Community Forklift Reuse Operations: Creating Local Community Connections and Benefits

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Goal

To demonstrate the potential for community based revitalization based on capturing the value of used "building materials" (all interior fixtures, and the building itself) and redistributing them by making the materials available at low cost, or free to community members, organizations, and public agencies.



Service Area

- Primarily serves under resourced community (Port Towns, Prince George's County, $MD \frac{1}{2}$ mile from DC border)
- Serves the entire DC region of ~6 million residents
- Diverse community of majority POC, 45% white
- High average income and high level of income inequality



Facility

- 35,000 sq. ft. of retail and programming space in main warehouse
- 6,000 sq. ft. of office and workshop space
- 16,000 sq. ft. of warehouse storage and online sales
- ~ 3/4 acre of yard space for sales and storage
- Located on a brownfield site on the outskirts of industrial area near gentrifying neighborhoods



Staff and Operations

- 35 Fulltime staff (50 + pre Covid)
- 0 volunteers (100's pre Covid)
- Starting wages of \$17 per hour plus full benefits
- Operation Start Date and Hours
- Opened Nov 16, 2006 and in operation almost 16 years
- Currently open: 12 5 daily (pre Covid hours: 9 7 daily)



Budget

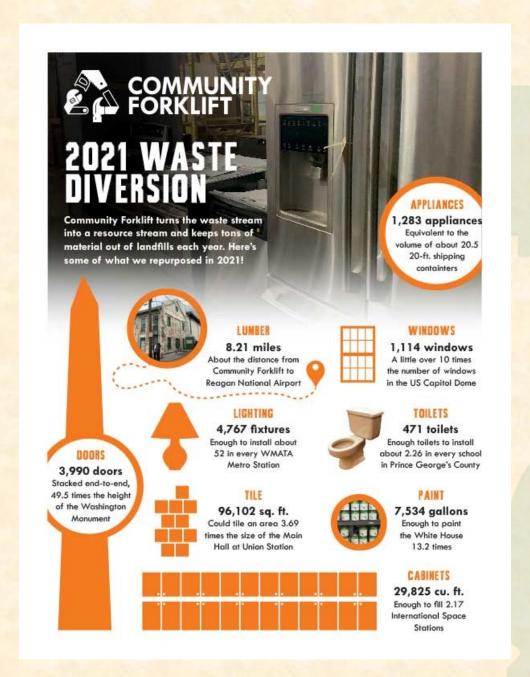
- 2022 Annual budget: \$3,212,665
- Earned income: 85% or \$2,736,165
- Public support: 7%
- Private Foundations: 5%
- Individual support: 2%
- From 2019 2021 generated a reserve



Diversion

Recovered an estimated \$45 million of building materials in the DC metro region since 2005





Reuse Value

Healthy Environment

Reduce Wastage

in Local Economy

Collect Waste

Materials:

Identify & Price

Materials:

Organize &

Showcase

Materials:

Advertise & Promote Reuse Improve Local Physical Infrastructure

Improve Local Family Living Conditions

Improve Local Business Spaces

Refurbish Abandoned Industrial Sites

Maintain Local Community Spaces Grow Local Intellectual Capital

Health Local Community

Community Workshops

Employee Learning & Growth

Preserve Local Knowledge & Heritage

Reintegration of Marginalized Communities Grow Local Ownership of Economy

Healthy Local Economy

Reduce Local Poverty

Local Jobs

Create
Upcycling
Businesses

Create Community Markets

Create Community Garden Stimulate Social & Cultural Health

> Encourage Public Art & Performance

Create New Cultural Markets

Enable Public Gatherings

Host Social Activities

- Fulfill Financial Obligations
- · Maintain Property, Facilities & Other Assets
- Facilitate Access to Physical Infrastructure
- Fulfill CommunityForklift Legal Obligations

Attract and Maintain Talented Workforce

Maintain Public Presence

Provide Information & Technology Infrastructure

Provide Healthy, Safe and Secure Working Environment

