

Hospital Insights

CENTRAL OHIO ENERGY EFFICIENCY COLLABORATIVE

Jan. 2017

Hospitals Collaborate to Save \$1 Million in Annual Facility Energy Costs

For the past two years, central Ohio hospital facilities' representatives have come together to learn and implement best practices for improving the energy efficiency of their facilities. The net result has been a reduced energy use and environmental impact, along with nearly **\$1 million** in energy cost savings in 2015.

IN 2014, to identify ways to cut energy costs and lower energy use, local hospitals formed the Central Ohio Hospital Energy Efficiency Collaborative, which is managed by the Ohio Hospital Association and supported by the Central Ohio Hospital Council.

Through the Collaborative, hospitals meet quarterly to review and discuss their Energy Star benchmarking scores. These scores are developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and provide a fair assessment of a hospital's energy performance relative to its peers, taking into account the climate, weather, and activities at the hospital.

In conjunction with ongoing energy assessment through Energy Star benchmark scoring, hospitals have individually identified and implemented ways to improve their energy efficiency, such as large-scale retrofits of LED lighting, improved controls to optimize building performance and system-wide focus on continuous quality improvement. The hospitals are supported by AEP Ohio, which provided best-practices learning opportunities and funding support through its energy efficiency incentive program.



ENERGY INTENSIVE

Hospitals care for patients 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. In addition, they use advanced technologies to deliver high-quality patient care. As a result, hospitals are among the most energy-intensive facilities in the United States. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the nation's hospitals:

- Spend over \$5 billion annually on energy, often equaling 1 percent to 3 percent of a typical hospital's operating budget or an estimated 15 percent of revenue
- Have more than 2.5 times the energy intensity and carbon dioxide emissions of commercial office buildings

RESULTS

Because of this work, central Ohio hospitals have seen a 3.14 percent increase in energy savings since 2014, which is nearly 4 times the statewide savings and 5 times the national savings. Local hospitals' efforts to lower energy usage has resulted in nearly \$1 million in savings last year. This collective effort to lower energy usage equates to:



5,515 cars
being taken off
of the road



676,627
new mature trees
throughout the
community



16 new nurses
hired for patient care

Savings are based on current industry rates and not the exact rates of the individual hospitals.

Collaborators

The Central Ohio Hospital Energy Efficiency Collaborative has had a positive impact on lowering hospitals' energy usage and reducing overall health

care costs. Our hospitals are committed to continuing their efforts to collectively improve the energy efficiency of their facilities in the years ahead.

THE CENTRAL OHIO HOSPITAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY COLLABORATIVE IS MANAGED BY:



Established in 1915, OHA is the nation's first state-level hospital association. OHA exists to collaborate with member hospitals and health systems to ensure a healthy Ohio. OHA currently represents 220 hospitals and 13 health systems throughout Ohio. The association is governed by a 20-member Board of Trustees with representation from small and large hospitals, teaching facilities and health care systems with a committee and task force structure.



Established in 2008, COHC serves as the forum for community hospitals to come together to address issues that impact the delivery of health care to central Ohioans. Through the COHC, Mount Carmel Health System, Nationwide Children's Hospital, OhioHealth and the OSU Wexner Medical Center collaborate with each other and with other community stakeholders to improve the quality, value and accessibility of health care in the central Ohio region.

SAMPLE PROJECTS

Members of the Collaborative adopted different approaches that best fit the needs of their facilities. Among the efforts that yielded significant reduction in energy use are:

OhioHealth—The system implemented a large-scale effort to retrofit lighting fixtures with LED units. The effort focused on large facilities, including Riverside Methodist Hospital and Grant Medical Center.

Nationwide Children's Hospital—With several new additions to the hospital campus, Nationwide Children's

is focusing on efficient design in new square footage build-outs and has focused on controls to optimize building performance.

Mount Carmel Health System—The four-hospital system focused on large-scale LED retrofits.

Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center—In keeping with the University's focus on reducing the energy use footprint, OSU East Hospital focused on continuous improvement, which helped the hospital earn the U.S. EPA's Energy Star Certification.



MOUNT CARMEL

- Mount Carmel East Hospital
- Mount Carmel West Hospital
- Mount Carmel Saint Ann's Hospital
- Mount Carmel New Albany Hospital



NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.™



- Doctors Hospital
- Dublin Methodist Hospital
- Grady Memorial Hospital
- Grant Medical Center
- Hardin Memorial Hospital
- Mansfield Hospital
- Marion General Hospital
- O'Bleness Hospital
- Riverside Methodist Hospital
- Shelby Hospital



- University Hospital
- University Hospital East



AEP Ohio supports the Collaborative by providing learning opportunities and funding support for hospital projects through its energy efficiency incentive program.

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