



**CASCADE ALLIANCE**  
Sustainable Work. Stronger Communities.

**Work the Problem Weekend**  
**Thursday May 14 -Saturday May 16**  
**Eugene Hilton, 66 E 6th Ave.**  
**Vistas Room**

**Thursday:**

2:30 – 6:00 pm: **Tour (for newcomers only!)** of St Vinnie’s social service facilities and stores

6:00 – 9:00 pm: **Registration/hospitality** in parlor suite (Room 702). Enjoy local wine/beer and pizza when picking up your conference packet and ID.

**Friday:**

8 am: **Breakfast** in the Vistas room

8:40 am: **Welcome:** Sue Palmer

8:45 – 10:45 am: **Cascade Alliance members’ updates (10 minutes each)**

- 8:45-8:55 am: Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, Bridgeport CT
- 8:55-9:05 am: The Cara Program’s Chapter Two, Chicago IL
- 9:05-9:15 am: The Up Center, Norfolk VA
- 9:15-9:25 am: Opportunity House, Reading PA
- 9:25-9:35 am: Urban League of Essex County, Newark NJ
- 9:35-9:45 am: United Teen Equality Center, Lowell MA
- 9:45-9:55 am: Exceed, Milwaukie OR
- 9:55-10:05 am: Mustard Seed, Orlando FL

10:05 – 10:25 am: Finger Lakes Reuse (Ithaca NY) and Scrap Exchange (Durham NC) introduce themselves

10:45 – 11:00 am: **Break**

11:00 – 11:15 am: **Best Business Practices:** Guest speaker, University of Oregon Lundquist Business College senior instructor Anne Forrester, on bringing best business practices to the nonprofit world.

11:15 – noon: **Opening a Pop-Up Shop** with Cascade Alliance members

Noon – 12:50 pm: **Lunch**

12:50 – 1:00 pm: **Meaningful Work:** Ashley Raman shares his personal story

1:00 – 1:30 pm: **Keeping OSHA happy:** workplace safety with Dave Tussing

1:40 pm: **Head to Junction City for afternoon sessions**

2:15 – 3:00 pm: **Stump the chumps**: Terry McDonald throws practical challenges to his top managers in an exercise designed to show how we solve the many thorny problems that come up in any given week.

3:00 – 3:15 pm: **Break**

3:15 – 4:45 pm: **Breakout sessions** with St. Vinnie's staff on: retail thrift, mattress recycling, books, warehouse/logistics, getting stuff/relationships, eBay

5:00 pm: **Head back to the Hilton**. Optional social time with beverages and light appetizers in the parlor suite (Room 702)

**Dinner on your own with discounted options on "show your badge" map**

## **Saturday:**

8:30 am: **Breakfast** in the Vistas room

9:00 – 10:00 am: **Commodities update** with Terry McDonald (45 minutes and 15 minutes Q/A)

10:00 – 10:20 am: **Get the grant**: Sue Palmer offers best options for recycling funding

10:20 – 10:35 am: **Break**

10:35 – 11:00 am: **Eagle eye on the bottom line** with Bethany Rockwell (Case Studies for St. Vinnie's books and retail)

11:00 – 11:55 am: **Creative solutions**: Member success stories, a closer look at some of the creative strategies that improved revenue in the past year.

Noon – 1 pm: **Lunch - Ten clues you may be ready for upcycling** with Mitra Chester

1:00 – 2:00 pm: **Work the problem session 1** (As we did last year, we'll circle up and develop solutions for challenges.)

2:00 – 2:15 pm: **Break**

2:15 – 3:15 pm: **Work the problem session 2**

3:15 – 4:00 pm: **Opportunities for collaboration**

4:00 – 5:30 pm: Optional social hour at the parlor suite (Room 702)

5:30 pm: **Dinner and awards ceremony**