



Wear It Forward

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Mountain House High School



Table of Contents

<input type="checkbox"/> 03	Mission Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Pivot
<input type="checkbox"/> 04	Issue & Solution	<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Elementary Schools
<input type="checkbox"/> 05	Target Audience	<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Possible Locations
<input type="checkbox"/> 06	Predicted Process	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	MHHS Approval
<input type="checkbox"/> 07	Research	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Social Media/Website
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Survey 1 Results	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Impact
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Future Plans
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Survey 2 Results	<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Reflection



Mission Statement:



“

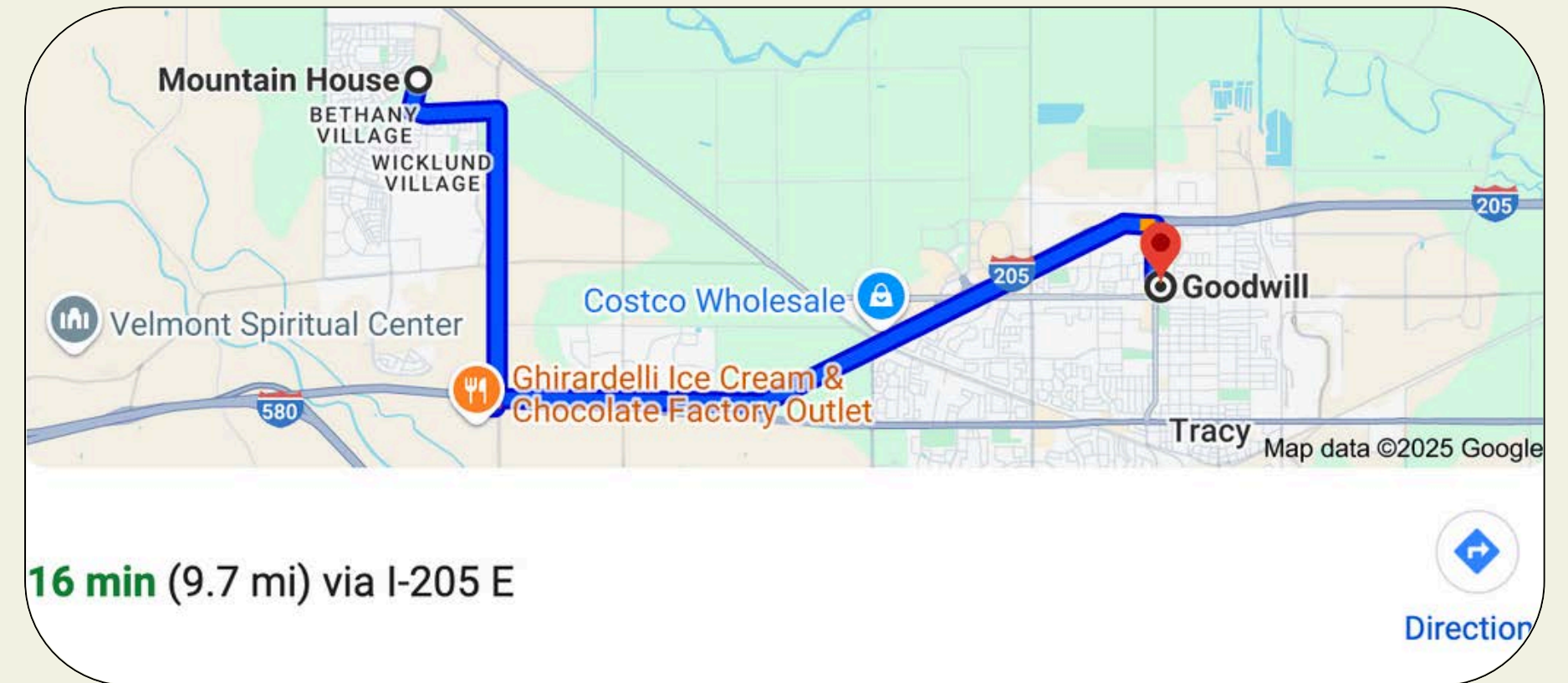
We wish to **encourage** the residents of **Mountain House** to **donate** their old clothing and shoes to a good cause, and work towards finding a **convenient way** for them to do so!

”

The Issue & Solution

The issue we noticed in our town was a lack of a convenient way to donate shoes, accessories, and clothes. Residents in our town often find themselves having to drive around **10 miles away just to donate.**

- Having a way to donate clothes around our town would encourage the citizens of Mountain House to donate and help those in need
- **Donation boxes** would help citizens easily donate their clothes
- Placing **donation bins in schools** would prevent textile waste from lost-and-found bins
- **Future plans** for a **curbside pick-up system**



Target Audience



Residents/Students

MH residents who can use our services/Volunteers to collect, sort, and transport.



Elementary Schools

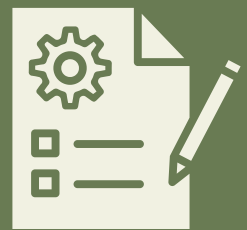
Schools have many growing kids from all grades who generate a lot of textile waste. Lost and found bins full of clothes, water bottles, and other unclaimed items are sometimes all thrown away.



Local Community Centers

Local Community Centers willing to accept a bulk of donations.

Predicted Process



STEP 1

Research



STEP 2

**Conduct a
Survey**



STEP 3

**Reach out to
the mayor
for donation
bins**



STEP 4

**Contact school
principals
or administration
for school bins**



STEP 5

**Social Media/
Creating a
website**

Step 1: Research

To gain knowledge about the issue, we researched underlying factors and consequences of **textile waste**.

- Capitalism
- Consumerism
- Waste



The Effect of Capitalism

Fast-Fashion industries:

