



La Fageda

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La Fageda firmly believes that every person has a place in the community. Everyone has different capabilities, skills, and gifts—and needs a chance to live to their maximum potential. Each employee at La Fageda is placed on a tailored development plan with many aiming to secure independent livelihood outside of La Fageda. This process has helped many of La Fageda’s mentally handicapped employees redefine their lives, framing their identity in terms of their potential instead of their disability. La Fageda has shown that those with mental handicaps are just as capable as anyone else and, if given the chance, can contribute meaningfully to their organizations and their communities.

La Fageda’s impact extends far beyond its 400 employees. Every year, the company hosts more than 50,000 visitors from around the world. Its unique model and achievements have attracted attention from academics, philanthropists, and business leaders. Homelessness in the region has dropped dramatically as those who would otherwise end up on the streets are invited to La Fageda to begin a different life.

La Fageda has expanded its influence by hiring at-risk youth and former criminals. The hope is that by creating a meaningful work environment and providing relevant training—the same process that has been successfully used with mentally handicapped employees—La Fageda will enable these individuals to launch a better life for themselves.