

# St. Francis Hospital & Health Services

Lighting retrofits have saved this hospital nearly \$1,000 on its monthly energy bill

## OVERVIEW

Many health care facilities have tight budgets, making reductions in energy usage increasingly important. By implementing energy-efficient equipment, they can improve their bottom line and free up funds to invest in new technologies and patient care. St. Francis Hospital & Health Services did just this. In order to save money and remain financially viable into the future, the hospital explored ways to reduce energy usage at their facility.



## Challenge

Serving primarily Nodaway County residents, St. Francis Hospital & Health Services has been providing full-service medical treatment for more than 120 years. Located in Maryville, Missouri, the health care organization offers its rural patients a variety of services including sports medicine, mental health services and obstetrics.

As a fixture of the northwestern Missouri community, it's important that the hospital constantly seek ways to reduce energy

usage and expenditures in order to ensure longevity. That's why in early 2014, Facilities Management Director Phil Larabee started looking into energy-efficiency upgrades for the hospital.

## Upgrades

While researching energy-efficient upgrades for St. Francis, Larabee was assisted by a hospital electrician. As a supporter of LEDs, the electrician recommended that the hospital replace their T12 bulbs with more energy-efficient lighting. Having worked in other facilities that made the switch to LEDs, the electrician knew firsthand how successful they were in saving energy and money.

Larabee took the electrician's suggestion and presented it to the hospital's leadership. He was able to sell the upgrades to leadership by showing them what the hospital's current



## STATS

### Facility Type:

Hospital

### Measures:

Installation of outdoor LED lighting

### Total Project Cost:

\$33,880

### Rebate Amount:

\$16,940

### Annual Energy Savings:

112,395 kWh

### Estimated Annual Savings:

\$7,970

"Energy efficiency is very important to St. Francis Hospital because we're always looking for ways to reduce costs so that we can be here long term for our patients."

**PHIL LARABEE**

Facilities Management Director

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## St. Francis Hospital & Health Services



lighting usage and costs were, and then what they could be with new energy-efficient lighting. After gaining approval, Larabee worked with contractors to decide which type of lighting they should upgrade to. He also talked with KCP&L to get projections on what energy savings they could expect from upgraded lighting.

When it came time to select a lighting type, Larabee said the biggest selling point was longevity. LEDs, which can last up to five times longer than a CFL, have a lifespan of approximately 50,000 hours. This cuts down on maintenance time, as LEDs don't have to be switched out as often as other types of lighting. So early in 2014, St. Francis replaced 72 of their exterior light fixtures that ran up

the hospital's driveway and the parking lot with LED lighting.

While the hospital has only completed lighting projects so far, Larabee said they are currently exploring additional energy-efficiency upgrades. Specifically, they are looking at HVAC updates and seeing how they can save money with their heating and cooling.

### Results

In total, St. Francis' lighting upgrade cost \$33,880, of which KCP&L's Business Energy Efficiency Rebate paid \$16,940. With 50 percent of the project paid for by KCP&L, St. Francis will see a return on investment in a little over two years.

While St. Francis has only replaced their exterior lighting so far, Larabee says they've seen considerable reduction in their energy usage. In fact, the lighting upgrades are expected to reduce the facility's energy consumption by more than 112,000 kWh annually. The reduction in electricity will save the St. Francis approximately \$1,000 per month on their energy bill. This will allow the hospital to be more efficient with their facility, and invest more money in their patients and community.

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