



NGO Bridge of Hope Armenia

Organization Information: Bridge of Hope (BoH) is a well-established and highly effective local non-governmental organization with a strong management system, robust financial structure, well-developed material resources, technical expertise, and a dedicated team of 74 professionals across Yerevan and Tavush Marz. Founded in 1996 by parents of children with disabilities and committed individuals, BoH has been at the forefront of promoting disability as a human rights issue in Armenia, building its programs on the principles of human rights and inclusive development.

Shaping National Disability Policies: Since its inception, BoH has played a pivotal role in shifting national approaches to disability from a medical model to a social and human rights-based model. This paradigm shift has gained increasing support among decision-makers, legislators, and stakeholders in the public and private sectors, as well as civil society organizations.

Strong Partnerships and International Recognition: To achieve its mission, BoH has established strategic partnerships with local and national governments, international organizations, and civil society actors. Since 1999, the organization has been a key driver of Armenia's inclusive education movement, with parents of children with disabilities leading the advocacy efforts. Over 25 major projects have been successfully implemented with financial support from leading international organizations, including Mission East (Denmark), DANIDA, NORAD, ADA, USAID, EU, UNICEF, CISU Denmark, and many others. These projects have had a direct impact on Armenia's education policies, leading to the successful adoption of inclusive education as a national policy. As a result, government funding is now allocated for the implementation and further development of inclusive education across the country.

UNESCO Award for Excellence in Inclusive Education: In 2014, Bridge of Hope was awarded UNESCO's International Prize for the Promotion of Quality Inclusive Education—a testament to its pioneering role in transforming Armenia's education system to become more inclusive and equitable.

For more information, please visit our web site: www.bridgeofhope.am

Project: Removing Dis from Ability – ABLE YOUTH!

Location: Tavush Marz, Armenia, Noyemberyan community

Contact Information: bridgeofhopearmenia@gmail.com

Project Overview

The "Able Youth" Initiative is designed to economically empower youth with disabilities through specialized vocational training and mentorship in artisan jewelry-making. Participants will learn to craft jewelry pieces using silver, metals, and dried flowers from Noyemberyan, capturing the natural beauty of the region in every creation.

Objectives

- Train and mentor 30 youth with disabilities annually.
- Build marketable skills in jewelry-making and small business development.
- Foster entrepreneurship and employment among young people with disabilities.
- Promote the inclusion and visibility of persons with disabilities within society.

Key Activities

- Conduct professional jewelry-making workshops.
- Provide personalized business development mentorship.
- Supply materials, tools, and starter kits to participants.
- Facilitate access to markets for selling jewelry creations.

Budget Summary

Category	Estimated Amount
Training and Mentorship	\$3,500
Materials and Supplies (Silver, Metals, Resin)	\$2,000
Tools and Equipment	\$1,500
Operational and Logistical Costs	\$1,000
Total Project Goal	\$8,000

Expected Outcomes

- 30 young individuals with disabilities acquire sustainable livelihoods each year.
- 60% of graduates launch businesses or secure employment.

- Enhanced social inclusion and economic resilience for persons with disabilities.

Long-Term Impact

By equipping young people with disabilities with vital skills and confidence, this initiative fosters a future where they are self-reliant contributors to their communities. Over time, "Able Youth" will help reshape public perceptions and create a more inclusive and economically vibrant Tavush Marz.