My favourite part of every week is Wednesday morning, when some of my colleagues and I meet to pray. It’s a time to stop and sit still right there amongst the hustle and bustle of our busy centre. We always have lots to pray about and each week we find ourselves reminded that God is in control, right at the centre of our work, but this recognition often means that we find ourselves waiting for God, for God to act and answer our prayers.

As I reflect on this, I realise that whilst I am always busy, there’s a lot of waiting as a CRCW. Thinking back over the last 10 years of being a CRCW, there’s endless examples of this but here are my current 2...

At the minute, we are planning a consultation event about discrimination and inclusion. It’s exciting and it’s hard work, there’s props to make, rooms to book, networking to do and people to invite...we’ve got a vision and ideas about what we want to achieve, but ultimately it’s not about us, it’s about the people who come to talk to us: we want to hear their experiences and focus on developing their responses to them. And so, although we are very busy planning – we are ultimately waiting to see what happens.

I have been working with an amazing women’s group for 4 years. They are currently experiencing a hiatus in their activities, unsure whether they can, or want to continue to meet and work together. It’s so tempting to ring them all up and invite them to meet with me to discuss next steps, but at this stage in the group’s development that wouldn’t be the right thing to do. The group is their group, it’s their response to their situation, not mine, and as such I must wait and see.

But it’s this waiting that reminds me of just how ‘hands on’ our God is. It’s a privilege to work in a place where we witness God’s faithfulness on a daily basis and it reminds me that as I let go of my work into the hands of those for whom it is about, I let it go into God’s hands – God was here in this place long before I was, God is active in this world, building the kingdom long before any of us were...and our prayer times at Inspire remind us that we have a wonderful chance to step up and join in with this work.

So, when I look back at the phrase I use in the first paragraph ‘...we find ourselves waiting for God...to act and answer our prayers’ I realise that’s not what’s really happening...God calls us to work in partnership, and is teaching us a new rhythm. To wait is to journey with God and the discovery of what is around the next corner is an amazing adventure.