

THE TRAINEES

EVEN THOUGH CAI'S PROJECT IS STILL ONLY IN ITS EARLY STAGES, THE LIVES OF THE TRAINEES HAVE ALREADY BEEN TRANSFORMED.

THESE TALENTED YOUNG PEOPLE ARE FINALLY ABLE TO USE THEIR GIFTS, EARN A WAGE AND LOOK FORWARD TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE

WORKING AT THE PROJECT HAS HELPED THEM GAIN CONFIDENCE. THEY ARE SHOWING THEIR COMMUNITY THAT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ARE CAPABLE OF WORKING AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMMUNITY.

I am so grateful. It is like a family here.

So far Craft Aid has trained 2 groups: 4 people with physical disabilities, who are currently outworkers and visit the church fortnightly, and a group of approximately 30 people with learning disabilities, who work as a cooperative at the church with the help of a small group of volunteers. Bethsaida (the project leader and wife of the church pastor) divides the profit received from their products each month equally between all the members of the group, after taking off a small margin for utilities.

Now that the trainees are earning a wage, they can contribute to their families and are moving towards being able to support themselves. This is especially important as some of them have older parents, who may soon be unable to care for them. Having a wage has also enabled the physically disabled workers to pay for transport. Before, some of them were unable to get out of the house for months at a time and were depressed and in despair, but now they can leave the isolation of their homes and they have hope for the future.

It is important for me to be here, because it is a chance to work.