

# Creating Jobs Through Innovation and Upcycling

Presented by

**The Greater Portland  
Sustainability Council**



**St. Vincent de Paul**  
SOCIETY OF LANE COUNTY

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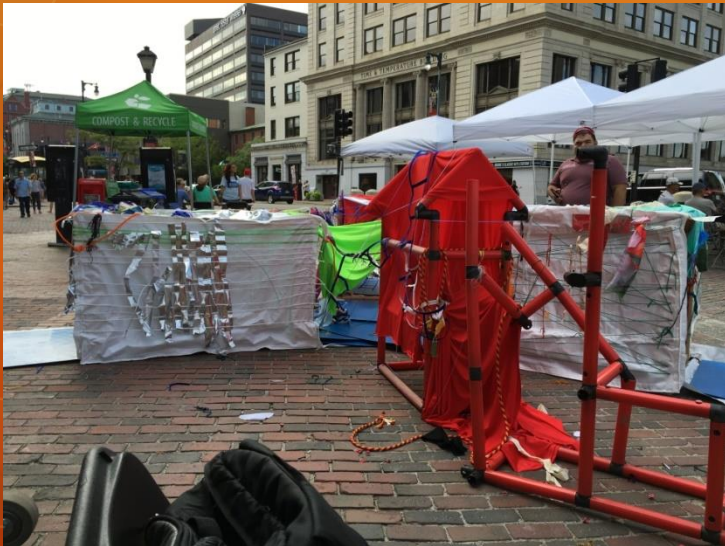


**UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHERN MAINE**

**Consultant**

**ARCADIA**  
*designworks*

# GREATER PORTLAND SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL'S **GREENFEST'S** UPCYCLED ARTMAKING LEADS TO A MATERIAL REUSE FEASIBILITY STUDY





# WHAT OPPORTUNITIES EXIST TO FURTHER MINE UNDER-UTILIZED RESOURCES IN OUR REGION?



# **MATERIAL REUSE FEASIBILITY STUDY**

## **ONE VIABLE COURSE OF ACTION**

### **Recycling and Reuse Enterprises**

**Generates revenue which aids in funding human service organizations. Other funding sources are also needed.**

**We are exploring the following areas:**

- Material Exchanges**
- Upcycling design competitions – product design and artistic creation**
- Material Reuse as Job Creating Enterprises**

# A FEW EXISTING LOCAL RECYCLING AND REUSE ENTERPRISES FUNDING HUMAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS



**AND NOW....  
WHAT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR....**

**TERRY MCDONALD AND SUSAN PALMER OF  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON &  
THE CASCADE ALLIANCE!**



# St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County

*Spinning Gold from the Waste  
Stream*

[www.svdp.us](http://www.svdp.us)



St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County

# Beginnings of St. Vincent de Paul in Lane County



- Founded in 1954
- Started with a rummage store in a church basement that funded a small social service office
- Today we are Lane County's largest nonprofit human services organization, serving 84,000 people annually







# Homeless Services

- Eugene Service Station provides day shelter, food, showers, clothing, laundry.
- First Place Family Center helps homeless families with children & Oregon's first therapeutic preschool
- Overnight Parking Program: provides legal camping for homeless people living in their vehicles.
- Egan Warming Center





# Emergency Services

- Food boxes for the hungry
- Vouchers for clothing and essential goods
- Rent, utility, prescription assistance





# Self-Sufficiency Services

- Helps people with barriers to employment find work
- Second Chance Renter's Rehabilitation: helps people with poor rental history establish housing
- Veterans in Progress: helps homeless veterans through employment and training







# Affordable Housing

- Provides housing for seniors, families, veterans, and individuals in over 1,400 units across Oregon
- Connects residents to educational programs and access to social services
- Leverages local resources to bring in state and federal funds, hires local design and construction firms





# St. Vinnie's numbers

## » **Fiscal year 2016-2017**

» Annual revenue: \$36 million

» Revenue from business operations: \$21 million

## » **Fiscal year budget 2017-2018**

» Annual revenue: \$42 million

» Revenue from business operations: \$25 million



# 15 Retail Thrift Stores



St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County

# Appliance Program and CFC Recovery





# 1.2 Million Books Sold Each Year





# Over 300,000 Mattresses Recycled Per Year



# Mattress Rebuilding

We use post-industrial fibers to create over 5,000 reconditioned mattresses per year



# Dogma Pet Beds

We use cast-off textiles and post-industrial materials to create Dogma brand pet beds.





# Glass Foundry



# Wax Recycling



# Sample of Envia Fashion products made from waste by SVDP designer Mitra Chester for sale on etsy.com







Examples of our Halloween earrings made out of old records using a laser cutter.



Scratched,  
unsellable records  
= our Re-Play  
earring line.

# Commodity Sales



# Styrofoam Recycling



# Pounds of Waste Diverted in 2016

Scrap Metal	7,928,980 lbs.
Textiles	5,875,200 lbs.
Books	3,070,120 lbs.
Wood Waste	4,998,356 lbs.
Glass	11,820 lbs.
E-waste	143,000 lbs.
Shoes/Belts/Purses	1,126,440 lbs.
Plastic	190,414 lbs.
Polyurethane Foam	1,435,461 lbs.
Paper/Cardboard/Magazines	110,000 lbs.
Media	57,816 lbs.
Paraffin Wax	83 lbs.
Styrofoam	63,586 lbs.
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<b>Total 2014 Waste Diverted</b>	<b>25,011,276 lbs.</b>

## Mattress Kings

In 2016, a combined total of 15.7 million pounds of mattresses were diverted from the landfill by our Eugene OR facility and DR3, our Oakland and Woodland CA mattress recycling facilities.

