DIGITAL MARKETING TRAINING AND GUIDANCE FOR THE VIRAGEAWIE DISABLED COMMUNITY

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ABSTRACT

Training as well as digital marketing guidance has been held for the disability community VirageAwie in Cimareme Village, Ngamprah District, West Bandung Regency. This activity aims to increase knowledge and skills in digital marketing, especially for disability community members. The program starts with FGD to identify problems, then to be continued with VirageAwie.com website creation and training themed Digital Marketing Introducing Business Through Social Media Content. Training covers discussion about marketing through social media, methods photography, videography, and product promotion. Findings show the existence of significant improvement in participants' understanding about digital marketing as well as their ability to use digital platforms to enlarge market reach. A good influence was seen in the increased ability and independent financial sustainability of the participants. This initiative needs more cooperation continued with communities, academics, and government to strengthen network marketing as well as quality power work, so that VirageAwie products can compete in the local to global market.

Keywords: digital marketing; disabled community; bamboo crafts

INTRODUCTION

Disabled is everyone who experiences physical, intellectual, mental, and/or sensory limitations in terms of long time in interacting with the environment can experience obstacles and difficulties to participate in a way fully and effectively with other citizens based on equal rights (Taruk Allo, 2022). People with disabilities not only experience difficulties at the time interacting or doing activity only, but also at the time try to register themselves as workers because they often get discrimination.

Even though based on Law no. 8 of 2016 concerning The Bearer Disability, there are five categories that differentiate disabilities recognized in Indonesia. The five are physical, intellectual, mental, sensory, and multiple disabilities (Ahmadi et al., 2023). Limitations of people with disabilities are often underestimated and considered vulnerable and weak group so that it creates a stigma of helplessness which ultimately hinders development in all aspects of life lived by people with disabilities (Az-Zahra & Hamid, 2022).

Therefore that, empowerment of persons with disabilities is carried out as an important step in an effort to reduce the obstacles experienced by persons with disabilities, restore their social role in society, and make persons with disabilities more independent in meeting their needs without depending on others (Az-Zahra & Hamid, 2022)

VirageAwie is a community as well as MSME founded by Adang Muhidin. This Community focuses on empowering and improving the of residents economy around Cimareme Village, District the Journey West Bandung Regency by using natural source power in the form of bamboo. This MSME was established to improve the economy of local residents. MSMEs are one of the foundations in the national economy by making a great contribution to improve the economy, create jobs, and reduce

poverty (Vira Adilla & Vina Merliana, 2024). MSMEs are proven to have driven national economic growth sustainably (Iqbal Alamsyah et al., 2023). MSMEs hold great potential to be able to develop the national economy (Camelia Ronika Augustin I & Ferry Kosadi, 2024).

Already lots of crafts are produced by people with disabilities, starting from dining equipment, furniture to tools music electronics named with "Awietronix". Craft work bamboo made race disabled This is even already sold until abroad such as Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, England, and Germany.

Although so, marketing work on bamboo crafts in the country is not yet completely effective. Lack of usage and understanding in digital-based marketing techniques becomes one of the problems. In this modern era, the development of technology and information is increasingly advanced, which has changed the habits of many people (Adiyono et al., 2021). In an alldigital era, of course, business activities are required to be adaptive. Business people cannot do marketing in a traditional way alone, but must with technological keep up

developments that continue to change (Feby Nur Aini, 2024). In today's rapidly evolving digital era, e-commerce has become a great power in the world of global trade (Meltareza et al., 2024).

VirageAwie faces challenges in skills teaching to people with In disabilities. addition. this community does not have an official website to do branding, and the digital marketing strategies implemented are still limited, resulting in a lack of ability to keep up with trends and maximize marketing potential in the digital world. Even though, branding allows MSMEs to get more attention and increase sales of their products, so they can grow further (Taufiq et al., 2024).

Based on the problem above, the problems that must be quickly overcome by providing training and mentoring related to digital marketing. The goal is to increase understanding especially for race disabled and in general to the VirageAwie community related to the importance of digital marketing in the current era. So, it is expected that with the holding of training and mentoring this digital marketing, VirageAwie's business group can more compete in the domestic and international markets abroad for increase economy public around specifically race disabled.

RESEARCH METHOD

The initial stage used to find a solution to a partner's problem is by conducting an FGD (Focus Group Discussion). This FGD was held on August 28, 2024, attended by the parties from Universitas Indonesia Membangun and partners with the aim of doing discussion and study beginning to problems that partners have. The results obtained from the implementation of this FGD activity include the need to update production equipment to increase production volume, and the need to improve the quality of human resources through training and mentoring. But in this activity, more emphasis was placed on digital improving marketing knowledge and skills, so that the implementation of digital marketing training and mentoring activities was determined. And to increase sales digitally based, the manufacturing website is also done to increase sales.

In addition, to measure the increase in knowledge and skills, pre-test and post-test were conducted, and

online surveys to determine participants' perceptions of the benefits of this training. Descriptive analysis was conducted on the collected data to measure the success of the program, especially the economic independence of the disabled group which has an impact on increasing the income of the target community and the community around Cimareme Village.

