Recovery of people using the waste stream



This is the story of our people





The Waitaki Resource Recovery Trust recently celebrated its 20th birthday













In 2004 we started as a small operation, only open on Sundays.







But the story begins before that in 2001 with some visionary people...











In 2006 the chapter of our social enterprise began working with Workbridge to give people opportunities based on their abilities, not DISabilities...











To date we have had 1000 people come through our social enterprise. They get literacy and numeracy training and support, work experience, life skills and a sense of belonging.











We discovered we were not only recovering resources from the waste stream, we were recovering people using the waste stream.

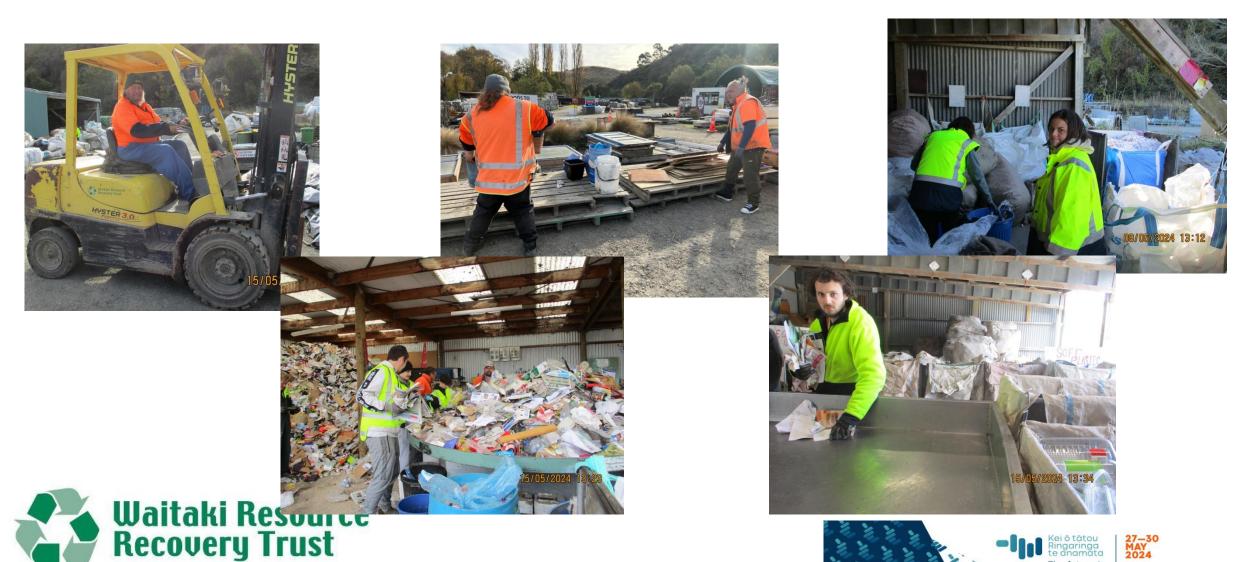


And our people are our greatest resource.





Not only have our people found new purpose and employment in the waste industry, they've found empowerment.



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We help them open a door for themselves to a future rich with possibilities, financial stability and fun!











And our people go on to inspire and educate our rangatahi and community with their expertise.











At our site, we can recover over 40 different types of waste and divert up to 93% of what comes through our gates – that's something we are all really proud of.













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We are always looking for more opportunities for our people as we move towards a low-emissions, low waste society...







Enviroschools





We now offer an Event Waste Kit and education













We also host other organizations at our site that bring social benefits, inclusion and a sense of purpose to community members, such as the MenzShed.











One of our strengths is the partnerships we have formed to wrap around our people and operation...









We are creating networks that will provide more opportunities to recover more waste and more people as we move to a Waste Free Waitaki future.









Through our partnerships and networks we are spearheading initiatives to drive increased awareness of resource recovery and behaviour change















We are ready for the next chapter in this story of recovering people using the waste stream. And we are excited!









So if you are ever in the beautiful Waitaki district, call in and see us. We're waiting to welcome you.







So thank you for allowing me to share the story of our people with you today. They deserve recognition for everything they contribute to our community and our environment. We are so proud of them.





