seeing** her passion and determination for studies, BUDS field staff has helped her in getting admission in NIOS BOARD in class 10th.

Medical facility- BUDS staff has informed Suman about the mobile Health program. She comes frequently for the treatment of her children & her family.

COUNSELING

During Suman's studies, some such circumstances were created that she stopped coming to the center, then we went home and talked to Suman's husband and mother-in-law and explained to them that Suman is very talented, she comes to do all the household chores and studies for 2 hours. What is the harm in that? After this counselling her husband agreed to send Suman to the center. Now Suman brings her three children with her to the center and does her studies.

KEY MESSAGE

Suman is one of the many unfortunate children who could not complete their education because of some or the other social reasons. BUDS is helping Suman and many similar girls and women to continue their education, and making them self-reliant. She wants to improve the financial condition of her family and make a bright future for her children.

*Name changed to maintain the privacy of the person