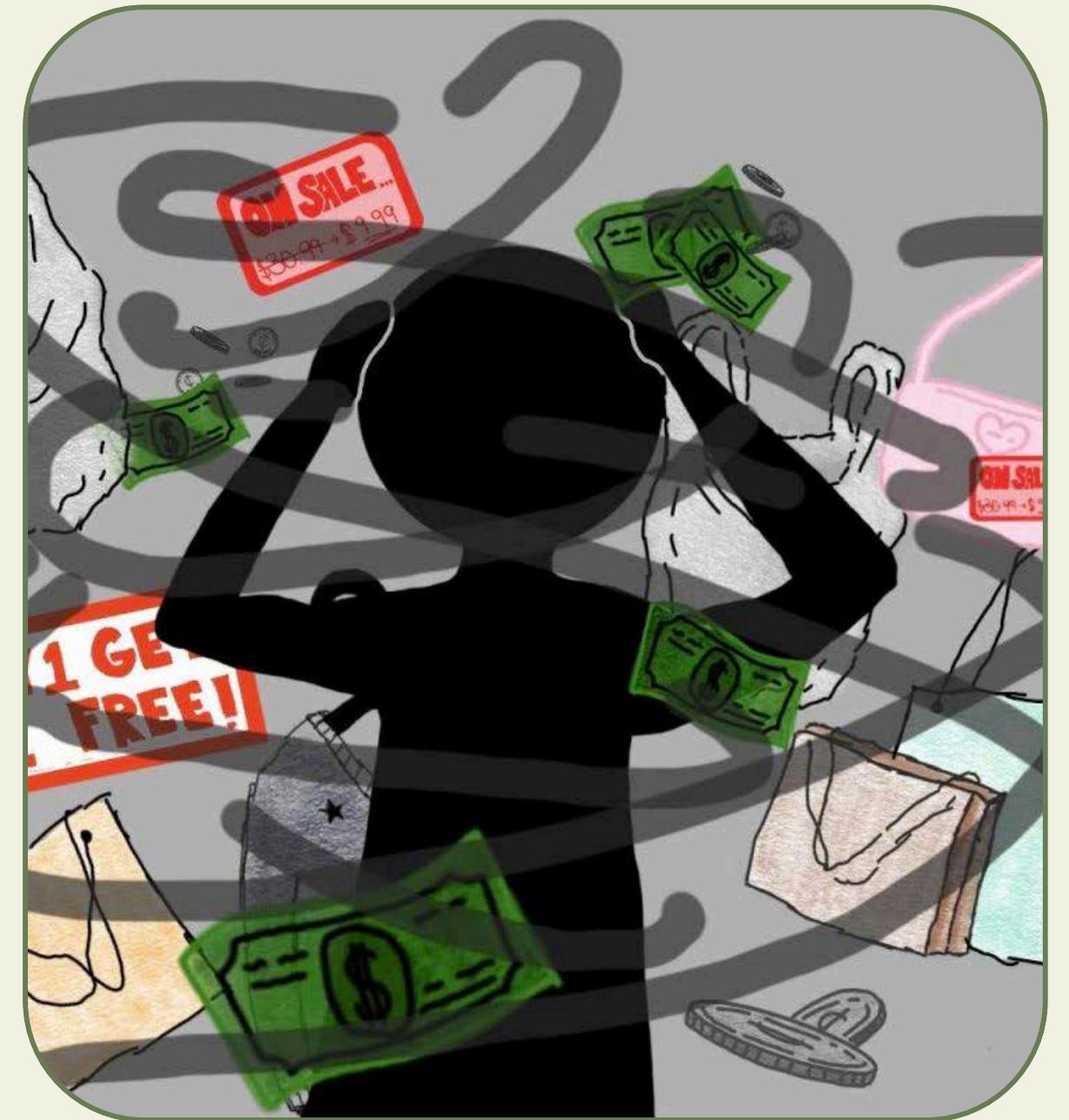
- Exploit less developed countries for cheap labor to keep prices down.
- Workers (mostly children and women) receive inadequate wages and improper recognition for their work.
- Less focus on quality of clothes, emphasis on quantity.
- Recycling and donating clothes ensure the life of clothes continues for as long as possible.



Consumerism

Consumerism is the overall idea that buying more things such as clothes, electronics, food makes people happy and helps the economy grow. In short, the economy depends on people spending money. Americans feel the need to buy new things through ads and trends which can lead to:

- Overconsumption (buying more than needed)
- Waste (throwing away usable things)
- Harms the environment
- Adding donation boxes to my community would reduce waste, help others, and promote mindfulness within the community.



Waste

The fast-fashion industry has dangerously exacerbated textile waste, much of which ends up in landfills. The production of clothes leads to lots of water wasted, as well as unfair, illegal labor needed. Throwing away clothes has a lot of negative consequences some listed are:

- Environmental impact: leads to Chemical Pollution
- Resource waste: there is so much potential for donation!
- Economic loss



Step 2: Survey

We wanted to gauge how much Mountain House residents would use our services, and what they would use them for, so we designed and sent out a survey.

- This also gave us exposure and interest for people to become involved with donating clothes.

Donation Boxes in MH

1077804@lammersvilleusd.net [Switch account](#)

Not shared

* Indicates required question

Have you ever donated items (clothes, shoes, etc.) to a donation box? *

☐ Clothes and shoes
☐ Only clothes
☐ Only shoes
☐ None

How important do you think it is to have donation boxes in our community? *

1 2 3 4 5
 Not important at all ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Very important

What types of items do you think should be collected in donation boxes? *

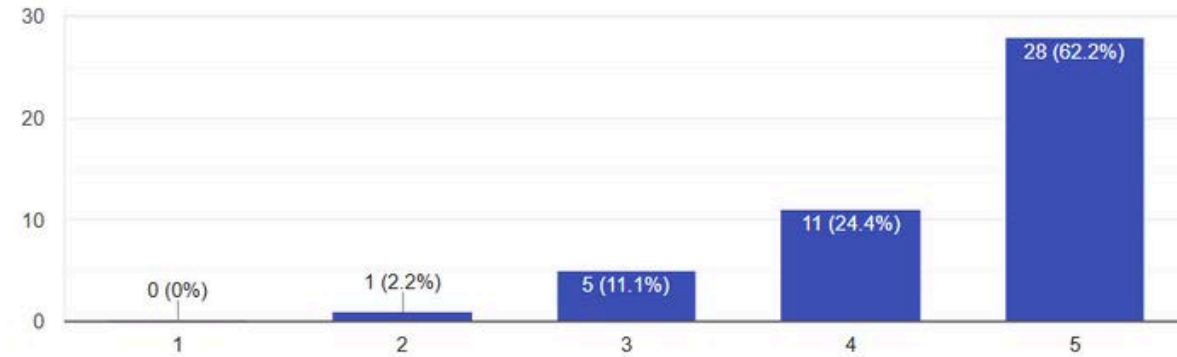
(Check all that apply)

☐ Clothing
☐ Shoes

How important do you think it is to have donation boxes in our community?

[Copy chart](#)

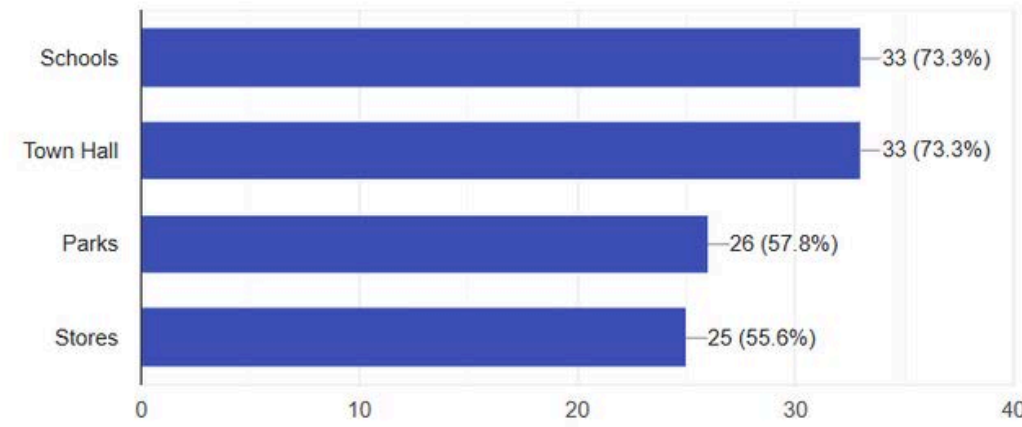
45 responses



Where do you think donation boxes would be most effective? (Choose up to 3)

