

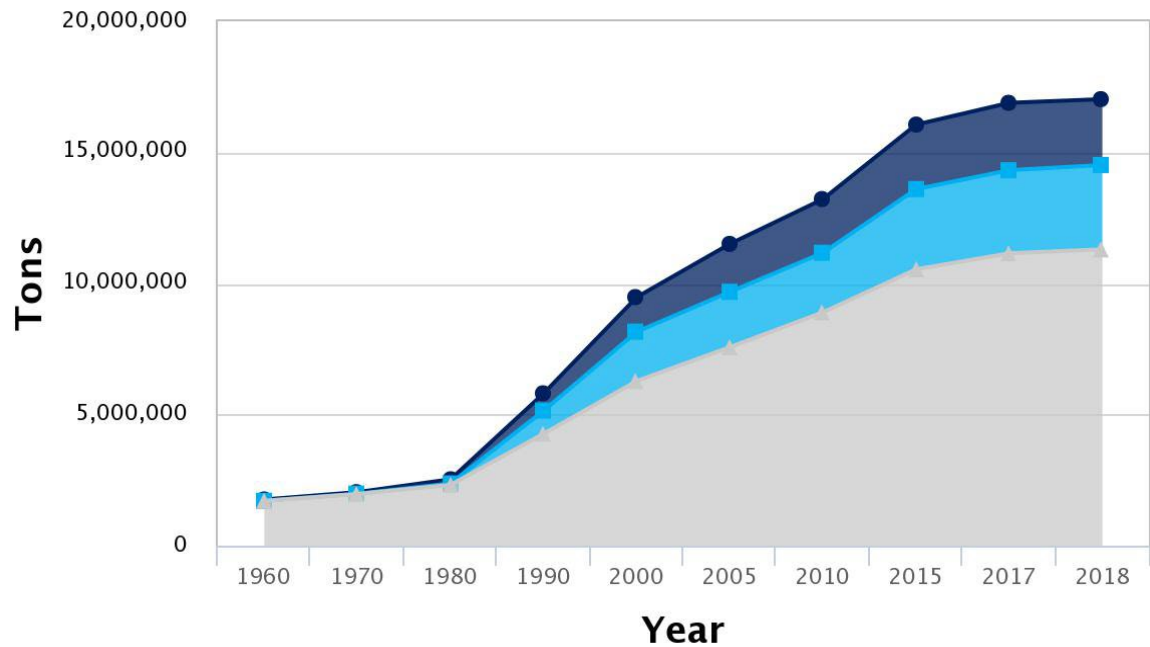


Threads for Teds

EVERYTHING WE THROW AWAY HAS POTENTIAL VALUE.

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Textiles Waste Management: 1960-2018



Click on legend items below to customize items displayed in the chart

■ Recycled ■ Composted ■ Combustion with Energy Recovery ■ Landfilled

Problem

Textiles are the Fastest Growing Waste Stream

According to a 2018 study done by the EPA, the U.S. produced 17M tons of textile waste or 5.8% of total waste stream. This equates to ~112lbs of textile waste per person in the U.S.

- 66% of American textile waste ends up in landfills
- <15% of are recycled each year
- ~19% of are textiles incinerated

Overview of City Textile efforts

- **Logo Recycling Program**
 - A textile recycling program for city employees launched in 2020 that only recycles City logoed shirts and hats
- **Partnership with Goodwill**
 - Partner with existing organizations that already have diversion efforts at scale
 - Textile drop off containers at neighborhood/community centers
- **Keep Orlando Beautiful Textile and Electronics Event**
 - Biannual Event for textiles and E-waste
 - In 2023 collected:
 - 200 lbs of miscellaneous goods
 - 3760 lbs of textiles and miscellaneous goods
 - 20,693 lbs of e-waste
- **Trash 2 Trends**
 - April 17th 2024
 - A fundraiser where local artists create runway looks from items headed to the landfill
- **Threads For Teds**
 - Another supplemental approach!

