St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County:
Transforming waste to create jobs.

A founder and proud member of the Cascade Alliance, a growing national network of nonprofits working to create permanent jobs through materials management.
Building the global circular economy

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

Solution: Divert and ship products to places that need them

What is lost:
• Money
• Jobs
• Embodied energy
• Usable 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
Motors and compressors
Cardboard
Microwaves
Styrofoam
CFCs
Candles
Furniture
Appliances
Mixed plastics
Stuffed toys
Electric cords
Motor oil
Cars and other vehicles
Mattress dust
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 - 2016
Partnerships increase reuse opportunities

• Solid waste site operators
• Community groups
• Artists, makers
• Other nonprofits
• Manufacturers, retailers
• Activist allies
Solid waste officials let us intervene in the waste stream at transfer sites to pull usable materials before they are commingled.
Friends of libraries ask us to collect books following their annual sales

10 retail thrift stores contain small used book stores. Along with online sales, the book stores support 18 full-time jobs.
Fashion show brings designers together to re-imagine and inspire reuse

Partnered with Materials Exchange Center for Community Arts, both organizations benefit from renewed community awareness.
Sharing best practices, shipping materials to locations where they have highest value

- 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
- Exceed Enterprises
- Union Rescue Mission
- Finger Lakes ReUse

75 jobs created, $5 million in revenue generated, 7 million pounds of materials diverted for reuse
Manufacturers, retailers give surplus for reuse, community donations

Mattresses, usable as is, donated to families in need

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

Vinyl banners used to make wallets, bags

Partner with online vendors

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

- Reuse conex organizes conference for organizations to network, share best practices, strategies
# Materials Diverted in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Amount Diverted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scrap Metal</td>
<td>7,546,493 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>6,845,845 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>3,831,612 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Waste</td>
<td>4,144,765 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>14,968 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-waste</td>
<td>1,157,312 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes/Belts/Purses</td>
<td>810,000 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic</td>
<td>104,355 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyurethane Foam</td>
<td>1,239,347 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper/Cardboard/Magazines</td>
<td>196,103 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>106,054 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraffin Wax</td>
<td>60,000 lbs.</td>
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</tbody>
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Total Waste Diverted: 25,367,976 lbs.

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**Mattresses 2015**

Deconstructed 195,461 mattresses in our three warehouses in Oregon and California.
Inventive style that makes a difference

Mitra Chester, 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

Old belts

Damaged hoodies, torn plaid shirts

Jewelry

Wrist cuffs

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
We have created a global system that knits together social justice, product stewardship and revenue generation.

A 100-year-old piano from Inverness comes to Eugene with a load of used furniture that sells in St. Vinnie’s retail stores. The revenue covers shipping costs. Our affordable housing program manager needs a piano in our Santa Clara housing complex for a music program for the children. We placed the piano at the complex and low-income children there now have access to a music teacher and music lessons.
The social benefit of reuse

Funds half our annual $27 million 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
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