St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance

Diversion Consultants
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Mission & Vision

● Mission:
  ○ Comprehensive recycling program
    • Divert solid recyclable waste from landfills
    • Plan for recycling education
    • Plan for recycling infrastructure

● Vision:
  ○ Reduce the amount of solid waste St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance sends to landfills in Arizona
Sustainability Problem

- 3rd largest solid waste contributor in Phoenix
- Recycling trash
- Plastic water bottles (~1,000 per day)
- Issues with staff/volunteer cooperation
- Inconsistent/unrecognizable bins
- Stakeholder obligations
Approach

• New bins
• Signage
• Recycling and sustainability information
• Water refill stations
• Warehouse remodel
Goals & Outcomes

- Standardized recycling bins, trash cans, signage
- Increased knowledge of recycling and sustainability practices
- Responsible recycling behavior
Stakeholders

Primary

- St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance
- John Meeks – Director of Facilities/Project Lead
- Adam Jones – Program Manager, Logistics and Distribution
- SMFBA Employees
- SMFBA Volunteers
- City of Phoenix Waste Management/Public Works

Secondary

- Food Bank Clients
- Donors
Strengths & Opportunities

• Committed management
• Available funding
• Culture of care, environmental responsibility
• Project as model/test case for other food banks
• Department of Corrections workers
• Identify optimal hauling strategies
• City of Phoenix as catalyst
• Volunteer introduction speech
• Railroad property
Threats & Risks

- Volunteer turnover
- Recycling sent to landfill
- Lack of space for dumpster
- Excessive water bottles
- Management is committed
- Funding
- DoC workers unavailable
Communications

- Face to face
  - Class vs. site visits
  - Group meetings
- Phone
- Email
- Google Drive
- Issues
Deliverables Timeline

• Budget and budget justification (March 24)
• Comprehensive Waste Diversion Plan (April 18)
• Cohesive recycling and trash bins (May 5)
• Waste audits completed and analyzed (May 19)
• Recycling information added to introduction speech and website (May 23)
• Signs placed around recycling bins (May 25)
• Water bottle refill stations (Nov 27)
Questions?
References

https://cswd.net/event-waste-reduction/
http://www.emterrausa.com/recycling-benefits
https://twitter.com/stmarysfoodbank
https://healthyhumanlife.com/glass-water-bottles/plastic-water-bottle-facts/