[Copy chart](#)

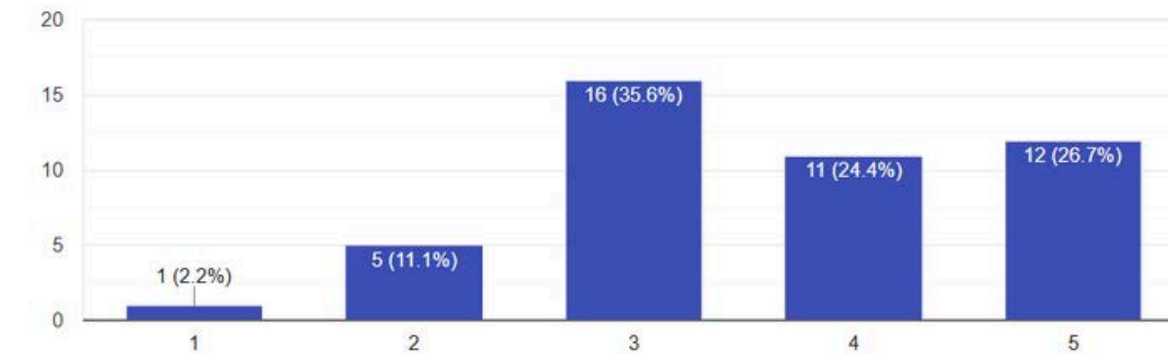
45 responses



From a scale 1-5 how often would you use donation boxes if added to Mountain House?

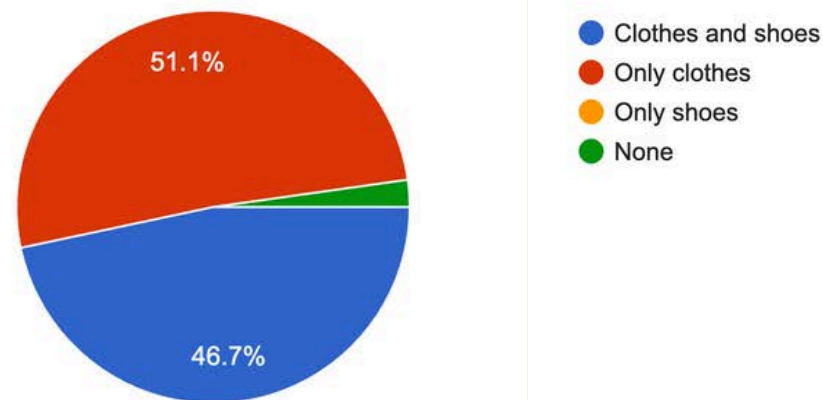
[Copy chart](#)

45 responses



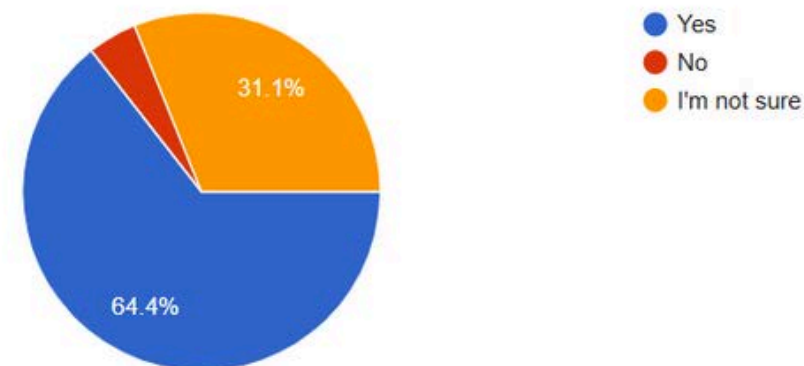
We had to start off the survey with questions to understand if the majority of residents will positively support the idea of adding donation boxes.

Have you ever donated items (clothes, shoes, etc.) to a donation box? *



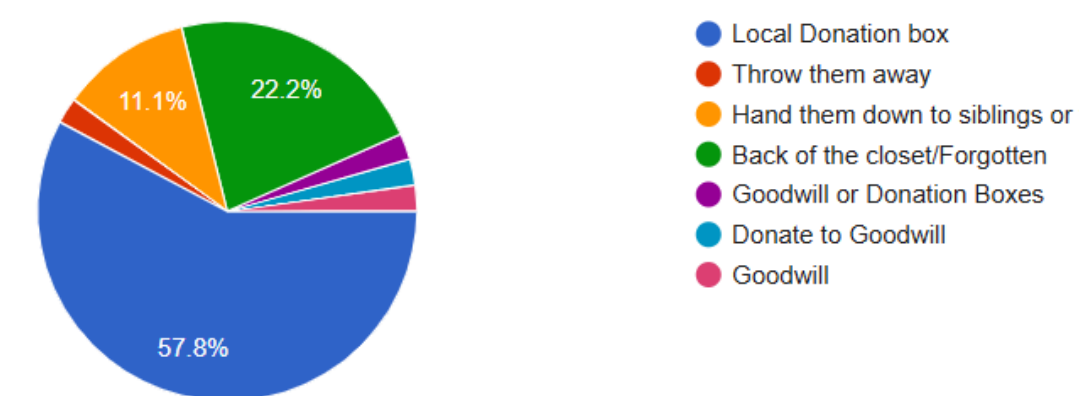
Do you have anything that you would want to donate?

45 responses



Where do you put most of your old or unused clothes?

