

JENNIE EDMUNDSON HOSPITAL

COMPANY BACKGROUND

Jennie Edmundson Hospital is a 255-bed regional hospital that serves approximately 250,000 residents living in western Iowa and is one of the oldest hospitals in the region. The hospital employs more than 700 people and offers many opportunities for volunteers to help serve the community. The hospital specializes in maternal/child health services, cardiology, orthopedics and sports medicine, rehabilitative services, occupational health and behavioral health, and contains an accredited cancer center.



STEVEN NELSON
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

PROJECT BACKGROUND
After researching the Pollution Prevention Intern Program, Jennie Edmundson Hospital realized there were many potential areas for savings.

The main goal of the intern project was to create a cardboard recycling program and, time permitting, to develop a more efficient lighting system.

INCENTIVES TO CHANGE

Jennie Edmundson Hospital is a privately funded non-profit organization. Unlike many hospitals in the area, it receives no governmental funding. One of the hospital's goals is to develop a more environmental-friendly building, which would yield financial benefits, as well. Prior to its partnership with the Pollution Prevention Intern Program, Jennie Edmundson Hospital did not participate in recycling. The hospital recognized the potential benefits of recycling and reducing energy use.

RESULTS

Cardboard Recycling: The intern's initial focus was cardboard recycling. After developing a baseline of the procedures and quantities used by the hospital, it was estimated that 30 tons of cardboard and 170 tons of other recyclables are generated by the hospital per year, none of which are recycled. By obtaining a baler on a rent-to-own basis and selling the cardboard to a local recycling company, the hospital could save approximately \$2,580 per year in waste removal costs for the first five years. After that, annual savings would increase to about \$6,840.

Paper Disposal: The Methodist Heath System, of which Jennie Edmundson Hospital is a member, uses over 28,800 pounds of confidential paper annually. The intern recommended that the hospital change confidential paper destruction companies, which would save the health system more than \$1,580 per year.

Material Recycling: The intern also recommended starting another recycling program to recycle other materials in the hospital. The program would divert 170

tons of waste from the landfills and save the hospital almost \$360 per month on waste removal costs.

Replacing lighting fixtures in the parking lot with "shoebox" style fixtures that cast light down and out instead of dispersing light in every direction, as the present fixtures do would reduce energy costs. In addition to increased efficiency, this measure would provide better lighting at night. Another recommended energy conservation project is the use of occupancy sensors in such places as restrooms, mechanical rooms and storage rooms.



PROJECT	ANNUAL COST SAVINGS	ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS	STATUS
CARDBOARD RECYCLING	\$2,580 – 6,840	30 TONS OF CARDBOARD	IMPLEMENTING
NEW CONFIDENTIAL PAPER DISPOSAL	\$1,580	28,800 POUNDS OF PAPER	IMPLEMENTING
ALL MATERIALS RECYCLING	\$4,320	70 TONS OF RECYCLABLES	RECOMMENDED