

"Monthly Pop-Up Thrift Store at the Ossining Public Library"

Objective:

To create a sustainable and engaging monthly pop-up thrift store within the public library premises, providing affordable shopping options to the community while also promoting library engagement and a source of income for the Project Thrive Program

Key Components:

Location and Setup:

- Identify a suitable space within the library premises for the pop-up thrift store.
- Wash and dry donated clothing in room 125 to prepare prior to date.
- Set up tables for displaying items neatly and attractively.
- Ensure sufficient lighting and signage to guide visitors to the thrift store area.

Inventory Management:

- Source donations of gently used clothing, accessories, books, toys, and household items from the Ossining High School staff and community in our classroom.
- Implement a system for sorting, organizing, and pricing items effectively.
- Regularly assess inventory levels and rotate stock to keep offerings fresh and appealing.

Staffing and Volunteers:

- Students from Project Thrive program and/ students from general education to oversee the thrift store during operating hours. Offer General Education Students Community service hours during free periods.

- General education students along with Project Thrive students will provide customer service, inventory management, and cash handling procedures.

Promotion and Marketing:

- Utilize posters, social media platforms, and Ossining Schools website to promote the monthly pop-up thrift store.
- Design eye-catching posters and flyers to display within the library and around the community.
- Partner with local media outlets and community organizations to spread awareness about the thrift store.

Events and Special Offers:

- Host themed events or sales to attract visitors, such as "Stuff a bag for \$5.00".
- On occasion showcase handmade items (beaded bracelets and other handmade jewelry by students) alongside thrift store merchandise.
- Possibility of setting up a coffee cart alongside a side thrift store, that students will set up, manage and break down each occurrence.

Community Engagement:

- Provide opportunities for community members to donate items and contribute to the thrift store's inventory.
- Collect feedback from visitors to continually improve the shopping experience and offerings.
- Partner with local schools, shelters, or charities to donate unsold items and support community initiatives.

Sustainability Initiatives:

- Emphasize the environmental benefits of thrift shopping and encourage sustainable consumer habits.
- Implement recycling and upcycling programs for damaged or unsellable items.

Evaluation and Adaptation:

- Regularly evaluate the success of the pop-up thrift store through metrics such as foot traffic, sales revenue, and customer feedback.

- Adapt strategies and offerings based on insights gained from evaluations to optimize the thrift store's impact and sustainability.

Timeline:

- Month 1: Secure space, establish inventory management system, recruit staff/volunteers.
- Months 2-5: Launch and promote monthly pop-up thrift stores, host events, and collect feedback.
- Ongoing: Evaluate, adapt, and sustain operations based on community response and needs.

Budget:

- Initial setup costs: storage containers and detergent, etc.
- Student training
- Operational expenses (utilities, supplies, etc.)

Conclusion:

By implementing a well-planned and executed pop-up thrift store within the public library, we can create a vibrant community space that promotes sustainability, affordability, and library engagement. Through collaboration with the community and ongoing evaluation, the thrift store can become a valuable resource and hub for fostering connections and supporting local initiatives.