



St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County: Reclaiming materials to create jobs

- Retail thrift
- Mattress recycling
- Materials management
- Upcycling textiles
- Rebuilding broken furniture
- Post-manufacturing waste reuse

Strategic vision

Building the global circular economy

Problem: Too much stuff that still has value goes to waste

Urban surplus

Landfills,
Incinerators

What is lost:

- Money
- Jobs
- Embodied energy
- Usable goods

Solution: Sort, repair, upcycle materials and direct to new markets

Rural shortfall

Small towns
short on
quality goods

What is preserved:

- Money
- Jobs
- Embodied energy
- Usable goods
- Quality of life

Materials as assets

Clothing and other textiles

Belts, purses and accessories

Wood

Steel, copper, aluminum,

Brass

Foam

Window glass

Household goods

Books and magazines

DVDs, CDs and videos

Propane tanks

Fire extinguishers

Cardboard

Microwaves

Styrofoam

CFCs

Candles

Furniture

Appliances

Mixed plastics

Stuffed toys

Electric cords

Motor oil

Cars and other

vehicles

We Create Value-Added Products



- Rebuilt Mattresses
- Dogma Dog Beds/covers
- Dogma Leashes
- Brick-O-Wax
- Skate wax
- Eco Fire
- Eco Batting
- Cotton Wiping Rags
- Upcycled products

Re-envision materials for reuse

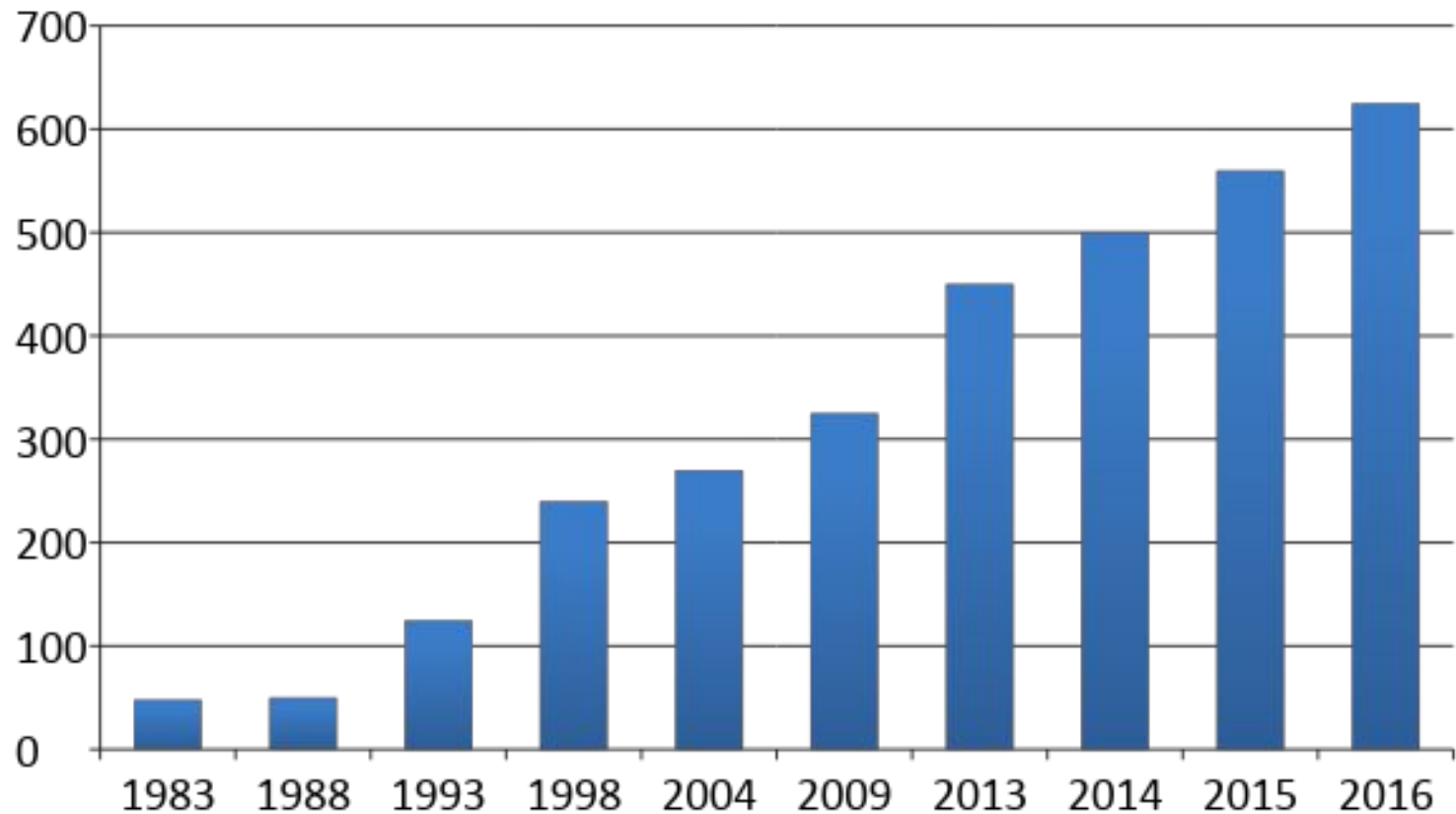
What the heck is it?



