

SPOTLIGHT STORY



Impact worker

Khammai Vanthavevone

Company

Digital Divide Data (DDD)

Location Laos

Khammai is from the Savannakhet province in southern Laos. Growing up, she was unable to complete her high school education because she needed to contribute to her family's income by planting vegetables to sell at the market. This still didn't provide enough money, but as an uneducated disabled girl, it was very hard for her to find a job in her home town.

Khammai then heard about a training program at DDD through the Lao Disabled Womens Development Center (LDWDC). DDD has a partnership with the center and has invested in upgrading its computer room. It provides computer training to LDWDC trainers and recruits disabled women from the program after they have finished the training. Khammai undertook computer training at LDWDC for six months. When she didn't pass the first two-week internship with DDD, she received a further three months' training in English, computer, technical, and soft skills. She was then successful in securing a job as an Associate in May 2018.

Khammai said: "After I heard about this opportunity, I was very excited and blessed to be a part of it. I knew that this opportunity would change my life for the better. Working with DDD has greatly increased my skills, and given me the encouragement to keep on going, to solve problems, and to do my best every day."

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DDD

Working at DDD has enabled Khammai to gain technical skills, learn professionalism at work, and make a living for herself.

Khammai reflects: "Before I had this job, my family was worried that I wouldn't make a living growing vegetables, but now they are proud that I am able to step up and make a living for myself. Before coming to DDD, it was like I was starting from zero, but now it's like I'm a 9 or 10. I now have ambitions to learn about business and open my own tailoring business in my home town."

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Khammai is one of the new impact workers that DDD has hired as part of its pledge to hire 500 new impact workers by the end of 2020, in response to the Global Impact Sourcing Challenge to companies to hire 100,000 new impact workers by the end of 2020.