45 responses

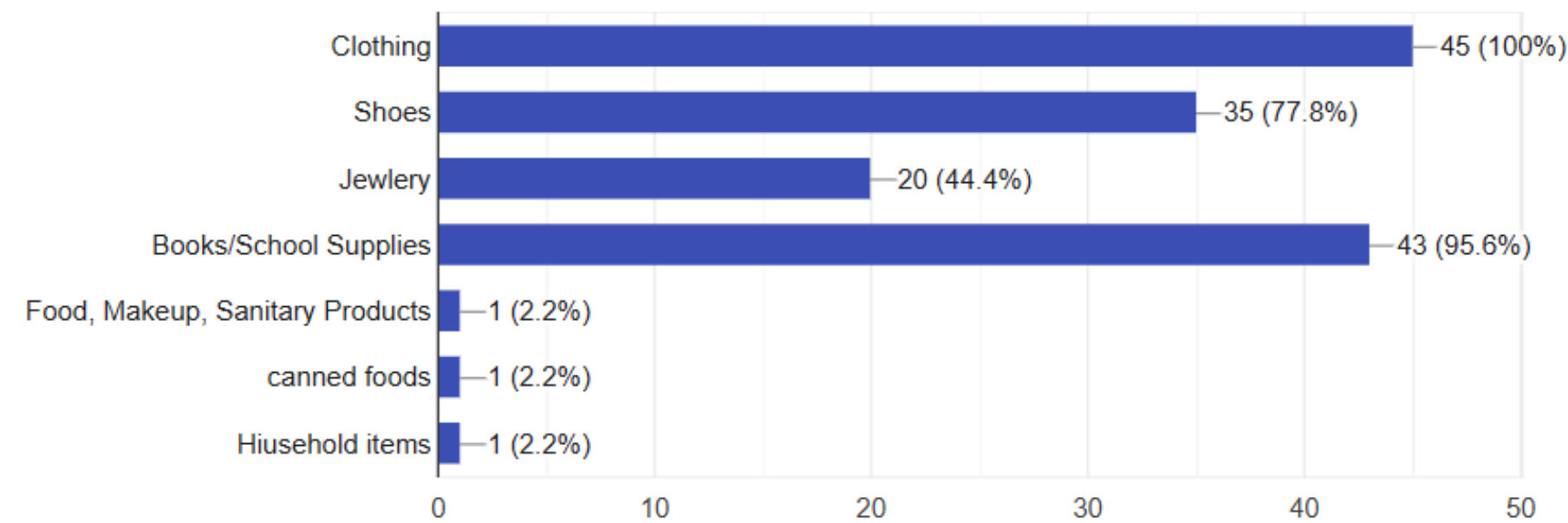


Next, we had to see if there is interest and past experience with donations within the community.

What types of items do you think should be collected in donation boxes? (Check all that apply)

 Copy chart

45 responses

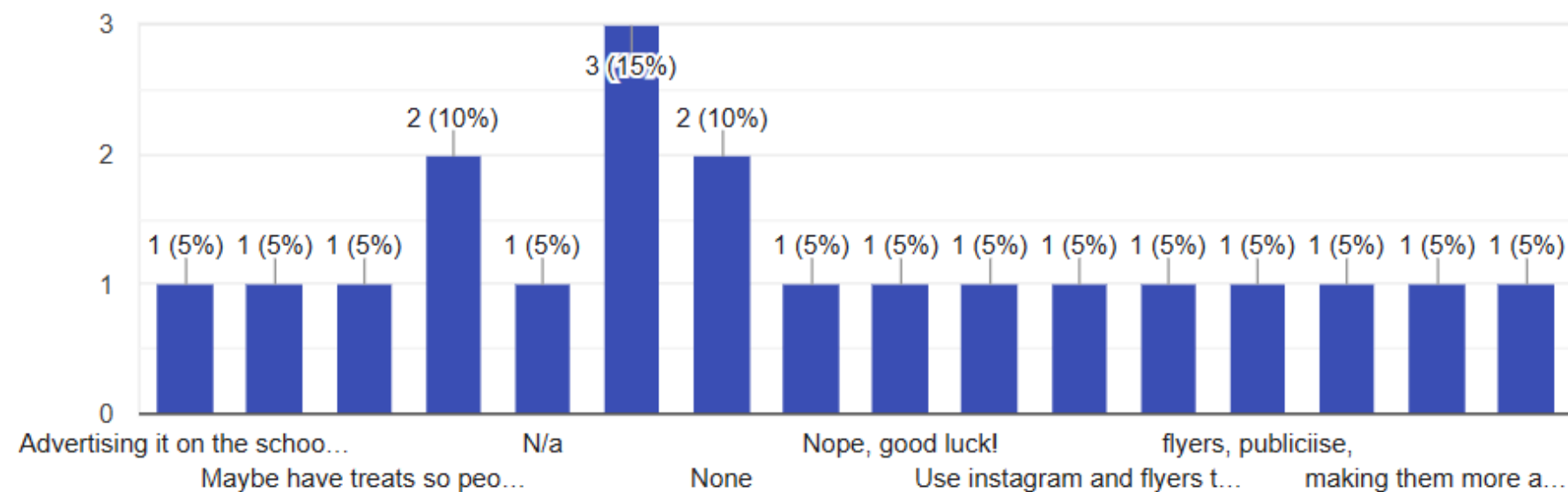


We found that MH residents wanted to donate mostly clothing, as well as shoes and school supplies.

Do you have any suggestions and/or ideas on how to make a successful donation box program in Mountain House?

 Copy chart

20 responses



We also gathered ideas to gather interest for our program through things like social media.

Step 3: Reach out to Mayor

We set up a Zoom Meeting with Mayor Su to gain some insight on how we could set up donation boxes.

With Mayor Su's guidance we learned...

- Donation bins are not in the city's plan
- Bins would be too expensive
- It would be extremely difficult to get the city's approval.



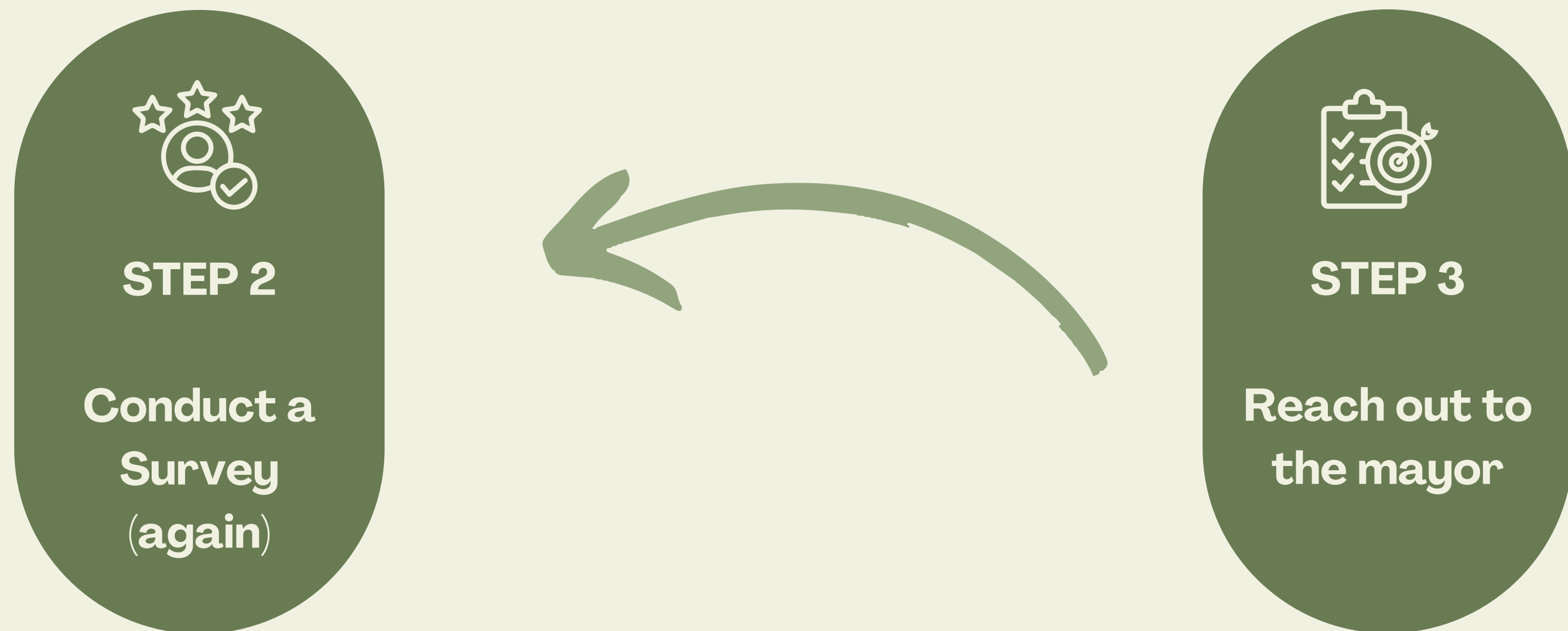
Instead, he helped us pivot and opt for an alternative & convenient way for residents to donate clothing.

