

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IN PERU

Responding to an urgent need...

There is no government support for differently-able people in Peru whatsoever, so they are amongst the most marginalised, the most vulnerable, and the poorest of the poor in their communities. Many are reduced to begging on the streets. People with disabilities face a huge amount of discrimination in Peru. Disability is often seen to be contagious, thus making it very difficult for disabled people to find employment.

People with physical disabilities, especially those who are unable to walk, cannot travel around Arequipa without constant assistance. The streets and public transport are not accessible for wheelchair-users. Those who are not begging on the streets are often confined to the home, depressed and isolated with nothing to do, and unable to contribute to their family's income.

CAI is working with Iglesia Bautista Misionera, a small Baptist church in Arequipa, Peru, to establish a craft-based social enterprise to provide employment for differently-able people and to change attitudes towards disability within the community. There is a school for children with disabilities in Arequipa, but after leaving school, these young people are left with nothing to do and no way of supporting themselves or their families. Craft Aid is now providing training and employment for these people.



THIS YEAR WE CONTINUED TO TRAIN & EMPLOY A GROUP OF 35 DIFFERENTLY-ABLE PEOPLE, TEACHING THEM A VARIETY OF CRAFT SKILLS.

SINCE RECEIVING TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT FROM CAI, THESE PEOPLE ARE NOW STARTING TO EARN A WAGE, SUPPORTING THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH DIGNITY.

THIS YEAR, WE SENT OUT 3 SKILLED, FULL-TIME VOLUNTEERS TO AREQUIPA TO CONTINUE ESTABLISHING THIS SOCIAL ENTERPRISE.

