

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Behera. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted.

Advancing conversation about sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and improving economic status is vital for safeguarding Behera's future.

In 2020, poverty rate was at 32%. It has since been projected to drop to 28% in 2022. Ready For Work sessions, as well as self-employment and vocational training was provided for 176 individuals who sought employment. In regard to SRH, 204 individuals participated in establishing local committees and 39 adolescents participated in intergenerational dialogue between parents and children.

Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Behera.



931

Children attended Human Rights sessions



180

Children improved their reading and writing skills



300

Children learned about socio-economic development



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN EGYPT

Hear from Yasmeen about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

"During the pandemic, I couldn't go to school and I was afraid to get infected. But Plan helped ease my fears with their awareness messages and supplying us with hand sanitizers and face masks. They also taught us how to deal with the virus so we don't get sick."

CASE STORY: BASMA IS A SUPERWOMAN



NAME: BASMA

AGE: 37 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: SPENDING TIME WITH HER FAMILY

“Thank you Plan International for providing such a beneficial project which helped me to enhance my income so I can help my family survive and educate my children”

Meet Basma

Like your sponsored child, Basma has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Basma was married at 17 in Behera and unfortunately children has negatively impacted her current socio-economic status. Basma understands the importance of an education and wants her children to get one.

Challenge

Basma has found it difficult to balance supporting her husband and playing an active role in the lives of her children. Basma’s children are at various stages academically and have different needs. She constantly feels the pressure of providing for their education.

Finding work has been difficult for Basma and starting a business is not an easy task. Living in a rural town, the opportunities are quite limited.

The search for work has also been difficult because Basma never received any training or experience that she felt was necessary to qualify her to work.

Solution

Plan International works with local organisations to provide support and activities to both children and their families.

Basma attended the “Enterprise your Life” sessions which provided her with a role model in business that she could learn from. Basma has been able to start her own business of duck breeding. She has learned how to negotiate costs, communicate with suppliers and has been able to make enough to pay for living expenses. Through vocational training she has been empowered to even produce and sell her own object made from animals’ horns from home.



Basma holding up an animal horn

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 3,811 CHILDREN IN BEHERA

OUR PROJECTS IN BEHERA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



Child marriage should not be the solution to economic insecurity. The economic circumstances are critical for families in Behera, Egypt. Having sufficient income can lead to a productive life, self-reliance and it can empower individuals to make informed decisions about their futures. Through the Aflateen and Enterprise your Life sessions, the SOYEE project has improved skill sets and attitudes.

Over 1,900 children attended the Aflateen sessions in 2022 and over 300 children participated in the development of community initiatives following the training. In addition, 150 women were encouraged to participate in the Enterprise your Life sessions where they met business role models who imparted business knowledge to aspiring entrepreneurs. These sessions help foster a healthy and hopeful environment for motivated youth who want to see a solution to their circumstances.

To help enhance knowledge of SRH, 984 girls participated in Champions of Change training

SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

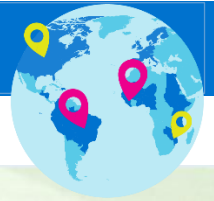


When there is a lack of awareness of SRH, women and girls are the ones who are affected. Young girls in the community are often victim to FGM and early marriage. It is important for the community to support and acknowledge the need for SHRH services. These services not only give women physical protection but also have the potential to challenge the societal norms that justify the continued use of these practices.

Through this project, 1,479 adolescents enhanced their knowledge and awareness of gender equality, sexual education, and gender-based violence. The project provided training through the Champions of Change curriculum for kids, teachers, and religious leaders on topics like the value of encouraging community accountability and spreading SHRH-positive messaging.



“After I joined the SIDA project, I understood how to support my friends, have self-confidence and develop my points of strength. My friend’s mother even changed her mind about FGM after attending the sessions”
- Doaa, 14, from Behera



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



7 IN 10

Girls aged between 15 and 19 undergo FGM



8%

Of girls feel safe in public spaces



45%

Higher illiteracy rate for girls



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- Labour force participation for women is currently at 23%. Children are dropping out of school or marrying early in order to ease financial obligations on their parents. We want to ensure that young women and men have sufficient income and resources to sustain productive lives, achieve self-reliance and have the ability to make informed decisions. We will digitalise the gender equality methodologies in order to increase accessibility for community members
- To encourage participation in the labour force we will raise awareness among boys and girls regarding the right to live a life free from gender-based violence. We will encourage participation in SOYEE project activities to support the community in their small business goals.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Behera.



“We have made great achievements in education, SRH and economic empowerment and in the upcoming year, we will reach more beneficiaries. We appreciate your collaboration with us, and we are looking forward to more fruitful events ahead”

Mohamed Hatem
Programme Area Manager, PU

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS