

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Solid Waste Alternatives Program
SWAP Award #25-G550-11FL
Final Report (ending Mar 31 2026)**

Willis Dady Homeless Services Mattress Recycling Program

April 13, 2026

Summary

Project implementation was fully successful: all equipment purchases were completed and all equipment is fully operational.

1) Milestone progress

- a. Mattress recycling equipment and tools purchased by May 31, 2025
 - i. All equipment purchases (\$10,767.95) were completed by October 31, 2025. Several purchases were delayed awaiting floorspace availability in the facility. Key equipment purchases included:
 - 1. Materials totes- \$4,459.21
 - 2. Dock modifications- \$3,134.62
 - 3. Floor scale- \$1,920.65
 - ii. Complete purchase details and the reconciliation of purchased to Plan is included in Appendix A.
 - iii. IDNR has been invoiced for the full award amount (\$8,062.50) and Willis Dady is cost-sharing the remainder (\$2,705.45).
- b. Mattress recycling equipment and tools operational by June 30, 2025
 - i. All equipment purchased was put into operation by October 31, 2025 and has continued operating effectively to-date.
- c. Project fully operational by July 15, 2025
 - i. The Project achieved fully operational status by October 31, 2025.
 - ii. The Project introduced new operational capabilities that improved worker productivity and safety. Capabilities enabled by the purchased equipment include:
 - 1. Weighing in-bound and out-bound materials
 - 2. Cooling the facility during warmer weather
 - 3. Loading outbound materials onto trailers
 - 4. Cleaning work area floorspace
 - 5. Transporting mattresses to work stations for disassembly
 - 6. Transporting in-process materials to the baling operation
 - 7. Added work stations for mattress disassembly operations

2) Number of mattresses received and recycled

- a. For the 12 months ending March 31, 2026, the operation:
 - i. Received 84.4 tons of materials (2,616 mattresses & boxsprings)
 - ii. Dis-assembled (recycled) 2,477 mattresses & boxsprings

3) Tons of material diverted from the landfill

- a. A total of 78.7 tons of material, primarily post-consumer steel and foam, were diverted from the landfill and sent to re-use outlets.
- b. An additional 30.4 tons of recovered materials remain in inventory awaiting shipment in truckload quantities.
- c. All re-use outlets were identified through a “marketing” campaign of networking referrals and direct contact.

4) Obstacles/barriers and how they were overcome

- a. Encountered an obstacle of limited floorspace for work station expansion due to higher incoming mattress/boxspring volumes and associated inventory space requirements.
 - i. Obtained additional funding to purchase and install vertical pallet racking to store materials and free up floorspace.

5) Performance of budget items purchased with SWAP assistance

- a. All items purchased are performing well and to expectations – no issues experienced

6) Other information of benefit to the DNR and other Iowans

- a. The project had been slightly delayed due to unanticipated floorspace constraints but is now fully operational.
- b. The supply of mattresses/boxsprings significantly exceeded expectations. There is a clear consumer need for a mattress recycling operation in the area.

7) Summary of project-related public awareness activities

- a. A press release and direct media contacts generated significant local news placements:
 - 3/26/25 Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation newsletter
 - 4/6/25 The Gazette
 - 5/12/25 KCRG
 - 5/22/25 Fox, KGAN
 - 5/26/25 KCRG
 - 6/1/25 City of Hiawatha newsletter
- b. Video was created and posted on the Willis Dady Mattress Recycling [web page](#)

8) Summary of economic impacts

- a. For the latest 12-month financials available (ending February 28, 2026,) program financials included:
 - i. \$68,412 Revenue generated
 - ii. \$131,120 Expenditures

9) Representative photos – see Appendix B

APPENDIX A – Equipment Purchases

	<u>Original Submission</u>	<u>Award 2/18/25</u>	<u>Final 10/27/25</u>
steel tables	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0.00
floor mats	\$880	\$880	\$0.00
steel lockers	\$875	\$0	\$0.00
locks	\$160	\$0	\$0.00
fans- pedestal (1)	\$400	\$400	\$378.32
fans- extension cord (1)			\$74.89
materials totes (8)	\$4,200	\$4,200	\$4,459.21
hand truck- wide (1)	\$200	\$200	\$292.13
bolt cutter	\$100	\$100	\$0.00
floor scale w/ ramp (1)	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$1,920.65
shop vac (1)	\$350	\$350	\$219.68
ramp - back door (1)	\$220	\$220	\$288.45
dock modifications (1)			\$3,134.62
TBD			
Total	<u><u>\$11,785</u></u>	<u><u>\$10,750</u></u>	<u><u>\$10,767.95</u></u>
75% DNR		\$8,062.50	\$8,062.50
25% WD cost-share		\$2,687.50	\$2,705.45

APPENDIX B- Representative Photos

