

Case Study



Boost for upcycling charity that provides skills to vulnerable people

Horizon has supported a Cinderford-based charity in providing vulnerable people with employment and volunteering opportunities while also promoting recycling.

Forest Upcycling Project, which collects and repairs unwanted furniture and electrical goods, has used the donation to purchase equipment for use in the upcycling of furniture and in transforming salvaged wood into sellable items.

The charity works with young people, disabled adults and recovering addicts to restore donated items, equipping them with the skills they need to find employment. These upcycled items are then made available to low-income families in the local area.

The charity's promotion of waste-reduction, re-use, reclamation and recycling also protects the environment for future generations, with 142 tonnes of landfill already saved in the form of furniture and household items diverted through the project and into new homes.

Nadine Jones, deputy manager of the Forest Upcycling Project, said: *"We provide opportunities for people to learn valuable transferable skills and, by giving unwanted goods a new lease of life, we are also tackling the impact of greenhouse gases associated with landfill."*

"Horizon's contribution to our project has allowed us to purchase sanders to upcycle more goods and offer a broader range to those who buy from our two shops in the Forest of Dean and Monmouthshire. The funds also helped us to expand our two gardening teams, which now employ 10 people and 30 regular volunteers, over half of which are considered vulnerable."

"We're now working on new uses for the wood we have salvaged from items that could not be resold due to missing or broken parts – inspired by one of our full-time autistic workers, who transformed some of the wood into planters and toy boxes."



ENVIRONMENT

EDUCATION AND SKILLS

COMMUNITIES