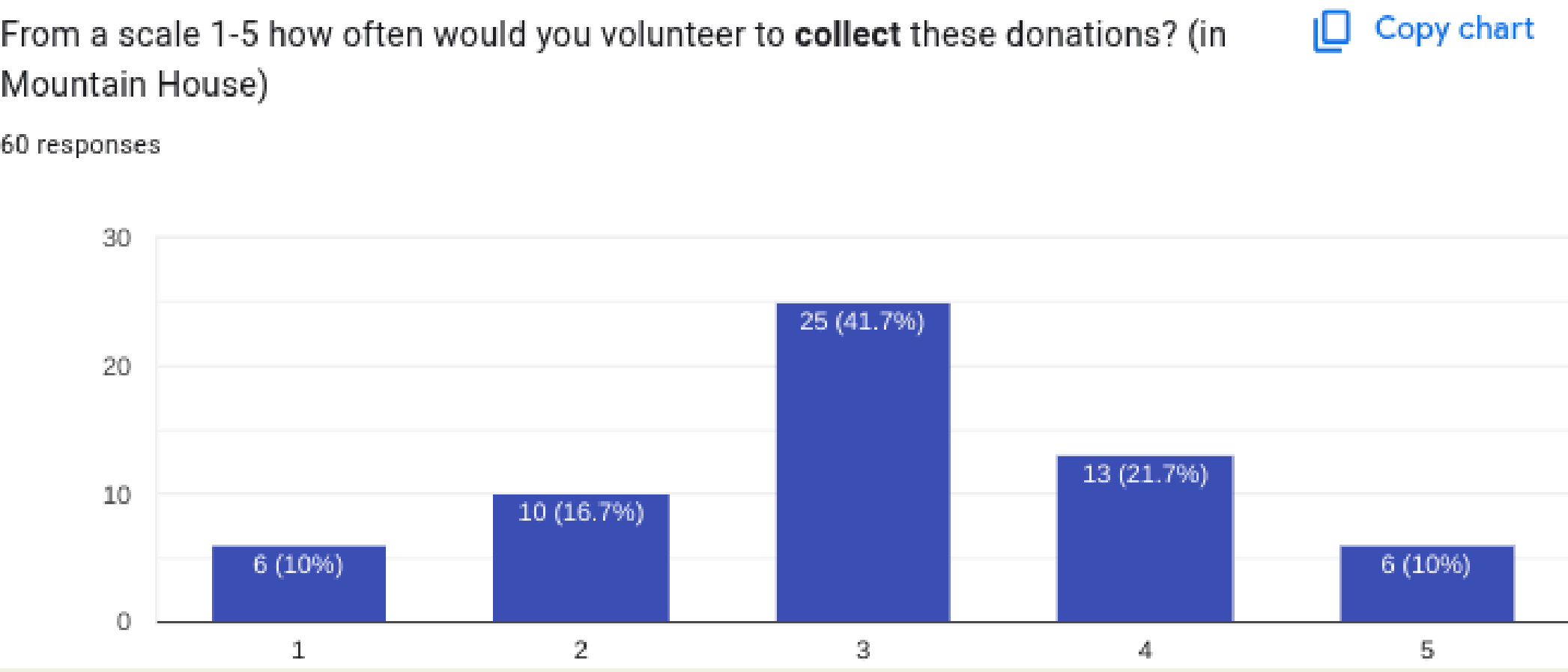
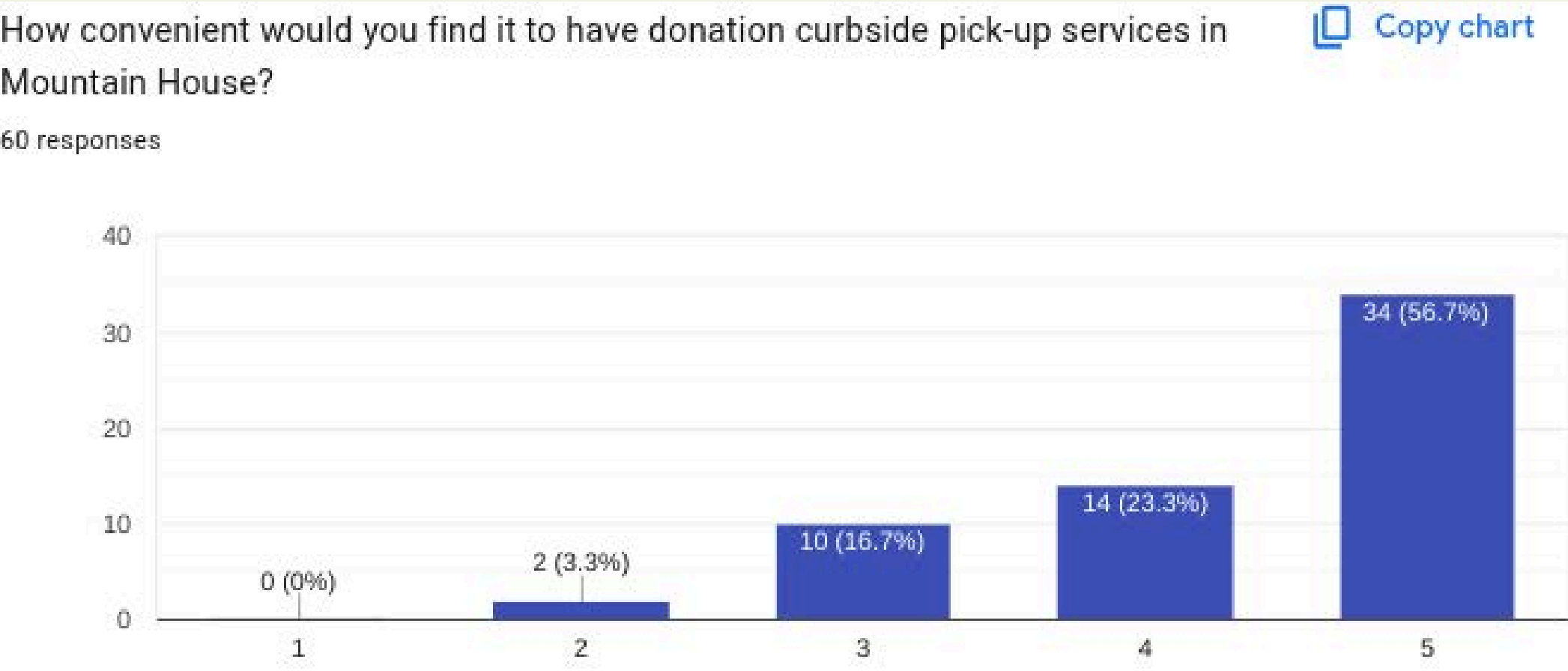
Curbside Pick-up

An idea that we had was to hold donation drives, residents could leave their donations outside their homes at a certain time, and would have the convenience of not having to go out, find a donation box, and donate themselves.

