

Aurora Mental Health Center

Community and Energy Stewards



Stewards of Their Community

Aurora Mental Health Center (AuMHC) is a nonprofit with 12 locations that provide mental health treatment for children and adults. Their organization serves nearly 20,000 clients and provides more than 400,000 services to the community. AuMHC's commitment to community extends beyond healthcare services. The organization values the conservation of resources; striving to ensure Aurora remains a high-quality community now and in the future. Over the years AuMHC has continuously shown its commitment to conserving energy resources.

"AuMHC is committed to perpetuating a strong sense of community and values that maintain and conserve the community's natural resources."
-Nazan Wolfe, Director, Plant Operations

Seeing Stunning Savings

AuMHC has a long history of energy conservation, and that history is paying off. From energy management systems (EMS) to LED upgrades, AuMHC has completed several significant energy-saving projects over the last decade. Between 2016 and 2022, AuMHC



Leveraged Xcel Energy efficiency programs 16 times



Made energy efficiency improvements in 8 buildings



Accumulated 880,000 kWh in estimated annual savings



Accumulated \$110,000 in estimated annual savings*

*this is an estimated savings value based on the assumed energy savings associated with efficiency improvements and an average of 2021 electricity rates.

The timeline to the right summarizes a few key energy programs that have helped AuMHC advance along their energy journey. More details can be found on the next page.

2015
 Installed solar panels on several of AuMHC buildings
 Received Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Program (NEEP) funding to establish an Energy Management System at Viewpoint Plaza

2018
 Leveraged Xcel Energy rebates to upgrade lighting in six buildings

2021
 Additional LED upgrades completed

2022
 Received additional NEEP funding to support multiple energy improvements

Beyond
 Continues to look for new opportunities to be responsible energy stewards



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illuminating Early Wins With Lighting Upgrades

In the fall of 2017, AuMHC received free Xcel Energy consulting support. The consultants identified lighting upgrade opportunities in six of its buildings, and connected AuMHC with standard lighting rebates plus a 30% bonus rebate available to health care facilities at the time. These rebates lowered the upfront cost of the project and the new, efficient bulbs reduce the amount of energy used for lighting across all six buildings.

Taking a Holistic Approach to Energy Efficiency.

AuMHC's partnership with the Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Program (NEEP) started in 2015. EOC helped establish an Energy Management System at Viewpoint Plaza, yielding significant energy savings and reducing operational costs. This successful partnership is still going strong. In 2021, EOC supported an LED replacement at 1290 Chambers. In early 2022, EOC supported major upgrades to Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), including LED replacement, weatherstripping, and HVAC replacement. And they aren't stopping there! AuMHC, EOC, and Xcel Energy are working together to identify even more savings, through building envelope upgrades and major HVAC projects.

Embodying Aurora's Energy Action Plan

Through Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy program, several Aurora business, institution, and nonprofit stakeholders developed the following vision: to be a leader in community energy action, to keep energy-related costs low, especially for Aurora's nonprofit communities. AuMHC was one of many stakeholders that helped to craft that vision. Importantly AuMHC is embodying that vision, showing the financial and community impact that energy efficiency can make.

Start Your Savings Journey with Energy Outreach Colorado

EOC's Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Program (NEEP) makes it easy for nonprofits to improve the energy efficiency of facilities that serve income-qualified Coloradans. The NEEP team can conduct building assessments, coordinate contractors, and handle paperwork to maximize project funding from utility providers and other sources. Funding can offset the purchase and installation of new equipment, including efficient lighting, insulation, low flow fixtures and HVAC systems at up to 100% of project costs.

Are you a small nonprofit with limited time?


EOC's NEEP team will provide consulting every step of the way while minimizing your time commitment, effort, and project costs.

Already have one or more energy projects identified? EOC can help you implement your priorities while maximizing your project funding.

Connect with EOC Today!

Your 501c3 nonprofit may qualify for these services if you serve income-qualified community members. Get connected with NEEP:

 NEEP@energyoutreach.org

 <https://www.energyoutreach.org/nonprofit-energy-efficiency>

