USAID Tahafuz: “Building Resilience through Community Based Disaster Risk Management in the Sindh Province of Pakistan” Sep 2012 – Sep 2013

**Project Success Story**

Ms. Rasheedan Sand is a 45 years old lady who lives in a small village named Kharoro Charan of Union Council Faqeer Abdullah of district Umerkot. The village is situated about 0.5 kilometers away from district Umerkot. According to an approximated figure the village is comprised of about 475 households. In Kharoro Charan village different communities such as Kunbhar, Charan, Meghwar, Oad, Bheel and Sand share the vicinity and they live together in same village.

Ms. Rasheedan work as a lady health visitor at her local place. She is an active social worker in the area who cares and remain concerned about the problems of vulnerable communities. She is a president of Hari Committee and also a president of the Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC), which has been recently formulated at the revenue village named Kharoro Thar under this Tahafuz project.

Being an active VDMC member and a social worker she was selected for VDMC training with the consensus of her other VDMC members. Resulting from the training sessions organized by the RSP (TRDP) master trainers she received training on Participatory Disaster Risk Assessment and Disaster Risk Management and Planning in addition with learning some hard skills such as firefighting, first aid, search and rescue operations. Later, she also delivered and shared the knowledge gained with other members of her VDMC and her community.

Ms. Rasheedan elaborated the incident, which recently struck two little girls from her neighbors while playing around a shabby wall. She added near her house a feeble wall suddenly broke up that just fell over the girls while they were playing around it. Having learnt about the incident she instantly rushed towards the incident area where she tried to pull the girls out of the wreckage of broken wall. Out of the two children one was found unconscious. Ms. Rasheedan after examining the level of consciousness of the...
victim child decided to perform Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) to help save her life. With couple of rounds of CPR the child was recovered, she added.

The child’s parents paid thanks to Ms. Rasheedan for saving her child’s life. The local people were very much pleased with her abilities. While adding Ms. Rasheeda said that though natural disasters cannot be precluded at all but with proper planning, advance preparation and by learning new skills the losses can be minimized.