



SUCCESS STORY

Community awareness saves lives

Dialogue with CHWs' can protect mother and child



Salma attends an awareness session on healthcare and the importance of institutional delivery held by the USAID Community Health Worker of the MCH program.

Salma after receiving the CHWs' session on institutional delivery said, *"Now I am fully satisfied to go for institutional delivery. I am very thankful to SRSO/RSPN and MCH Program that gave me the awareness and supported my family."*

Salma, 22 year old married to Mr. Manzoor, is a resident of Village Baghaee Bhutoo in District Sukkur. Salma, mother of two, was expecting again. Having no knowledge about safe or institutional delivery facilities, she had previously delivered her babies at home.

A Community Support Group (CSG) member Ms. Ghulshan held an informative session on institutional delivery in Salma's locality. She shed light on the risks involved in delivery without any professional healthcare supervision and how it could cause serious complications for the baby as well as the mother.

After attending the session, Salma informed her husband and her mother-in-law about the dangerous side of giving birth at home stressing the maternal mortality and complications. Salma was fully supported by her family and she contacted Ms. Ghulshan to refer her to nearest health facility center from where she could get professional healthcare advice. Salma then, along with her mother-in-law, started visiting the health facility center for checkup on regular basis.

Following her doctor's advice, Salma was admitted in the hospital according to her expected date of delivery. She gave birth to a baby girl by Cesarean Section operation.

Salma and her family were very thankful to the CHW for letting them know about the institutional delivery and the importance of antenatal and natal care which can be guaranteed if consulted a health facility center. Currently, Salma is spreading the message and sharing her experience with the other married women of her village. She now advocates that community awareness is quite essential to save many lives.