

Mission Partner prayer and update 4 October 2026

From Help the Helpless, Pakistan

Three years ago, Qaiser Julius visited St Andrew's to tell us all about his work with the Open Theological Seminary (OTS) in Pakistan. His wife, Rahila, accompanied him and spoke passionately about her vision for a world where every woman, regardless of background, has the opportunity to learn, earn, and live with dignity. We were so inspired that we made the decision to support Rahila as a Mission Partner too. Rahila's vision first began to take shape during a time in Australia with her family, where she felt God calling her into ministry. Eight years ago, she founded the charity *Help for the Helpless*, starting with just AU\$1500, which she raised by selling her clothes and household possessions, before leaving Australia and returning to Pakistan.

From small beginnings the charity now runs 14 literacy centres, has 26 sewing centres across Pakistan, and over 1500 women have benefited from its programmes. Rahila desires to give disadvantaged women dignity, respect and the means to become financially independent; believing that when women are empowered by education and skills training, the benefits extend beyond, to their children, families and the wider community.

After completing a year of training, each graduate receives a sewing machine and the tools she needs to start her own small business. This practical support enables women to earn an income and build a more secure future for themselves and their families.

At the heart of each literacy centre is the belief that literacy brings joy, opportunity and empowerment, opening doors to a brighter future. Alongside other books, students receive their own copy of the Bible, giving them the opportunity to develop both their literacy skills and their knowledge of, and faith in, God's Word.

As Rahila continues to faithfully carry out this work, please pray:

- in gratitude for Rahila and all that she does
- for good health, energy and wisdom as she extends her ministry
- for her to be able to find the right people with the vision and skills to support her mission

