Pack it Up & Pass it On

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Collaboration
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Project Abstract
As student move-out for the Spring of 2023 commences, the City-County Health Department looks to collaborate with the Student Office of Sustainability to encourage sustainable practices within the student community. The Pack it Up & Pass it On event has been an annual collaboration between the City-County Health Department and the Student Office of Sustainability to assure sustainable and equitable access for UW-Eau Claire students in the move out and disposal process.

Narrative
Sustainability Area(s) Addressed
This proposal addresses the areas of socio-economic accessibility and waste disposal. The Pack it Up & Pass it On event was created to discourage students who are moving out from sending gently used old mattresses, furniture, and miscellaneous items to the landfill via curbside dropping. This event occurs annually in the Haas parking lot and has been an ongoing collaboration between the City of Eau Claire and the UWEC Student Office of Sustainability for at least 20 years.

Thanks to past subsidies provided by the UW-Eau Claire Student Office of Sustainability, current UW-Eau Claire students have been able to bring bulk items to the parking lot on the Thursday and Friday of finals week for reuse or appropriate disposal at no charge if they present their current Blugold I.D. This proposal aims to set aside no more than $7,144 to subsidize this cost to students during this Spring’s Pack it Up & Pass it On event.

Sustainability Outcomes
Sustainability is valuing the interdependence of our economic, environmental, and social systems. Please explain how your project addresses these three components of sustainability.

1. Economic Responsibilities
By removing the financial barrier to sustainable disposal for students, we can expect to see an increase in the number of students who bring items for reuse or disposal to the event. Inability to properly reuse or dispose of bulk items is an issue of socioeconomic accessibility.

2. Environmental Responsibilities
Items that are in appropriate condition will be evaluated by and accepted as a donation to local secondhand facilities such as Habitat for Humanity or Hope Gospel. This event promotes a reuse culture, with diverts waste from our landfills. Mattresses and scrap metal will be recycled, potentially bringing money back to the SOS.
3. Social Responsibilities

As a result of subsidizing this event, fewer items will be left on the curbs of our community. Subsequently, community relations between our non-student and student communities will be improved and a sense of belonging and place will be cultivated in our students. We will also subsidize paid student volunteers for the event, which will help those students financially during finals week.

Project Timeline

This event will most likely take place May 18th and 19th from 11am-4pm. After the event, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department will forward the disposal bill from the participating waste disposal company to Stephanie Pyykola.

Those staffing the Pack it Up & Pass it On event will understand the total allocation set aside to subsidize the event. In the event that the total subsidy is exhausted prior to the end of the event, students who bring items to be disposed of may be asked to cover the cost of disposal out of pocket. Signs will be placed in the parking lot following the event which inform students that dumping outside of the hours of the event is illegal, which will hopefully mitigate any emergency costs.

Assessment

In years past, students must present their Blugold I.D. to event staff to qualify for the subsidy. The staff members keep a written or typed record of the name and Blugold I.D. of the students who have participated. At the conclusion of the event, the City-County Health Department forwards this list of names and Blugold I.D. numbers to Stephanie Pyykola, who ensures the appropriate allocation is made toward the bill. This record of names will be used to assess the productivity of the event and whether future allocations should increase to cover student needs.

Maintenance

No maintenance will be needed from the Student Office of Sustainability for this event.

Communication

The Student Office of Sustainability will create and/or share advertisements for social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. The S.O.S. Exec Board will explore the possibility of asking the President of the Student Body to send a mass email to current students.
## Project Budget

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost per</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dumpster hauling</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refuse disposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mattress Recycling</td>
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<td>Mattress Transport</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>$7,144.00</strong></td>
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