



Energy  
Efficiency  
Program

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital

Adventist Midwest  
Health saved over  
\$41,000



## Nearly \$100,000 in free energy-saving products led to huge savings



### Total projects:

Free energy assessment and laminar flow restrictors installed in three locations



### Nicor Gas incentives:

Energy-saving products valued at \$97,448



### Energy savings:

94,679 therms saved per year

Adventist Midwest Health is a member of the AMITA Health network of hospitals and has been providing patient care for over 100 years. A century of growth has involved the addition of new hospital sites and acquisition of multiple existing hospital sites, some with outdated energy systems and technology that result in ever-increasing energy costs. With stress on operating budgets at an all-time high, Adventist Midwest Health has been working systematically to make energy-saving updates to its facilities.

Adventist Midwest Health has historically partnered with the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program on other energy efficiency projects, but wanted additional guidance on their second-highest monthly expense: water usage. Working with Nicor Gas allowed the group to take advantage of water-saving products and ultimately reduce energy costs by more than \$41,000 a year.



## The project

Adventist Midwest Health learned from their free energy assessment that high-efficiency, water-saving laminar flow restrictors could be a game changer in reducing overall water energy costs. The assessment also pinpointed the three specific hospital locations where upgrades would offer the most immediate impact. This enabled the group to plan its energy-saving initiatives in stages.

### Energy-saving products

During their free energy assessment, Adventist Hinsdale Health received professionally-installed, high-efficiency laminar flow restrictors at no cost.

## How Adventist Midwest Health made it happen

Rey Tuazon, regional energy utilities consultant for Adventist Midwest Health, helped pave the way for the energy efficiency improvements. He was made aware of direct installation and products available in a meeting with a Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program representative. Upon learning of the offering, he called the decision to proceed a “no-brainer” for the hospital network. Adventist Midwest Health was also pleased with the special attention the Nicor Gas team gave to finding the ideal laminar flow restrictor technology for a hospital environment that would reduce natural gas and water-related expenses.

“The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program researched and sourced a new antimicrobial laminar flow restrictor that met hospital health and safety standards to make the project work,” Rey said. “That allowed us to confidently finalize installation.”

**“Saving on energy costs gives us more money for equipment that better helps us save lives.”**

– Rey Tuazon, regional energy utilities consultant, Adventist Midwest Health

## The experience

Rey reported that Adventist Midwest Health continues to enjoy substantially lower energy costs. The organization also appreciated how simple and seamless the process was to accomplish at each of the three locations. The patients were not affected during the project, and there were zero complaints from staff. Rey encourages other medical organizations to consider contacting the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program and taking advantage of its incentives.

“The money saved from energy efficiency upgrades is reinvested into the hospital to get new medical equipment—helping our mission to save lives,” Rey added. This positive experience has motivated Adventist Midwest Health to look into future energy-saving improvements such as possible showerhead replacements and converting an older hospital site to automatic controls.

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