

Shahida: A Supportive Mother

Profile	
Name	Shahida Begum
Name of the School	West Balarhat Uttar Para Shishu Shikkha Kendra
District	Kurigram
Village	West Balarhat
Marital Staus	Married
Special Service Provider	Aid Comilla



Shahida has three children and her husband Shahin works as a day labourer. He often travels to Dhaka for work. Shahida is therefore responsible for her children's education. She has always dreamed of sending her children to school.

"Without the CLP school my dream would never have come true."

When her eldest daughter Ayesha turned six, Shahida enrolled her in a Government Primary school on the other side of the river - 2 km away from her house. Ayesha stopped going to school, as during the rainy season the journey became dangerous.

In 2008, the CLP started an education pilot in response to the limited provision of education services on the *chars*. Ayesha was admitted into one of the CLP's learning centres.

Happy that her daughter was receiving a proper education, Shahida made sure Ayesha did her homework. After four years, Ayesha passed the end of year examination and obtained A+. Shahida could not express how proud she was of her daughter's achievement. She wants her daughter to become a doctor. She will wait until Ayesha finishes her higher education to arrange her marriage.

The CLP's education project has just come to an end. Shahida is concerned about her other children's education. She is working with other parents in the *chars* to organise another school in the area.

