



Campus California

Together, we
can make a
difference one
shirt at a time!



Campus California is a non-profit organization. Our purpose is to work towards the humanization of mankind and for the care of the planet and all its species and plants.

The overall goal is in all ways to do good for people, nature and all its beings.

This objective is pursued through initiating, running, assisting and promoting activities aimed at protecting the environment, education, international development, cooperation and fighting shoulder to shoulder with the poorest of the world.

Campus California collects and sells used clothing, which is an activity with a very strong environmental focus. The proceeds generated by this activity are used to support the training of international volunteers to work with sustainable development in the poorest parts of the world.

Our Mission

Cooperation

Working together locally, nationally and internationally with schools and school movements, development and environmental organizations and with humanizing enterprises of all sorts, that are in any way connected to and furthering this overall goal and any of its specifications.

Protection of the Environment

We develop, support and implement programs and activities dedicated to the care of our environment; focusing specifically on projects aimed at protecting natural resources, reuse and recycling.

Promoting practical solutions for sustainable living through providing information to the general public, supporting other programs aimed at similar goals and starting up and carrying out various projects aimed at preserving the environment and natural resources.



We are working together locally, nationally and internationally with schools and school movements, development and environmental organizations and with humanizing enterprises of all sorts that are connected to our overall goal.



Campus California is a private charitable organization as defined under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code. We are eligible to receive tax-deductible donations.

Tax ID # 94-337-1033

International Development

Supporting programs that train international volunteers to work in development projects either in the US or abroad in the poorest areas of the globe. These programs train a wide range of skills that enable individuals to work for the alleviation of poverty and to work for better education, environment, health and improved human rights and social conditions.

What We Do

Campus California's mission statement contains a number of ambitious goals and commitments that will be carried out over the time through various programs and initiatives. Some of these are being run by our own staff and for others we will engage in cooperation with carefully chosen other non-profit organizations.

At this time our largest and most known program is the second-hand clothing collection in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area in California. Our green colored drop-off boxes have become the hallmark of textile recycling in our neighborhoods; in many cities they are the most readily available (or even the sole) environmentally responsible option for people to dispose of their unwanted clothing and shoes.

The surplus generated by sales of collected goods is used for grants to organizations that work in the area of international development. Currently we support two non-profit organizations in the USA and one in San Vincent in the Caribbean. Our partners train and place volunteers in many different development projects in Southern Africa and Central and South America.



Donation boxes are placed on every kind of commercial property with the consent of the people in charge of these properties. Professionals or volunteers (we call them "sitefinders") scout out the areas for potential box sites and ask for permission to place a donation box. Once this is secured, usually within a couple of weeks we deliver the unit and place it. We service the box with minimal disturbance to the regular business activity at the site; most of the collection happens at night or early morning.



A Recognized Brand



Our Signature Green Boxes are a symbol for textile recycling, attracting and encouraging individuals to donate and recycle clothes at many convenient locations. Since 2003, we have been operating this community service program with the support of many organizations, cities, companies, schools and other entities. Most of the people are willing to actively participate in a recycling program if it is easy to use and located right in their neighborhoods and places of business.



Our donation boxes offer a solution to the problem of what to do with clothes that are worn but not worn out. During the normal course of their day, people can find a conveniently located Campus California box on their way, available 24/7 . They also know that their donation has environmental benefits and will be used to help those less fortunate than themselves.



Serving Our Local and Global Community

Campus California is dedicated to empowering the poor and marginalized peoples of developing countries. We use the funds generated from selling the collected clothing to support training and placement of volunteers in development projects in Southern Africa and Central America. This program is a life-changing experience for the ones participating as volunteers, as well as for the people directly benefitting from the work of the development projects overseas.

