



# Lower Mainland Health Authorities Comprehensive Recycling Program





# Outline

- Background

- Program Research

- Program Overview

- Issues: Challenges & Solutions



# Background

- Government direction

- Staff demand

- Creating a healthy environment



# Program Research (PR)

1. Recycling behavior<sup>1</sup>
2. Industry standards:
  - Health Care
  - Waste/Recycling<sup>2</sup>
3. Community based social marketing -CBSM

1- Meredith Hunt, Recycling Behavior Literature Review

2- M.J. Waste Solutions



# PR - Recycling Behavior

- Multiple theories
  - Planned behavior
  - Altruistic behavior
- No conclusive evidence on motivation or bin/sign choice



# PR - Industry Standards

- Signage best practice
- Bin locations
- Program monitoring
- Waste audit methodology



# PR - Community Based Social Marketing

- Designing a strategy using behavior change tools
- Identifying barriers and benefits
- Piloting the strategy
- Evaluating the program



# Program Overview - Steps

- Site Planning

- Implementation

- Program evaluation/monitoring

# Recycling Stations



# Recycling Posters



## Recycle it.

Here at Providence Health Care, we're all doing our part to reduce waste and recycle. To do your part, please look for a Recycling Station near you.

**Together, we're creating a healthier environment.**

Questions? Please contact [VCHGreenCare@vch.ca](mailto:VCHGreenCare@vch.ca)



### Beverage Containers



Look for bins with orange stickers to recycle refundable bottles, cans and juice containers.  
**NO Paper Cups or Coffee Cups, please.**

### Mixed Paper



Look for bins with brown stickers to recycle newspapers, magazines, brochures and light cardboard boxes.  
**NO Copy Paper, Corrugated Cardboard or Waxed Paper, please.**

### Rigid Plastics



Look for bins with blue stickers to recycle food containers and plastic bottles, including saline and lotion bottles.  
**NO Soft Plastics or Medical Waste, please.**



## Recycle it.

Questions? Please contact [VCHGreenCare@vch.ca](mailto:VCHGreenCare@vch.ca)



# Program Overview - Partners

- o Individual Sites
- o HA Corporate
- o Housekeeping



# Issue: Space



- Challenge: Competition for space inside and out of the hospital

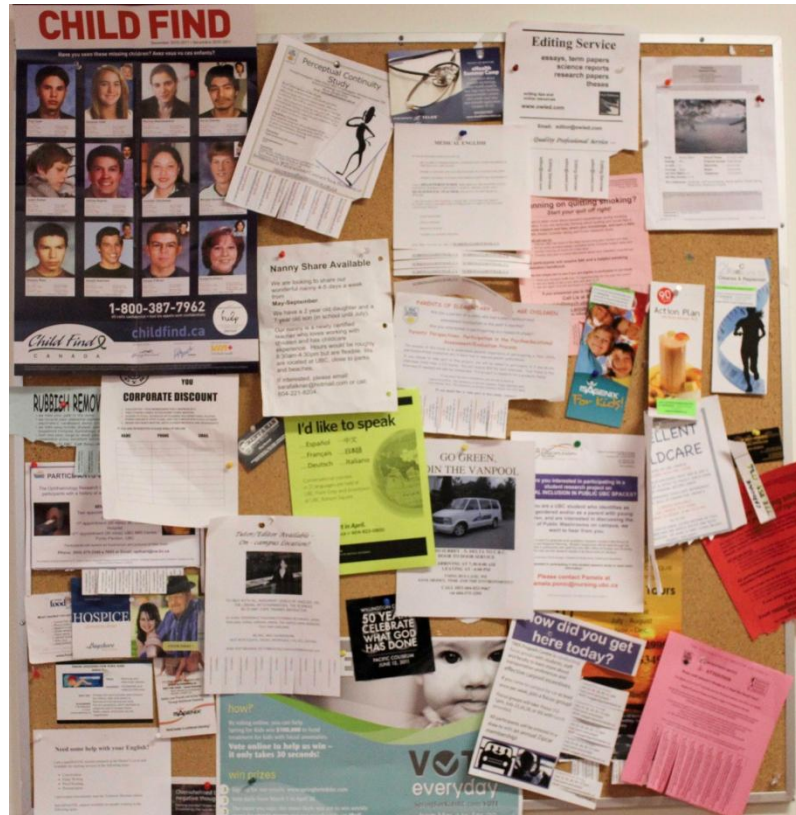
# Issue: Space



## ○ Solution

- Working with staff to ensure appropriate bin configuration
- Single bin placement
- Vendor accepts all recycling in one compactor

# Issue: Communication/Ed.



- o Challenge: Staff schedules; Information overload; Changing protocols

# Issue: Communication/Education

## ○ Solution

- Simple messaging
- Face-to-face communication – flexibility with schedule
- Department champions



# Issue: Patient Priority



- Challenge: Patient care comes first

# Issue: Patient Priority



## ○ Solution

- Recognition of priority
- Program adjustment to meet specific department needs

# Issue: Multitude of Materials



o Challenge: Multiple materials and disposal options



# Issue: Housekeeping Workload



- Challenge: Taxed resources ; removal of recycling

# Issue: Housekeeping Workload



## ○ Solution

- Simplify logistics
- Continuous negotiations

# Issue: Contamination



- o Challenge: Materials in wrong streams

# Issue: Contamination



## o Solution

- Clear signage
- Monitoring
- Follow-up face to face communication



# Current Status

- Pilot phase in progress
- Nine sites implemented
- Ongoing program evaluation and adjustment



# Contact us!

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