Hope Carlson

Transform Rhode Island Scholarship

"Teens facing financial insecurity lack creative outlets and community. A pop-up upcycling program gives young people a creative space to redesign secondhand clothes, build real connections, and celebrate their uniqueness, with nothing more than a needle, thread, and a vintage find."

~ Hope Carlson
St. Mary Academy - Bay View

BIG IDEA:

Hope's big idea is a pop-up program where teens upcycle secondhand clothes into something they're proud to wear.

Inspired by her own thrift store creation, Hope wants young people, especially those facing hardship, to experience the joy of making something with their hands, in community, and saying, "Thanks, I made it."

HOW WILL SHE DO IT?

Hope believes creative activities can help boost a teen's emotional wellbeing.

She proposes partnering with Savers and Goodwill for clothing, hosting sessions in churches and cafeterias, and recruiting instructors from RISD and local high school fashion programs.

Ticketed fashion shows would help fund the program long-term.

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