

Envera makes charitable soaps with the ashes from the fire that devastated Tenerife last summer

- **As part of its “Vesta Envera: Rising from the Flames” initiative, which received a Social Value Award from Fundación Cepsa in 2023**
- **The soaps will be donated to cover the hygiene needs of vulnerable groups**
- **This charity action is part of a training, qualification and employment program for people with disabilities through the regeneration of agricultural land**

Envera-Association of Iberia Employees who are Parents of People with Disabilities has carried out two training workshops on artisanal ash soap making in Tenerife. This activity is part of their “Vesta Envera: Rising from the Flames” project, which won a Social Value Award from Fundación Cepsa in the Canary Islands in 2023, and aims to regenerate agricultural land through training and job placement for 15 people with disabilities.

A group of students with disabilities and workers from Envera participated in the initiative, making over two hundred soaps using ash recovered after the fire that devastated Tenerife last summer. This was done for a charitable purpose, as the soaps will be donated to organizations that help homeless individuals meet their hygiene needs.

The training was provided by The Soap House, a family business located in Los Silos that has a certification to manufacture natural cosmetics. Workshop participants created the pieces of soap, while also learning about the history of this product, the basic ingredients and necessary proportions, the essential utensils for making soap, the types of soap, and the benefits of using these natural products.

The head of Fundación Cepsa in the Canary Islands, Belén Machado, argues that these workshops “exemplify how adversity can be transformed into opportunities, making use of what seemed lost.” An initiative that “has also served to provide more skills to people with disabilities from Envera who participated in the workshops as part of the training process aimed at their future job placement.” “The initiative has a positive social impact from multiple perspectives, including fostering a spirit of solidarity among participants, who will donate the soaps they made to homeless people, demonstrating a commitment to the community.”

The project “Vesta Envera: Rising from the Flames” is, in the words of the NGO's CEO, Enrique Grande, “an example of Envera's mission and values (inclusion, transparency,

quality, and innovation), as well as of our commitment to sustainability, in line with the UN's 2030 Agenda, both in improving the lives of vulnerable people and protecting the environment. With this program, we help return burnt plots of land in Tenerife to production, and we do it while improving qualifications and employment opportunities for people with disabilities, for whom finding employment is often a challenge, which, while not impossible, is very difficult.”

Finally, just a few weeks before fruit will be planted in the reclaimed agricultural areas, Enrique Grande emphasizes that “the success of a project with such an impact is shared with Fundación Cepsa, because we were able to make it a reality thanks to the Social Value Award that we won last year.”

About Envera

Envera is a non-profit organization with transparency accredited by the Lealtad Foundation. It was founded by employees of Iberia in 1977 so that people with intellectual disabilities could occupy their place in the world with dignity, and to accompany them throughout their life journey.

Today, Envera is open to all of society and serves more than 5,000 people with disabilities each year through its services, which include early intervention, child and youth neurodevelopment, training, job placement, occupational and day centers, supervised housing, residences, and Guardianship Foundation; it also provides stable employment to 850 individuals in its special employment centers in Madrid, Catalonia, Andalusia, and the Canary Islands.

2024 Social Value Awards

On September 2, Fundación Cepsa launched the 2024 Social Value Awards. Submissions may be entered until September 19 at 9:00 a.m. (Canary Island time).

This marks the 20th anniversary of these awards, which on this occasion will distribute up to 75,000 euros in the Canary Islands. The information and terms and conditions can be found at www.fundacioncepsa.com in the section dedicated to the Awards.

Canary Islands, September 09, 2024
Fundación Cepsa
comunicacion.canarias@cepsa.com
Tel.: (+34) 922 60 27 07
www.fundacioncepsa.com