The Plastic Control Organization

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Summary

Producing plastic products can be convenient for both the producer and consumer because of how cheap it can be but, it can also be easily disposable. Since it can be more convenient for the consumer to throw away plastic products the trash itself can end up in the environment such as the ocean where ocean organisms reside. With the approximate 91% of plastic not ending up in either recycling centers or landfills we are aiming to lower the percentage that ends up in the oceans. We have decided to make a non-profit organization which will be collecting plastic waste and any other material that is found on beaches or in the ocean. In order for our project to succeed we will need equipment, transportation, headquarters, and other items in order to function. As we continue to grow we intend to participate in interviews in order to spread awareness about plastic pollution and how it’s affecting our environment. We estimated that we will need a minimum of $62,000 in order to start off and as we continue to collect plastic waste we will look into other businesses that are interested in purchasing the collectd plastic so that it can be recycled into new products.

Introduction

Plastic products are produced all over the world and manufactured for different purposes with a convenience to be easily thrown away. Plastic can be used to wrap items, used as containers, as bottles/buckets, utensils, and many other purposes. Since plastic is cheap to produce and can be adapted for different purposes it can also be convenient for the consumer to dispose of it. When disposed of it can end up in the environment such as the ocean where it can be dangerous for the ocean organisms that live there. Nearly 91% of plastic products end up where they are not supposed to be, when they should be getting recycled. Our project is targeting the plastic waste that is floating around in the ocean. We have to acknowledge that plastic waste is a problem that we must solve. Since most of the plastic cannot be biodegradable and can break into smaller pieces while in the ocean. Those small pieces may end up consumed by the animal living there, one example being that plastic waste kills up to a million seabirds a year. Since the plastic consumed by animals takes up space in their stomachs it can lead to starvation and affect the food chain.

Plastic waste in the ocean can be a major problem around the world since it can affect the ecosystem and humans as well. With our proposal we will aim to decrease the amount of plastic waste with different methods of collecting it. Some methods may involve nets and crane gear on a boat in order to gather the plastic waste together with the help of scuba divers. While we are in the collecting phase there is an interest in finding businesses that are interested in the plastic waste that will find ways to recycle them. Such as other nonprofit organizations like ‘The Ocean Cleanup’ where their main focus is to collect plastic and then find ways to produce new products out of them such as sunglasses. We will be starting off with a small crew and as we improve our online advertising/flyers we are looking forward to improving our effort of cleaning up the ocean. With our vision we will need about $62,000 to start off and as mentioned before with further investigation, hopefully find businesses that are interested in buying the plastic waste collected. But in order for this to work we will need to take certain steps in order to create a foundation with a budget that will help the process go smoothly.

Project Description

The Plastic Control organization will start by cleaning the beaches around its headquarters. We will eventually try to spread more around as we get more volunteers and move to other states to clean up their beaches and eventually grow our organization in each state that is near the coastline. After that occurs, we plan on introducing recycling to countries who have a low or no knowledge about recycling and try to encourage them to recycle by showing them the benefits and the consequences. Many countries have no knowledge on recycling, which leads to many of them throwing their garbage in the ocean whether it’s recyclable material or just waste. As a result, many animals in the environment are affected by that waste and some are close to extinct. For instance, some animals get caught up in these plastic wastes like bottles, garbage bags, etc; as a result, this will cause an unbalanced ecosystem because it is killing some of our animals and so the consumption of other animals will be high on demand, which is very dangerous for animals close to extinction.

Other than those two negative effects, fish as a food source can become impossible in the future if we keep throwing our plastic waste in the ocean. So in order to prevent this from happening, as a team we are building this non-profit organization to make the future for the next generation much better. We will start making ads in newspapers and on websites. We will also make social media accounts to spread the word about our organization, since nowadays using social media can be useful. We will be holding our cleaning sessions every weekend so that people can have a chance to come volunteer despite it’s on their off days, however, we will hold games that are fun for the people to play at the end of every cleaning session and if possible, we will bring food too. And that method can help show the people that recycling can be fun to do. Our volunteers will be allowed to bring their families, partners or friends to our cleaning sessions and at the end of every session will show how much of our goal we have accomplished.

Down the road, we will ask the department of education if it would be possible if we can hold assemblies at schools to educate the kids about the environment and how plastic pollution is affecting the environment in the ocean. This is a good method to educate kids about their environment and how they should recycle to keep it clean while securing a healthy future for themselves. We will also offer these kids community hours and summer/winter internships if they are interested in volunteering in our organization.

As we mentioned before as our organization grows, we will start moving to other states near the coastline and educate more people about the benefits of recycling. With that we can help the animals in the sea from becoming extinct or harmed by the plastic waste. We will have to be very patient and committed about our goals. It will take some time to find a company that is willing to buy plastic waste collected in order to be recycled into new products. At first, we will face more obstacles, however, that’s what every starting company deals with as it starts its journey.

Budget

The budget would be $62,000 that would consist of:

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| Essentials | Cost | Purpose |
| Equipment | $10,000 | Equipment is needed to help clean up the ocean surface |
| Ads/Flyers | $3,000 | Ads/Flyers will be used to get more volunteers |
| Boat | $15,000 | A boat is needed to go in the ocean for it to be cleaned |
| Gear (diving) | $1,000 | Diving gear is needed to pick up any remaining plastics that the equipment can’t pick up |
| Rental for Headquarters | $2,500 | A stable location is required to keep everything organized |
| Website | $500 | A website with information about the program will catch attention for volunteers |
| Storage | $5,000 | Required to keep plastics in a designated location before getting recycled |
| Truck | $20,000 | A recyclable truck is needed to help transfer the plastics from one location to another on land |
| Merchandise | $5,000 | Merchandise can be used to let people know about our nonprofit organization and our purpose |

Conclusion

10 years from now, I see this organization spread all over the world. At least 85% of the world now have the knowledge of recycling and they are recycling their plastic waste instead of throwing it in their ocean. Our current future generation will have a better environment. Our organization becomes big enough that we sell a part of the plastic waste and we own locations that recycle plastic and sell it to companies to re-use the recycled plastic instead of making their own plastic to put their products in them. As a result, there are less factories that are producing plastic so there is less air pollution too.

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