Coalition On Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)
Housing Ohio 2019 Conference
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“How to Start Your Own Social Enterprise”

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Alvis Social Enterprises

Who We Are

Transitions is a social enterprise, dedicated to consistently providing high customer satisfaction by rendering excellent service, quality commercial cleaning services, at an acceptable price. We will maintain a friendly creative work environment that respects diversity, ideas, and hard work.
Why choose a social enterprise model?

Green Infrastructure Workforce Development

- Green Infrastructure Elements
  - Plant Identification/Ecology
  - Soil Preparation
  - Maintenance

- Hardscape Fundamentals
  - Types and Maintenance

- Field Trips / Hands-On Experience
  - Franklin Park Conservatory, Grange Audubon Center, Griggs Reservoir, Discovery District

GIWD 2015 Spring Class
Suggestions for adopting a social enterprise model

- Addresses a social problem
- Uses entrepreneurial principles to organize, create, and manage a social venture for profit
- Success defined by “Blended Return”: positive financial AND social benefit

(Ref: Center for Social Enterprise Development, www.cincohio.com)
Lessons Learned

- Business is business – social vs. financial benefits
- A good worker doesn’t make a good business OWNER
- Quality product/service = increase customers, profitability

(Social) costs and benefits of a social enterprise

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<tr>
<th>Social Costs</th>
<th>Social Benefits</th>
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<td>Exclusion of those with a criminal history, or disability</td>
<td>Meeting a business need</td>
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<td>5.9 million job openings in the U.S.</td>
<td>Underserved populations have, or have the ability to learn, new job skills; creative and resourceful</td>
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<td>Est. 45 million people in the U.S. have criminal histories</td>
<td>Ban the Box</td>
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