Volunteers would collect the donations throughout the city, and they would be sorted. The sorted donations would then be transported to local community centers, which we can cycle through every time we hold a drive.

Our process stayed the same, but we decided to revisit Step 2, and conduct a **new survey** regarding our **new plan** on pick-up services.



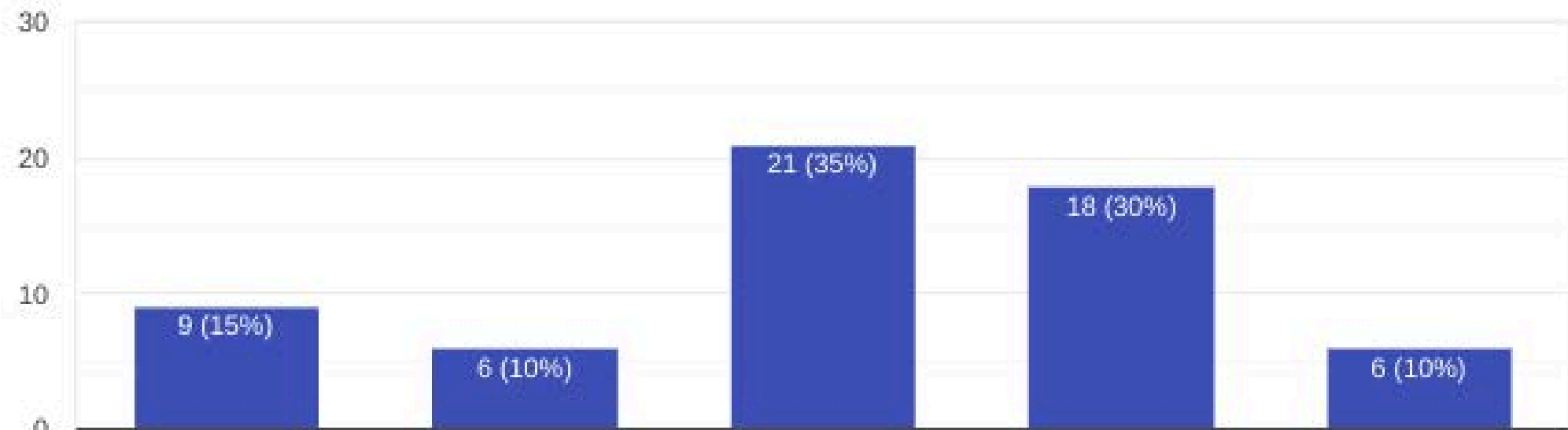


Survey #2 Results

We found that people would find it very convenient to use donation curbside pick up services.

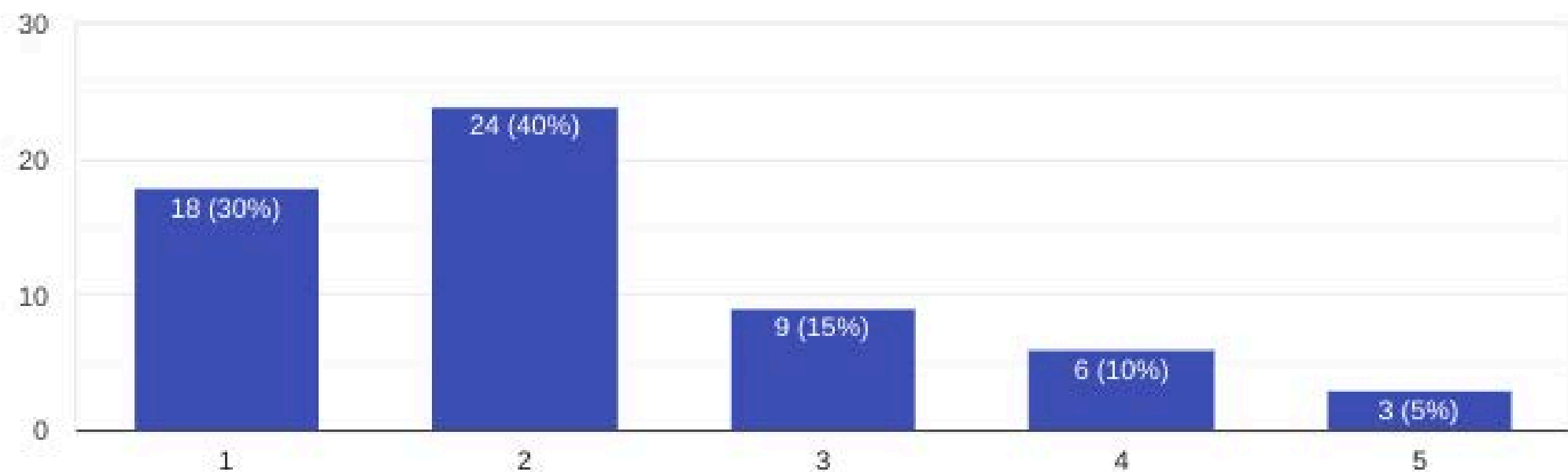
From a scale 1-5 how often would you volunteer to **sort** these donations? (from residents in Mountain House) [Copy chart](#)

60 responses



From a scale 1-5 how often would you volunteer to **transport** these donations? (ex. Tracy, Livermore, Dublin) [Copy chart](#)

60 responses

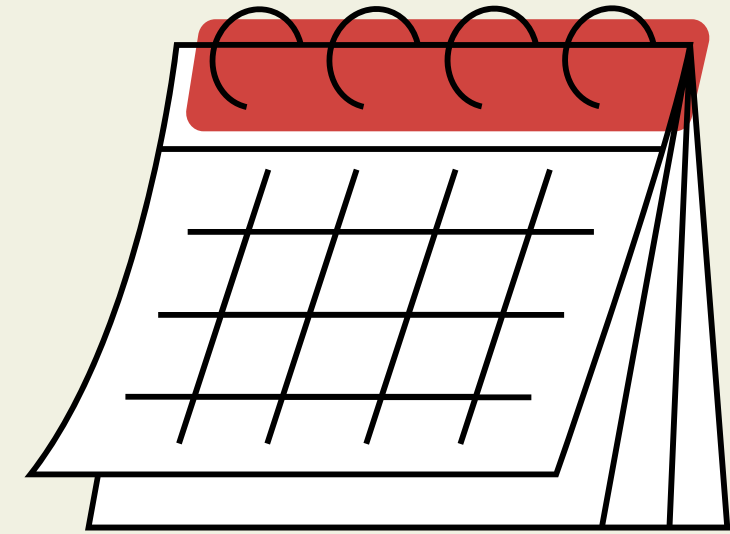


Survey #2 Results

We also found that people would be willing to volunteer to help with curbside pick-up donation drives.

