

IMPACT STORIES FORMAT

Story Title	A Journey Across Waters: Kamla Meena's Path to Empowering Children
Date	30/09/2024
Prepared by	Gayatri Seva Sansthan, Udaipur
Name of partner Organization	Gayatri Seva Sansthan, Udaipur
Name of Daksha/Daksh	Kamla Meena
Name of SKB centre	Bindoda Fala
Cluster	Thana
Block	Sarada
District	Salumber, Rajasthan

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT:

The Sakhiyon Ki Baadi centre at Bindoda Fala village, located in Gram Panchayat Gamdi, Tehsil Jaisamand, District Salumber, Block Sarada, is situated on an island in the Jaisamand Lake, 3 kilometers away from Bindoda village. This remote area, with about 70 households, has no anganwadi or mahabadi facilities, making access to education very challenging. The center is part of the Cluster Thana in Gamdi block, and Kamla Meena serves as its Daksha.

Kamla has completed her 12th grade and comes from a family facing severe financial difficulties. Before managing the SKB center, she was unemployed, and her family was struggling to make ends meet. The center, which operates on an island, is only accessible by boat. Despite the challenges, Kamla embraced the opportunity and now ferries daily to the center in a boat she purchased herself after earning from the program. Her commitment to the center is deeply rooted, as it is her primary source of income and pride.

In July 2024, Kamla successfully completed her B.A. final year, thanks to the income she received from the SKB center. The center also received a visit from Mahavir Sir from IIFL, who commended Kamla's dedication and resilience.

CHALLENGES FACED:

Kamla faces multiple challenges every day, especially as she travels 3 kilometers across the Jaisamand Lake by boat to reach her center. The winds and the water's unpredictable currents make the journey risky, but she remains committed to her role.

1. **Illiteracy among the community:** The area has a high level of illiteracy, particularly among girls.
2. **Financial struggles:** Kamla's family relies entirely on the income from the SKB center for their livelihood.

INTERVENTION/ACTIVITIES:

Kamla uses creative methods like songs, poems, and interactive games to engage the children. She utilizes Teaching Learning Materials (TLM) and flashcards provided by the program to make learning enjoyable. Kamla has also developed strong relationships within the community and regularly involves them in the center's activities.

OUTCOMES:

The SKB center at Bindoda Fala has seen significant progress under Kamla's leadership. The children of the village, who previously had little to no access to education, now attend regularly and have shown marked improvement in their academic skills. The community recognizes the importance of education, and Kamla's perseverance has been a driving force behind this transformation. Through her hard work, Kamla has not only improved the educational landscape of the village but has also uplifted her own family's financial and social status.

GOOD QUALITY IMAGE: - 3-4 IMAGES (Attach below)

