Refugee returnees and internally displaced families often end up in camps or makeshift communities where conditions are volatile and women are at great risk of abuse, harassment, and assault. WAW is present in these areas to provide women’s rights training and access to basic needs.
When LARMINA was 16 years old, she was forced by her brother to marry a 40 year old man. She had to move where her husband lived, a very remote district with difficult living conditions. Over time, she had four children.

In late 2019, the Afghan National Army came into her district for a “clean-up operation,” which, unfortunately, led to Larmina and her family’s displacement to a small remote village.

Now 26 years old, and with a sick, bedridden husband, Larmina and her family pitched a tent in difficult desert conditions with limited supplies and without any amenities including water and electricity.

After conducting monitoring services to identify internally displaced persons, WAW found Larmina and brought her case to the UNHCR. Through our project, she received cash assistance and used the money to start a shop in the village.

Larmina is now the only shopkeeper in the village and earns enough to provide for her entire family. Larmina is relied on by the whole community for the goods she sells because the next closest market is nine miles away.

“I am so happy for the chance to lead a decent life while at the same time being able to take care of my family and provide a critical service to my community.” - Larmina