

## **On the road to Success**

Thank you to our supporters and well-wishers for helping us in attaining our goal of facilitating the lives of persons with disabilities.

Persons with disabilities make 15% of the entire population in the world. In Pakistan there as many as 30 million people who are facing societal, infrastructural and attitudinal barriers due to their disabilities. In order to positively impact this marginalized community, we inaugurated a newly constructed training centre at NOWPDP in October 2019. The vision to develop skills of 500 persons with disabilities every year and help them towards the road to economic empowerment.

Over the course of one year, we have worked in the area of education for persons with disabilities in the form of vocational trainings in a number of trades such as call centre trainings, computer operations, screen printing, domestic sewing, textile training, mobile repair training, and rickshaw training to name a few. NOWPDP also provided skill development to over 150 persons with disabilities both at our in-house training centre as well as at other institutes. The trainings also incorporated development of candidates on aspects of work-readiness as well as self-employment.

Fahad Sohail, one of our trainees, on the completion of training said: “I am glad I was chosen by NOWPDP for not only this training but also the US Tech Camp where I learned so much. The journey so far has been very beneficial and I feel happy that I got this chance.

I feel that the training came to an end fast. This is probably because there was so much to learn and I enjoyed it thoroughly. I want to use the skills I got from this session in my future job and work hard.”

We have incorporated more market relevant trades over the year for skill development that will increase the chances of our trainees to secure more jobs. This is based on extensive research that NOWPDP conducted across Pakistan, commissioned by the British Council, which aimed to map in-demand skills for persons with disabilities.



Trainees during the Computer Operator Training Session



The newly built NOWPDP Training Centre



Our trainees learning the art of stitching