

Executive Summary: Show Me Smart Waste

Missouri Leadership Academy, Class 17



Opportunity Statement

There are opportunities to improve the efficiency and financial stewardship of the state's recycling and solid-waste management programs by leveraging existing resources.



Proposed Solutions

Revitalize existing interagency partnerships through the Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee (MIRC).

Use AI tools to expand access to recycling and contract resources.



Project Outcomes

Developed a chatbot that provides information on:

- Frequently Asked Questions.
- Existing contracts and state resources.
- Information previously researched by an OA employee and answered individually by email.

Surveyed agencies to assess and update MIRC operations.

Created a MIRC charter defining goals, roles, and expectations.

Developed a 12-month action plan for collaboration and shared priorities.



Impact

Chatbot saves MIRC members approximately **390 hours/month; \$150,000/year**.

Up to **500,000 pounds** of waste diverted; **\$25,000/year** in waste disposal costs.

The increased use of existing contracts reduces duplicated efforts and spending.

Strengthened interagency collaboration through MIRC.

Clear roles, responsibilities, and goals established for MIRC.



Recommendations

Maintain and expand the ShowMeSmartWaste Chatbot, approximately **\$600/year**.

Resume quarterly MIRC meetings and support agency participation.

Strengthen collaboration and maximize existing resources using the charter and strategic plan as guides.



Capstone Team

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