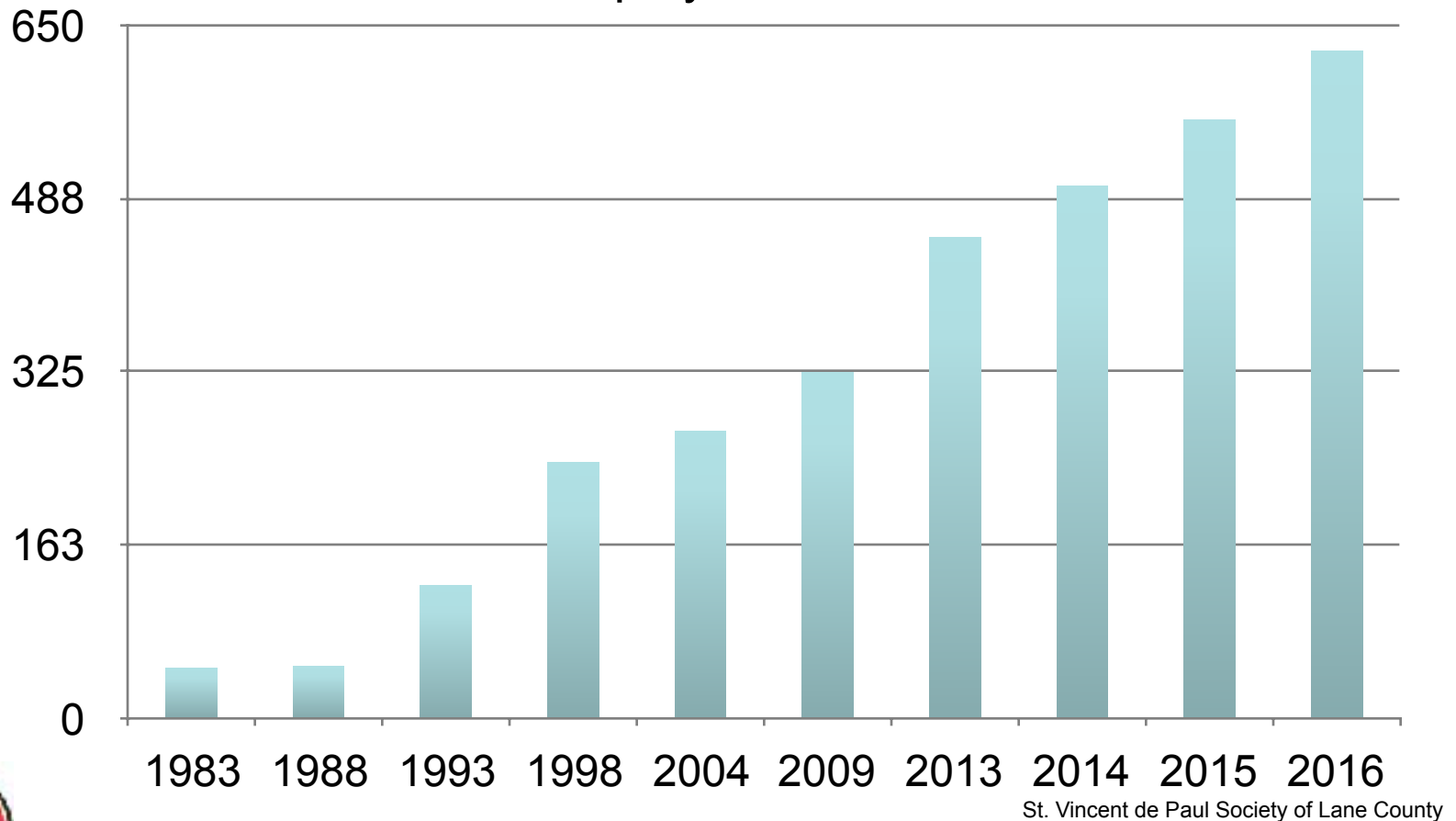


St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County



# Materials management businesses create jobs

SVDP Employment 1983 - 2016







Now we're helping others  
build similar businesses

- **Our network so far:**
- Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, Bridgeport, CT
- Big Reuse, New York City
- Finger Lakes Reuse, Ithaca, NY
- Scrap Exchange, Durham, NC
- United Teen Equality Center, Lowell, MA
- Opportunity House, Reading, PA
- Urban League of Essex County, Newark, NJ
- The Mustard Seed, Orlando, FL
- DR3 North, Woodland, CA
- Union Rescue Mission, Wichita, KS
- St. Vincent de Paul of Pittsburgh, PA
- Klamath Works, Klamath Falls, OR

Thanks to generous grant from



St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County





- » Businesses
- » **Mattress recycling:** Lowell MA, Bridgeport CT, Orlando FL, Klamath Falls OR, Woodland CA
- » **Retail, building materials, scrap thrift:** Ithaca and NYC NY, Reading and Pittsburgh PA, Durham NC, Orlando FL, Eugene OR
- » **Used books online:** Eugene OR, Reading PA, Wichita KS
  
- » **Results (2012-2017):**
  - » \$10 million gross revenue
  - » 17 million pounds diverted
  - » 102 sustainable jobs created



# Current projects

## Youth House

- Housing for homeless high school students
- Adaptive reuse of former church to residential use



## Mobile Home Parks

- Saginaw Mobile Home Park
- Oakleaf Mobile Home Park





# Thank you

St Vincent de Paul of Lane County

[www.svdnp.us](http://www.svdnp.us)

Terry McDonald  
Executive Director

