In August of 2011, Upaya formalized its partnership with Samridhi Agri-Products to create steady employment for extremely poor women living on less than $1.25 per day. Through its LiftUP Project, Upaya is helping Samridhi develop scalable dairy operations and create hundreds of salaried jobs throughout Uttar Pradesh. In turn, these new positions will increase and stabilize household income for employees.

This report provides a snapshot of the living conditions for women employed by Samridhi at the time of their hire, and serves as a baseline for their progress out of poverty. Data will be gathered and reported on a semi-annual basis as a way of demonstrating positive change throughout the partnership.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>Average Daily Income</th>
<th>Below $1.25 a Day</th>
<th>Below $2 a Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>$1.18</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Housing Quality

Samridhi staff made a note of the different housing materials when visiting employees’ homes. Low cost and readily available, mud and thatch are the most common building materials for ultra poor households. As their income increases, they can build using more expensive materials like tile, brick, stone and, ultimately, cement.

![Wall Material Chart]

![Roof Material Chart]

**Note:** Many of the houses were built using free cement given through Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), a Government of India program that gives free building materials to poor families. As a result, the quality of some homes may not be a true indicator of their low income levels.

### Food Security

By tracking how much employees spend each month on food, Samridhi staff can determine if families are able to consume sufficient calories, vitamins, and nutrients. Commonly, ultra poor households can only afford to eat simple starches and a single vegetable dish each day. However, as their income increases, they can eat larger meals, more vegetables, and regularly include meat in their diets.

**Average Daily Food Expenditure**

![Average Daily Food Expenditure Chart]

**Note:** Many households are able to lower their food costs by growing potatoes or cassava on small plots outside their homes.
Household Assets

Productive assets are those items that can be used to earn a living such as livestock, transportation, farming implements, and mobile phones. Household assets are creature comforts, items purchased to improve a family’s quality of life like beds, cooking tools, furniture, and appliances. After taking an inventory of each family's productive and household possessions, Samridhi staff have calculated the Total Asset Value of those items. A lower value indicates a stronger likelihood that the family is earning less than $1.25 a day.

Children’s Education

To track how many of their employees’ school-age children are enrolled in school, Samridhi staff are measuring if and how much a family pays in school fees and related costs. For evaluation purposes, school-age is defined as between 4 and 17 years old, with no exclusion made for children physically or mentally unable to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total School-Age Children</th>
<th>Enrolled School-Age Children</th>
<th>Percentage Enrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is common for children in ultra poor households to drop out if their family does not have the resources to pay for additional schooling, or if they need to earn a wage to help support the family. As household income increases, more children will be able to finish their education.