



## Mercy Facilities and Green Team Accomplishments in 2009

- Implementing guidelines to achieve certification from Practice Green Health-Partner for Change
- Created a monthly standard report to track performance in key areas of the sustainability program
- Recycling bins placed throughout MMC and MPP
  - Instructions placed in each patient room – Education still needed to increase compliance
  - Shared instructions at Spirit Squad meeting and Clinic Managers meeting
  - Eliminated one large trash dumpster removal per month – savings of approximately \$20k/year
- Utility costs have reduced by 30% with transition to more energy efficient campus
  - Generating internal power needs during peak times
  - Implemented new practice to reduce HVAC to unoccupied zones during evening and weekend hours
  - Utility savings realized in part through the optimization of resources during the five-month period of July – November 2009 compared to the same time period in 2008 totaled \$102,167.
- Automatic light sensor placed in nurse support rooms
- Battery bins have been placed throughout hospital to capture used batteries – Initial effort led to 60 pounds of batteries delivered to our local battery supplier
- Discontinued use of battery powered locking devices on the support room doors. This effort saves six batteries per room for a total of 18 rooms
- Water bottle purchasing down from 98 cases in October 2008 to 10 in December 2008 to 5 in January 2009 to none in December 2009.
  - Ban the Bottle event to raise awareness of the environmental impact of plastic in the landfill
  - Purchase of reusable travel mugs placed for purchase in café with "Green" message
  - Need to review the need for water fountains in the facility



- Linen reduction program initiated –
  - Goal to reduce 2.6 lbs of linen per patient day
  - Linen bin placed in each patient room
  - Stained linen is collected and sold to be reused as rags instead of discarded
  
- Reduced office paper utilization
  - Implemented guidelines for paper utilization (don't print emails/copy utilizing both sides of the paper)
  - Noted a decrease in paper utilization of 211 cases to 175
  - Moved to an electronic reporting package for the organization
  - Moved to an electronic health record
  
- Recycling sharps containers
  
- Moved to low water mops
  
- Switched from disposable to reusable gowns in the GI Lab
  
- Cardboard recycled and removed through new partnership
  
- Cafeteria offers and promotes the use of washable cups, plates and flatware in lieu of Styrofoam options