Step 3.5: Pivot

Because of the interest shown in the survey, as well as the feedback from Andy Su, we decided to:



- Pivot and focus our services on **curbside pick-up donation drives** rather than donation boxes
- We created a **sign-up system** for volunteers to collect, sort, and transport donations.

Step 4: Elementary Schools

We contacted **elementary school** principals to talk about their lost and found.

- Many schools have a **lost and found** that piles up throughout the school year.
- We **offer to donate** the clothes and items to local community centers.

We also requested to have temporary, cost-friendly **plastic bins** which we can collect, sort, and donate along with our donation drives.



Potential Locations



Wicklund Elementary School
300 E Legacy Dr, Mountain House, CA 95391



Altamont Elementary School
452 W St Francis Ave, Mountain House, CA 95391



Questa Elementary School
685 N Montebello, Mountain House, CA 95391



Bethany Elementary School
570 S Escuela Dr, Mountain House, CA 95391



Cordes Elementary School
296 Parco Ave, Mountain House, CA 95391



Hansen Elementary School
1400 S Durant Terrace, Mountain House, CA 95391



Mountain House High School
1090 S. Central Parkway, 1090 Central Pkwy, Mountain House, CA 95391

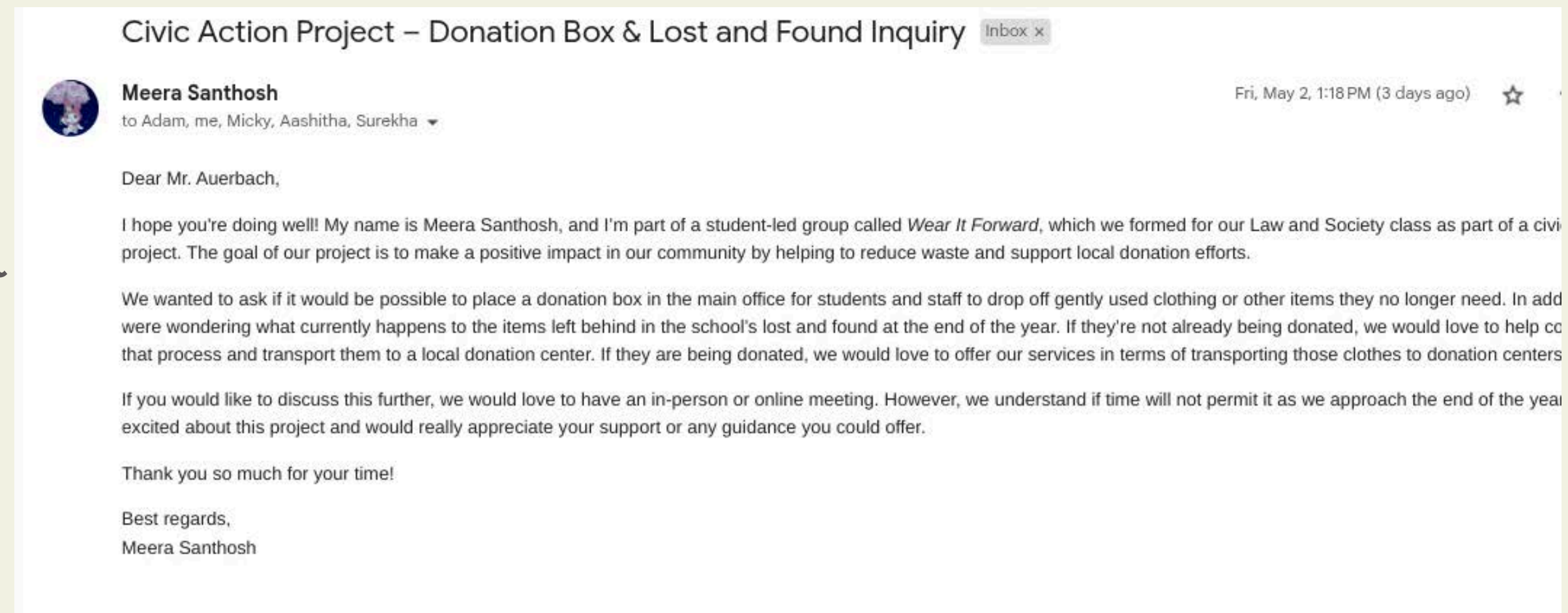


Costa Elementary School
1675 Gobind Blvd, Mountain House, CA 95391

Step 4: Mountain House High School

Upon contacting elementary schools, many of them suggested talking to our **high school principal** for approval on our program.

We contacted and met with **Dr. Auerbach** about potentially have a donation box in our school office and to gain **approval**.



Step 4: Mountain House High School

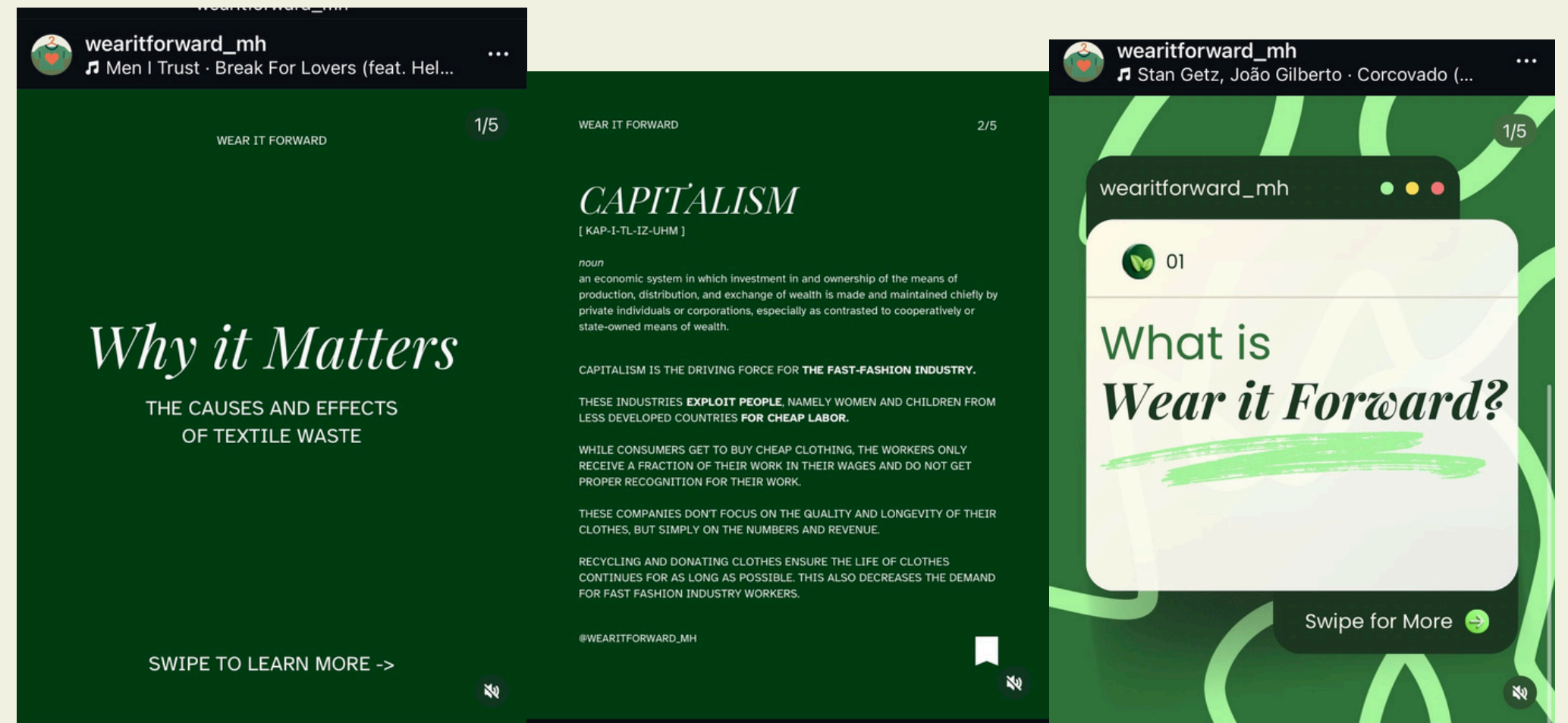
In our meeting, Dr. Auerbach offered his **support** for our program as well as gave feedback.