Solution:

Teddy Bears

Diversion

By utilizing donated or recycled fabrics that might otherwise be placed in landfills, we can give new life to these materials both as the **outer covering** and **stuffing** for our teddy bears

Community

Engaging the community: They have the power to actively participate in crafting teddy bears or generously contribute unwanted, clean fabrics

Comfort

Countless studies have demonstrated the psychological comfort that teddy bears can provide to those who receive them (A.S. Tribot et al; 2023)

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Objective

The aim is to spread comfort and smiles while also promoting sustainability by repurposing fabrics that would have otherwise gone to either the landfill or incinerator.



Product Overview

Unique

The Teddy Bears would be one-of-a-kind. Each bear would be assembled with different fabrics or a combination of fabrics, ensuring that every bear is a unique and special creation

Safe

Our Teddy Bears will feature embroidered eyes and noses, eliminating any potential choking hazards and ensuring the utmost safety for all they are donated to



Washable

Depending on the fabrics used, these bears should be easily washable, ensuring they stay as cuddly and fresh as the day they were made.

Sustainable

Sustainability is at the core of this project. Teddy bears will be crafted from donated or recycled fabrics, minimizing waste. Furthermore, the project fosters community engagement, creating a sustainable cycle of care, creativity, and giving back to the environment

Challenges



Donation Locations

Establishing a donation collection process including finding optimal places for the donations to be collected while not interfering with the current textile donation program



Forever Homes

Exploring and determining which locations or organizations would be willing to accept the donations since they are made of recycled fabrics



Creation Location

Finding a suitable location that provides the space, tools, and time to create the teddy bears



Community Engagement

Recruiting volunteers, especially those with sewing experience or expertise that are willing to contribute their time to the cause

Solutions



Donation Location

We want to work closely with our neighborhood centers to both receive donations there and distribute kits



Forever Homes

We found a few charities willing to take the Teddy Bears that will distribute them to children and family centers



Creation Location

As the program begins to grow, we first want to create a take-home kit. But as the program continues, we hope to hold multiple in-person events



Community Engagement

Using Orlando Cares we will be looking first for committed Volunteers. We plan to work closely with our Neighborhood Centers to gather donations and promote the program

Financials (for ~15 kits)

	Price of Item	Guesstimated Quantity	Cost for Quantity
Materials			
Fabric Pattern	\$0	1	\$0
Hand sewing Needles (50 pack)	\$4.95	2	\$9.90
Fabric Scissors, Pins, Pin Cushion, Seam Rippers, Tape Measure Pack	\$8.99	17	\$152.83
Fabric Chalk (10 pack)	\$12.99	2	\$25.98
Thread Puller (30 pack)	\$3.99	1	\$3.99
Thread all-purpose (12 pack) 550 yd	\$21.99	2	\$43.98
Thread (embroidery) 500M	\$2.74	17	\$46.58
Needle Holders (15 pack)	\$6.99	1	\$6.99
Packing Boxes (25 pack)	\$36.58	1	\$36.58
Tax 7.5%			\$ 24.51
Total expenses			\$352.34 (\$23.50 / kit)

Cost Per Bear

Teddy Bear (1)

Materials	Quantity	Cost
Fabric Pattern	1	\$0
Sewing Needles	4	\$0.79
Needle Holders	1	\$0.47
Fabric Chalk	2	\$2.60
Thread Puller	2	\$0.27
Sewing Pack	1	\$8.99
*Thread (Embroidery)	1	\$2.74
*Thread (All-Purpose)	1	\$1.83
Packing box	1	\$1.46
	Total	\$17.32

Teddy Bear (10)

Materials	Quantity	Cost
Fabric Pattern	1	\$0
Sewing Needles	4	\$0.08
Needle Holders	1	\$0.05
Fabric Chalk	2	\$0.26
Thread Puller	2	\$0.03
Sewing Pack	1	\$0.89
*Thread (Embroidery)	1	\$0.27
*Thread (All-Purpose)	1	\$0.18
Packing box	1	\$0.15
	Total	\$1.91

*

Material	Quantity	Cost
Thread (E)	2 Yd	\$0.01
Thread (P)	5 Yd	\$0.017

Diversion

- 1 Teddy Bear
 - 1 women's L shirt
 - $A=2(wl + hl + hw)$
 - $2 \cdot (0.25 \cdot 18.38 + 24 \cdot 18.38 + 24 \cdot 0.25) = \mathbf{903.19 \text{ inches}^2}$



Thank you

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