

HEADLINE: Giving Back Through Giving

McLarney construction is a general contracting company founded and headquartered in San Jose, CA. The current CEO, and founder Kevin McLarney established the business in 1987. With over 25 years of experience in the bay area, the mission of McLarney Construction is to provide commercial construction services to the Bay area. As a company McLarney strives for a balance between family and business life while having fun in the process.

Every year McLarney Construction gathers goods from different places and organization to bundle into one meaningful, practical and unique holiday basket for its friends and clients. Giving back through giving has been a motto that McLarney has lived by every year. When it came to client holiday gift baskets, McLarney made sure to partner with organizations, villages, and groups in need to ensure funds that go into giving gifts, benefit others far and beyond themselves. The foundation of this year's basket came from one of the world's most beautiful countries, the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The story begins one year ago when Kevin McLarney and his family were enjoying a holiday in the islands. On a remote island with only 300 people they stumbled across a small shop - it was quaint and full of stories to be told. Hanging on the walls, stacked on the tables, placed amongst shelves and on the floor were; countless handmade straw baskets and bags. The Middle Caicos Co-op (MCCo-op) production studio and outlet expresses the impact this year's purchase of 200 handmade straw bags is having on the local artisans and their business ventures so far:

“The McLarney project is awesome for the MCCo-op is so many way! Firstly it is a constant stream of income for the artisans as we need straw plait now at all times to produce the beach bags, and we moved into supplying palmtops to artisans to enable faster plait production! Secondly, it is wonderful for everyone involved to see the capacity we have to meet a large production order— and it has led to another order for a signature bag from a major resort in Provo! Thirdly, it is helping the Artisans' better work together, and empowering them to realize the power they can have as a group...indeed, a petition is now circulating for a MCC-op outlet at the airport departure lounge as this would benefit all the artisans!”

Working with local organizations like MCCo-op brings income, respect and dignity to the Artisans' themselves, and it brings nothing but joy to all of us at McLarney Construction to see the impact a small general contracting company in San Jose, CA can have on a small shop located in the Middle Caicos. We hope our partnership and story inspires other businesses and families to give back through giving.

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