

JUST ONE THING

Title: Habitats for a Happier Tomorrow

Company/Organization: Waypoint

Type of Organization: Nonprofit

Number of Employees: >100

Category: Environment

Challenge or Opportunity: We found our use of printing paper along with kitchen paper and plastic products to be wasteful and wanted to curb that. Realistically while creating employee files, we found they were not accessible when working remotely and once completed, they were rarely looked at again and that seemed to be a waste. And the kitchen products being used one time and thrown away after only one use was also wasteful.

Approach or Solution: First, we evaluated a few areas that would have an immediate impact. We converted our People Ops department from paper to electronic files, and taking paper and plastic out of as many location as possible. Our executive leadership announced the changes to the organization to show support and guidance through the changes. We set short attainable deadlines, so the impact on the rest of the organization was seamless and we had a small team in each area working toward accomplishing the changes.

Impact: We have seen conscious thinking from staff as they go through their day to day on how they can reduce waste. Freeing up valuable spaces by not storing these items. We are also seeing a desire to find more ways we can continue to reduce our carbon footprint and are continuing to work toward more improvements. Since this has been in place, we are looking for ways to quantify the impact. But it is estimated that we have saved 25% of our usage.