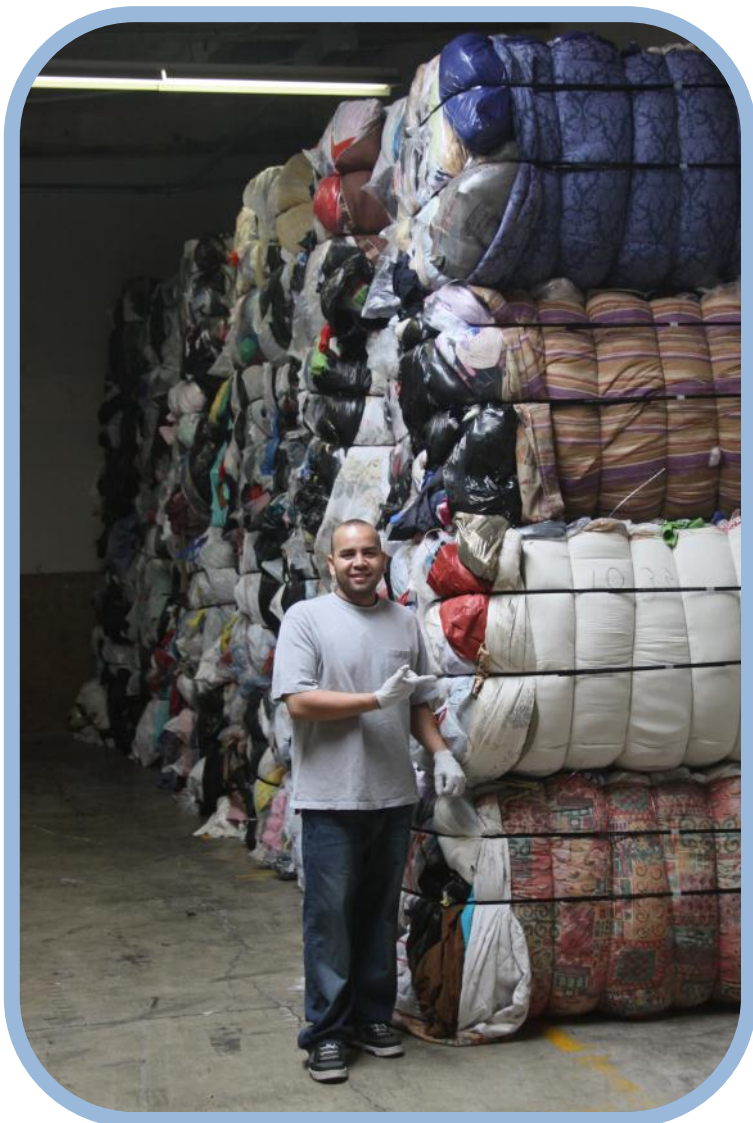


What happens with the clothes?

All the items collected from the boxes are delivered to a central location. Here a trained staff separates clothing from non-clothing items. Clothing is packed in large bales, shoes in cap-sacks and the other miscellaneous items in large cardboard boxes.

The packaged items are sold wholesale, mostly to sorting centers or exporters all across North and Central America.

During the course of our operation, less than 2% of the total weight of collected items is discarded as unusable or not-recyclable!



The Benefits of Textile Reuse

Why use a donation box for unwanted textiles?

Textiles, and clothing in particular are different from most other recyclable materials. The foremost idea is to collect and **reuse** the clothing, to find other people that will wear it. It is almost impossible to reuse clothing once it goes through the process used in most curbside (single stream recycling) programs (the recycling carts at your house). This material is handled by large machines, all the contents mixed together and then mechanically sorted by other large machines. At the end of this process the clothing is no longer wearable.

All items deposited into a donation box are collected and separated (clothing from non-clothing items) by hand, then hand-packed or made into bales while keeping the clothing in the best shape possible for the people who will wear it in the future.

Clothing that is not sold locally in the US is often shipped to developing countries. We provide the communities in these parts of the world with the needed, low cost and affordable clothing. In fact for many people used clothing is the only kind they can afford.

If these clothes and shoes are bought, sold, and paid for, it can generate a much needed economical movement in the otherwise stagnating or declining economy. The poorest countries typically do not have their own clothing industry any more and lack the strength to develop one. It could be because the lack of materials, skilled workforce and investment availability, not even mentioning the global competition from Southeast Asia. Often the local production is too expensive for the poorest to afford it and so the import of second hand clothing can have positive effects on the economy. In fact millions of people all through Southern Africa and South America make their living by buying, selling, repairing and/or altering the clothes or shoes which many of us would not wear any more.

Last but not least; cotton, the raw material for most of clothing produced today is one of the most water, nutrient, labor and pesticide intensive crops grown on industrial scale. It takes over 900 gallons of water just to grow a pound of cotton; the amount of pesticides and fertilizer needed to grow enough cotton to make one T-shirt is almost the same as the final weight of the T-shirt itself!

The Environmental impact of a cotton T-shirt:

Material, production and transport phases, resources spent and greenhouse gasses produced:

Per Pound of final product	
Water	2,400 gallons
Fertilizers	0.55 lbs
Pesticides	0.02 lbs
Fossil Fuels	2.2 lbs
CO2	16.3 lbs
Other gases	0.28 lbs

We have the power to preserve a significant amount of resources by reusing and recycling textiles and our collection boxes are a very simple way to do just that.



Everybody knows that clothes don't belong to the landfill. So what to do with them? People can bring them to their neighborhood donation box! The one they are used to seeing next to the grocery store on the corner when driving by every morning. They can drop off the clothes, and then then they might as well buy what they need for the dinner tonight.

Get Involved—Host a Box

As we are changing our lifestyle towards greater sustainability, a number of new services need to be established to give people the means to do the right thing. It is one thing to say "textiles do not belong to the landfill", but quite another to provide the neighborhoods with an efficient and convenient way of collecting these textiles. Clothing donation boxes are designed to do just that. All the existing thrift stores, churches and door-to-door collections in the USA combined are only diverting about 15% of the textiles that are going to landfills. (Based on the data from the EPA).