What can we do with it?

Materials management businesses create jobs

SVDP Employment 1983 - 2017



Solid waste officials let us intervene in the waste stream at transfer sites to pull usable materials before they are commingled.



REUSABLE
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS



Manufacturers, retailers give surplus for reuse, community donations



Mattresses, usable as is, donated to families in need



Partner with online vendors



Strapping, used to make purses, dog collars, sell to DIYers



Vinyl banners used to make wallets, bags



Seconds, returns from retailers

Allies share news, lobby for legislative/regulatory solutions

- Californians Against Waste: Co-sponsored mattress stewardship law in California. Much of a deconstructed mattress goes back into remanufacturing. New law will triple reuse of materials
- Cascade Alliance, a network of nonprofits diverting materials, sharing best practices



Foam and mattress toppers

Becomes carpet padding



Materials Diverted in 2017

Scrap Metal	8,786,652 lbs.
Textiles	7,480,000 lbs.
Books	3,749,480 lbs.
Wood Waste	7,060,000 lbs.
Glass	15,820 lbs.
E-waste	1,098,000 lbs.
Shoes/Belts/Purses	164,307 lbs.
Plastic	218,786 lbs.
Polyurethane Foam	1,649,345 lbs.
Paper/Cardboard/Magazines	126,390 lbs.
Media	66,431 lbs.
Styrofoam	73,060 lbs.

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Mattresses

2017

Deconstructed 353,000 mattresses in our four warehouses in Oregon and California.





Inventive style that makes a difference



Mitra DeMirza, fashion designer, hired in 2013

- Created system for identifying “original styles” product line, used clothing that appeals to youth
- Asked to find use for damaged, broken materials that had no value in reuse markets
- Created “Envia” brand, upcycled products

Mitra’s feed stock:

- damaged vinyl records,
- worn out belts, torn clothing, single cowboy boots
- old airport conveyor belts and signs
- vinyl banners
- damaged fire hose



Scratched records



Jewelry



Old belts



Wrist cuffs



Damaged hoodies,
torn plaid shirts



Plaid hoodie



Oak Street average daily sales:

- 2013 → \$500
- 2014 → \$891
- 2015 → \$1,190
- 2016 → \$1,352

Oak Street boutique: Envia products, original styles

Mitra's workshop



- Supports four production employees
- Six store employees
- Six to 10 festival events/year
- Earth day fashion show
- Four new seasonal product lines annually
- Online sales

The social benefit of reuse

Funds half our social services budget, allowing us to pay for:

- Four homeless shelter programs
- Resident services for 1,100 units of affordable housing
- \$360,000 in direct emergency services to community members in crisis each year
- Job training
- 84,000 people helped annually

We mentor others
nonprofits in business
development



Members of our growing alliance

- St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County
- The Mustard Seed of Central Florida
- Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises
- UTEC, Inc
- Opportunity House
- The Urban League of Essex County
- Union Rescue Mission
- Finger Lakes ReUse
- Big Reuse
- Scrap Exchange



In 2016 our alliance, diverted 17 million pounds of materials, created 102 jobs and grossed \$10 million in revenue

Thank you!

Terry McDonald, Executive Director
St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County
www.svdp.us

Cascade Alliance
www.cascadealliance.org

Envia Fashion
www.enviafashion.com

