



CHANGING SPACES, CHANGING LIVES: OUR IMPACT SNAPSHOT (2009-2010)



WHAT WE DO

We believe in the power of social business to change people's lives for the better. People *can* change their own lives, provided they have the right kind of support. Petit Miracle Interiors is a social business based in London that offers a variety of services to disadvantaged people, interior design consultation and fully accredited training.

We aim to improve people's lives through interior design. **Our motto is: A warm, safe and friendly home is the foundation to a stable life.** This year we have supported people who have experienced homelessness into training and employment opportunities. We use professional staff and committed volunteers to make a difference. Petit Miracle Interiors' innovative approach is designed to create real lasting change.

INTERIOR DESIGN DOES CHANGE LIVES

Our interior design training gives disadvantaged people practical skills and accreditation. Participants learn to improve their home at little cost through interior design, leading to increased wellbeing and sustained tenancies for them and their families. A range of scientific studies demonstrate the impact of interior design on wellbeing in different settings, including healthcare and housing. For example, positive design in care settings can reduce stress, increase social interactions and improve mental health.

But how does learning about interior design affect the lives of individuals and families who have experienced homelessness, long-term unemployment or precarious living situations? We are beginning to evaluate our performance to find out.



OUR IMPACT

At the end of our 6-month programme, 10 of the 15 people enrolled completed the training, and 9 received a Art and Design Diploma accreditation – a very high success rate. We are excited to report that 2 people have achieved and maintained employment for the past 6 months and counting!!

Participants indicated that they acquired or improved on a wide range of practical and life skills:

- > 'Acquiring design experience' (100% of respondents)
- > 'Doing more for less in designing or decorating a home' (100%)
- > 'Now know where to access materials to improve a space' (100%)
- > 'Project management skills' and 'Presentation skills' (85%)
- > 'Produced work beyond their expectations' (85%)
- > 'Developed new skills for CV or to find work' (71%),
- > Improved timekeeping (56%)

Distance Travelled: there has been a 58% progress in how our trainees feel about job prospects, and a 30% improvement in how they feel about being in a learning environment

OUR PLEDGE

We are committed to accountability and effectiveness in our programmes and training.

We work diligently to secure opportunities for work experience

We respect the right of supporters to question how we spend their money.

HOW WE COLLECT IMPACT DATA

Petit Miracles Interiors has worked closely with evaluators at Red Ochre to plan and measure the social impact of its interior design training from the start.

This year, we used interviews, questionnaires, and distance travelled data from participants and commissioners from two main sources:

- > Taster days delivered within London in partnership with homelessness agencies
- > Six week courses delivered within London with Women shelters
- > A six month accredited Diploma course commissioned by the Kings Cross Construction Skills Centre



CHANGING SPACES, CHANGING LIVES: CAN WE WORK TOGETHER?

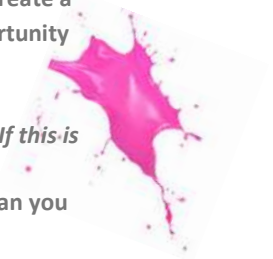
HOW YOU CAN HELP

We all remember a room we enjoyed playing in as children. Or know what it is to create a safe and happy home. Maybe we remember a lucky break that gave us a job opportunity or some training that changed how we saw our world and ourselves?

We are actively looking for partnership with housing associations or homeless organizations to deliver our training as well as our design consultations to clients. If this is you, please do get in touch and we can discuss the benefits of working together.

Your support could make these sorts of changes for the people we serve in 2011. Can you help by:

- Funding a beneficiary to access our training
- Sponsoring one of our training courses enabling up to 15 people to achieve accredited learning credits towards their qualification.
- Donating your resources to help with program delivery; paint, decorating sundries, wallpaper, fabric, art supplies, etc
- Getting involved by holding your own fundraising event on our behalf!
- Become a partner and help shape the direction of our exciting enterprise



WHAT CLIENTS SAY ABOUT OUR PROGRAMME

'The Petit Miracles Interiors course at King's Cross Construction has been an amazing success, due to the professionalism and knowledge of Elisicia. It is quite clear that not only does she know interior design, but cares about the students and help them to find their strengths and succeed. Many of the students now wish to continue their studies to further their education in Interior Design.'



WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY ABOUT US

"I feel privileged to have taken this course. I am now able to make a more professional decision about decorating, therefore earning from my knowledge and helping family and friends save money."

"The skills enabled me to redesign and improve my home and hopefully work assisting a designer."

GET IN TOUCH

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