Businesses and corporations are in a very good position to benefit from the public's need for these new reuse and recycling services. To host a donation box makes a business more part of the community around and it becomes a part of the sustainability movement as well. Many people are making choices about where to shop for goods or services based on the company's "green" record (and image); companies that are perceived to perform poorly in this area often find themselves at a disadvantage.



An average donation box gets an estimated number of at least 1000 drop-offs per year. For the high-end locations this number can be as high as 10 000 or more.

Businesses can get ahead of competition by providing an additional reason for people to come to their place. This means more eyeballs for their ads, the merchandise or the services they provide.

Solid, Safe, Secure

Our steel collection boxes are custom made and are designed for safe and easy use. They feature a large one-way security chute at the front, similar to the one used in a mailbox. Bags of clothing or loose items go into the box through the chute but it is nearly impossible for others to reach in and remove them. We know that having a secure collection box is a key functional quality. Simple donation instructions are located on the front plate of the security chute. A pick-up is scheduled every time the box is expected to be filled at 2/3 of its capacity, ensuring the public is always able to deposit donations into the box. The boxes have a 4x4 feet footprint and stand 6'6" tall, roughly the size of a vending machine.

Campus California is fully responsible for its collection boxes and carries a liability insurance. Our agent can issue a liability insurance certificate upon request.



How does the service work?



We will deliver a freshly painted and clearly marked collection box to the agreed location and assign a collection driver for regular service. The pick-ups will begin the same week. Our drivers are diligent and are given a strong incentive to pick up every piece from the collection box. If there is ever any overflow in between the regular pick-ups, we are able to respond quickly, usually within 24 hours or less. It is our promise to keep the site hosts satisfied with our service. If for any reason they choose to have the donation box removed, we will do so within 7 to 10 business days.

Helping the local schools

Besides other items, we receive a number of different kinds of books as donations. A portion of these books are children's books and we try to donate most of these to local school libraries. Please contact our local staff with any requests for book donations or send an email to jan@cctg.org.

The books are in good condition, gently used. Only children's books (for all age groups) will be amongst the donated books.

Each donation consists of approximately 300 books. We expect to have several thousand books available per year that would be distributed on a first come-first served basis.

"The Clothing Box is a part of the community that gives neighbors the opportunity to give back... We are glad to be a part of helping the community thrive. "

Roma Groves, Principal
Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School
Oakland, CA



Hosting a Donation box is not a condition for a school to receive a donation of books from Campus California.



Our Supported Programs

Campus California cannot meet its purposes alone. We depend on the millions of people that support us, year after year, through hosting a collection box, donating clothing or simply getting involved. Our supported programs are a very important foundation towards reaching the goals set in our mission statement. Through funds raised via the clothes collection program Campus California directly supports four volunteer training centers (schools), whose volunteers engage in sustainable development work in Southern Africa, Central and South America.

The programs at these schools provide an opportunity for ordinary people to be a part of setting encouraging examples and taking action for a better world. We cannot save the world alone, but together with the people in need, we can progress one step at a time.



Install a new bore hole and a pump so clean water is secured in a village. Establish a school garden to provide a nutritious meal for the children. Organize that a family receives a small loan and can start planting. Hold a course for women about hygiene. Build a new latrine. Mobilize five more girls to go to school. Teach HIV-positive people about the “rules of survival”. Educate primary school teachers for rural areas.

The list is long, but anybody can take part. Each event is a small victory in the fight against poverty. Combined and over time, they have an impact. The people who are part of the development work develop themselves in the process as well and build their capacity to do more. So the good examples spread. Development can only be created through a collective effort.

The schools offer two different programs that require a different time commitment.

Development Instructor Program – Africa - The whole program is 14 or 20 months long.

Fighting shoulder to shoulder with The Poor in Latin America – The duration of this program is 9 months.

To learn more please visit our web site.

www.campus-california.org



Noah from February team 2010: *“the more I learn about Africa and the work we’ll do there, the more I feel the importance of this training. Also, I am finding out that Africa is not a dream or fantasy land as I thought, and that I am going to Africa to help someone, not just for myself. If I wanted to go there just for the travel, I could have chosen an easier way than this program.”*



Join Us



Since 2003 Campus California is providing the public with clean and convenient way to recycle clothes and enjoys the support of a long list of satisfied customers and hosting businesses.

With our 24-hour service guarantee, you can rest assured that every concern will be addressed promptly and to your satisfaction!

Currently we service many hundreds of locations; our crew of diligent professionals is able to empty any number of boxes in a safe and efficient manner.

Visit us at

www.campus-california.org

for more information.

Campus California

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