



TACMIL Health Project

Technical Assistance for Capacity building in Midwifery, Information and Logistics

Correct Information Leads Good Labor and Delivery Practices



Mai Safooran attending a training session



Women of the village attending an awareness session to learn about proper care during labor and delivery.

Maternal mortality threatens the lives of Pakistani women throughout the country. In the community of Taluka Khangareh, a remote village in Sindh, efforts to correct harmful traditional practices commonly used by traditional birth attendants (TBAs) are working to reverse this threat and help the Government of Pakistan meet Millennium Development Goal 5 – reducing maternal mortality by three quarters by 2015.

The Takhleeq Foundation (TF) Pakistan is implementing the BAAKH project for health system strengthening in Taluka Khangareh with support from TACMIL through a grant. The BAAKH project, which means “ray of hope” in the Sindhi language, is educating community based health care providers and community members to improve access to good maternal and child health care. After collecting some basic information, it became clear to TF that women in Taluka Khangareh depend extensively on TBAs for care: TBAs who unfortunately were commonly using some incorrect practices such as restricting food and liquids during labor and performing episiotomies too often and unnecessarily.

To improve access to evidence based delivery practices for Taluka Khangareh’s women, BAAKH conducted meetings and training sessions with TBAs and community health workers.

These trainings focused on pre- and post-delivery care and introduced safe delivery kits to reduce the incidence of infection through the provision of clean basic delivery instruments (a blade, chord clamps, a towel, a plastic sheet, and soap)

One TBA who received five safe delivery kits, Mai Safooran, exhausted her supply immediately while attending deliveries in her village. She said, “after attending the trainings I have learnt use of this new kind of user-friendly equipment. I didn’t know anything about these before and it has helped me a lot. These kits increased my skills and ensured safety of mothers and children during birth process.” She asked for, and received more safe delivery kits during TF’s follow-up visits to Taluka Khangareh.

TF is partnering with the USAID-funded TACMIL Health Project, as one of its grant recipients for health systems strengthening programs. The TACMIL project aims to provide technical assistance to the public and private health sector to improve health service delivery with a focus on maternal, reproductive and child health.