

SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES BY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS FUNDING PROPOSAL

Part I - General Information

Name of Student Organization	YMCA Student Programs
Contact/Responsible Person	Taylor Crawford
Contact Office Held/Title	Y-toss Program Leader
Contact Email Address	Tay19@vt.edu
Contact Telephone Number	(540) 961-9622

Part II - Project Cost Information

Estimate Cost of this Proposal	\$ 1225	See Part III.C
Estimated Savings –	\$ N/A	See Part III.D
Net Cost of this Proposal	\$ 1225	

Part III - Supporting Information

A. Please describe your sustainability initiative and attach supporting documentation.
The purpose of this proposal is to establish a Ytoss Residence Hall Indoor Collection Pilot Program. In partnership with Housing & Residential Life, we are requesting funds to purchase a number of collection containers for placement inside select residence halls for use during the academic year. We plan on implementing two programs: a yearlong collection program that will collect unwanted items throughout the school year and end of the year indoor collection program. Ytoss is the YMCA at Virginia Tech signature sustainability program on campus. Y-toss collects unwanted items from residence hall students at the end of the school year and repurposes them for future use. The collected items are then sold at the Ytoss Sale at the beginning of the fall semester during move in. Items that are not sold at the Sale on campus are then returned to the Y Thrift Shop and they sold there during the school year. Each year, we assist in eliminating waste by recycling items. Last year, we collected 6.2 tons of items. The program is organized by YMCA student leaders who share a passion in environmental and sustainability work.

B. How does this initiative help to achieve the goals of the Virginia Tech Climate Action Committee Resolution and Sustainability Plan?
Ytoss helps achieve these goals by reducing waste at the end of the year and by promoting the reduction of waste throughout the year. Y-toss is more than end of the year collections. We assist in educating students about the importance of recycling and repurposing items that are still useful. In the collection portion we assist the university by diverting items from the big trash bins. By redirecting them our collection sites, we are able to save the university money by not using additional trash bins.

C. What is the cost of your proposal? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your cost estimate.
We are requesting funding for the purchase of 5 reusable bulk bins that measure 48in.x40in.x45in. (lwxh). These bins cost \$189/each plus shipping from the vendor. The total estimated cost for these bins is \$1015 with shipping included. These large bins will be used in the lobbies of residence halls we identify for our pilot indoor Y-toss collections program. The remaining \$210 from this request will be used to purchase 20 smaller collection bins that will be placed in lobbies or lounges in the residence halls that we identify through our pilot process. We plan on using corrugated square cardboard containers that are 18inx18in.x36in.(lwxh). These containers will be covered with a top to make sure they aren't confused for trash bins. Our student volunteers will be responsible for checking in on the bins a couple of times a week to make sure they don't overflow. As mentioned earlier, the cost of these containers and covers are estimated at \$210 including shipping. The price included 20 bins and 20 bin covers. The total cost of for all the bins for this project is \$1225. The following websites illustrate the items we plan to purchase.

- <https://www.uline.com/Product/Detail/S-19003/Corrugated-Boxes-Heavy-Duty/Reusable-Bulk-Container-48-x-40-x-45>
- <https://www.uline.com/Product/Detail/S-11855B/Trash-Cans/Blank-Corrugated-Trash-Receptacle-30?model=S-11855B&RootChecked=yes>
- <https://www.uline.com/Product/Detail/S-13936/Trash-Cans/Corrugated-Trash-Receptacle-Lid-Solid>

D. Will your proposal produce cost savings for the University? If so, how much? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your savings estimate.

We believe it will. In addition to the cost savings in regards to the amount of waste that goes into the dumpsters at the end of the year, we believe that collecting items year-round will also save money and items from going to the landfill. Each year, many students get rid of items throughout the year, not just at the end of the year. By having collection points for the entire year in residence halls, we hope to be able to divert items from going to the landfill. We hope to be able to capture how much we collect throughout the year and report it back to our stakeholders. As for collecting items at the end of the year in the residence halls, we are planning on saving money by reducing waste through collecting items that are gently used and usable.

E. Is this funding request an Ongoing or One-Time change (please check one)?

✓ **One-time** Ongoing

F. Is funding available for this request from another source? If yes, describe the funding (source, amount, etc.)

At this time, we currently don't have any money allocated to this project. We are in the process of getting access to these spaces and approval to be able to implement our program. If we don't get the funding, we will need to do fundraising to be able to purchase the items which will delay the start of collections. We are looking to have this be a one-time funded project so we may start as soon as we are approved. Enrique Rebolledo, Associate Director at the YMCA at VT assisted in preparing this proposal.

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Part IV- Requestors/Reviewers

Taylor Crawford, Program Leader for Y-toss

Prepared By (Name of Contact for Student Organization)

Date 11/17/17

Gwyneth Manser, Sustainability Manager, University Housing

Reviewed By (Name of Appropriate University Official)

Date 11/17/17

Denny Cochrane, Sustainability Programs Manager, Office of Sustainability

Reviewed By (Name of Office of Energy and Sustainability Representative)

Date 11/20/2017