This digital marketing training and mentoring is providing knowledge and understanding related to digital marketing to all members of the viral community as well as to the public around. This digital marketing training and mentoring is implemented on:

Table 1. Detail the Event		
Day:	Friday	
Date:	September 27, 2024	
Theme:	Digital Marketing: Introducing Business with Social Media Content	
Location:	VirageAwie Headquarters, Jalan Raya Batu Jajar No. 81 West Bandung	
Lecturer Speaker:	Ridho Riadi Akbar, SE, MAB.	

Activity training and mentoring attended by 20 participants attended by the disability community VirageAwie and society around. The concept used in training and mentoring is presentation using in focus media and power point slides that have been prepared by the party of Universitas Indonesia Membangun and VirageAwie.

This digital marketing training and mentoring is aimed for:

- The development of training sessions on community service is given to optimize the use of e-commerce based on websites and mobile applications, both through the marketplace and social media. (Chandra Jaya & Kosadi, 2022). This can be done by the "introduction social media marketing" material, which will be presented by Universitas Indonesia Membangun lecturer.
- 2. Relevant digital marketing to become the basis of independent economic community. Digital marketing training in activity devotion for SMEs to produce improved sales products, increase the number of consumers, expand network promotions, and minimize marketing funds with brochure (Azizah, 2019). This can be done by the

"introduction social media marketing" and "practice method of selling products on Facebook" social media will material. which be presented by Universitas Indonesia Membangun lecturer. This digital marketing

training and mentoring consists of from overview activity as follows:

Table2.Rundownofdigitalmarketingtrainingandmentoringevents

Time	Description
13.50 – 14.15 WIB	1. Explain
	material
	introduction
	social media
	marketing.
	2. Explain basics
	in videography.
	3. Explain and
	practice picture
	taking
	techniques.
	4. Explain various
	camera corners
	For Photo
	products.
	5. Explain various
	camera
	movements.
	6. Practice method
	of selling
	products on
	social media
	Facebook
14.15 - 14.25	Do discussions and QnA
	sessions with the
	audience

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The partner problem based on the results of the Focus Group

Discussion is lack of HR (Human Resource) knowledge and skills in marketing product digitally so that it is not enough to attract buyers' interest. (2) minimal use of science and technology and lack of friendly digital marketing disabled result in no maximum output and impact on minimum income of partners compared to with potential income that is still wide.



Figure 1. Community Service Discussion with VirageAwie Indonesia

To overcome problems, the community service activities are shared into 2 stages, namely: (1) creating a website, (2) digital marketing training and assistance to increase knowledge and skills of partners.

First stage was implemented by the team in August 2024 at the Universitas Indonesia Membangun to create the website "VirageAwie.com" through funding from Directorate of Research, Technology and Community Service Ministry of Education and Culture Research and Technology Higher Education to introduce the brand names and products to increase marketing reach through online sales to maximize sales and revenue.





Figure 2. VirageAwie.com website

Stages second implemented for one day in September through a workshop event with the theme "Digital Marketing: Introducing Business with Social Media Content" presented by Universitas Indonesia Membangun Lecturer, Ridho Riadi Akbar, S.E, MAB.

This activity was attended by a disabled group and public around VirageAwie. At this activity, participants given materialization and understanding as well as doing session ask answers related to Digital Marketing.

In training and mentoring, the speaker explained an introduction to social media marketing, photography techniques, videography, and practice in making advertisements as well as taking product photos.

Table3.	Participants	in digital
marketing	training and	mentoring
activities		

No	Participant	Amount
	activity	
1	Deaf and Mute	3
2	Deaf	1
3	Physically Disabled	8
4	mentally disabled	3
5	Normal Society	5
6	Total	20





Figure 3. Implementation of digital marketing training and mentoring activities

Before the existence of training, many of the participants did not know the importance of digital marketing in today's era for doing marketing. However, after following this digital marketing training and mentoring, the participants' knowledge showed quite an improvement beyond usual. Many of the participants are now capable of understanding the method for marketing his product and can apply the technique of taking photos of products that have been taught previously.



(Before)



(After)

Figure 4. Comparison Photo "Awietronix" product before and after digital marketing training and mentoring

The Community Service activities have a positive impact on participant awareness of the importance of the brand awareness through the website (Suryani et al., 2020). The participants previously only used social media such as Instagram, Facebook, and WhatsApp for but after promotion, training, participants succeeded in managing more websites focused on promotion products and wider market reach wide.



Figure 5. Promotion marketing products on the website VirageAwie.com

CONCLUSION

The Community Service program implemented in Cimareme Village successfully achieved the main objective, namely increasing understanding and skills of digital marketing, especially for disabled communities through Digital Marketing Training and Mentoring to Community Disabled VirageAwie. Devotional participants show significant improvement in knowled ge and skills marketing products and website management. With intensive assistance, partners have succeeded create wider market reach wide through marketing on the website. This success shows that the approach is based on technology in empowering groups in society that is not productive in the economy, not only in strengthening knowledge and skills, but also in the independent economy of disabled people.

For sustainability of this program, training and mentoring in a sustainable way Still required collaboration with VirageAwie community, academics, government, and related agencies. Program devotion to public next can focus on improving quality of human resources, improving digital skills, sustainable strengthening marketing and networks. With these steps, it is hoped that craft products bamboo VirageAwie can penetrate market Which more wide, good in level local, national, and internationally, so that the impact is increasingly felt for the economic independence of the community, especially in Cimareme Village.

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