Dr. Auerbach gave us insight on how to **market** our bins, and offered to forward our fliers and plan in an email to the **elementary schools**.



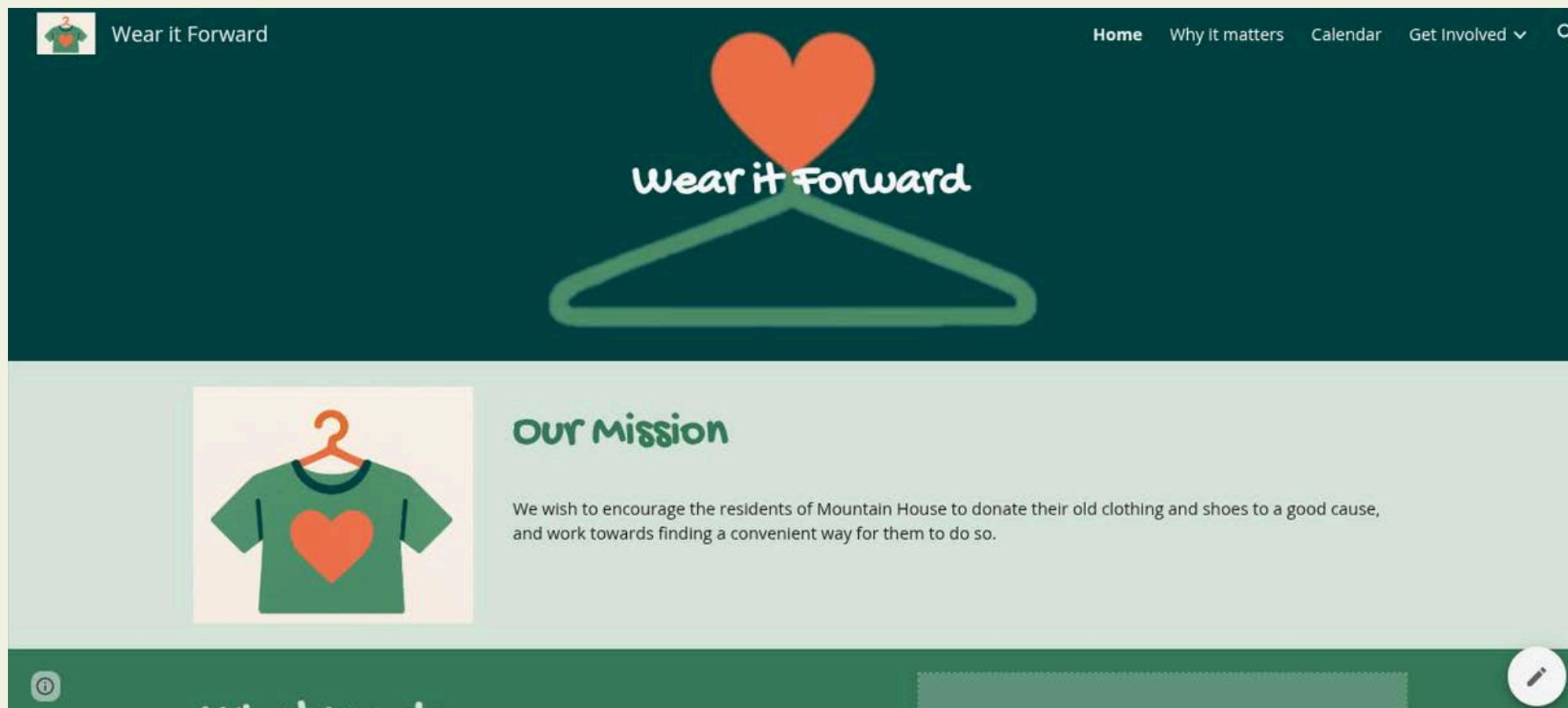
Step 5: Social Media/Website

To advertise our donation services, we decided to make a social media account on **Instagram**.



IG: @wearitforward_mh

Step 5: Social Media/Website



Website link

We also created a **website** to make information on how to volunteer or donate easy to find.

- Volunteer Sign-ups
- Event Calendar
- Our mission

What Impact did we make?

This year, we will **collect** the unclaimed clothes from the lost and found to donate. We plan to have our **plastic bins** up and running in school offices by next school year.

We plan to **post** actively online and **connect** with local businesses that are willing to take our quantity of donations. We hope to hold our first curbside pickup drive this summer of 2025.

Future Plans

We plan to continue our program by creating a club at our high school. As we graduate, esteemed members or volunteers will fill our shoes, preserving its longevity.

We would also like to turn this project even more public-service oriented by potentially volunteering at homeless shelters and community centers while offering services like free tutoring for the underprivileged. Furthermore, we hope to raise more social awareness by organizing events and discussions on community issues. We also aim to hold regular volunteering opportunities for students to be able to give back, support those in need, and make a positive impact.



Reflections

Zoey: This project taught me how to harness social media and online tools to spread awareness about issues and organize events.

Meera: This project taught me about small things we can do for the betterment of the community. It also taught me how these changes encourage positive social interactions in the city we live in.

Aashitha: This project taught me how simple it is for someone to get involved in making an impact in their community.

MJ: What I learned from this project was the importance of recycling bins and how they could help impact the community in a positive way. As well as how to utilize social media in a way that impacts the community.

WEAR IT FORWARD

Thank you for Listening!



Learn more at our website:

[https://sites.google.com/lammersvilleusd.
net/wearitforward/home](https://sites.google.com/lammersvilleusd.net/wearitforward/home)

IG: @wearitforward_mh