

Singapore: Alexandra Health Cluster

The lush greenery in and around the hospital is watered with water channeled from the Yishin pond. The water is channeled to the hospital's irrigation systems and processed before its use for landscaping needs. When it rains, sensors will regulate this water source to prevent wastage.



Alexandra Health Cluster- Yishin pond



Alexandra Health Cluster- Water from the adjacent Yishun pond is used to irrigate the gardens.

Education

The environmental protection education can teach people how to internalize the concept of recycle in our lives and reduce the damage to nature. In hospitals, it's necessary to equip the staff with environmental protection information.

Taiwan: Chang Gung Memorial Hospital

In the hospital, it's difficult to have education on environment protection because of massive crowd of patients and visitors. Furthermore, the healthcare professionals consist of the majority of the staff but they do not have the scientific knowledge and lack understanding in energy saving, therefore the results are futile. Chang-Gung Memorial Hospital undertook the following projects:

➤ Regular administration training:

1. Engineers plan and design the training courses with example of best practices and experience sharing.
2. Attend professional energy-saving lectures on learning new technology and skills.
3. Hold energy saving promotional activities to tell the staff the importance of energy use and its standardized operation procedures.

➤ Web-based e-education training:

1. Build the website which includes the methods and skills to save energy at home and on the hospital.
 2. Appoint the staff to be the consultants of energy saving.
 3. Regularly announce new information and knowledge on saving energy.
 4. Web-based energy saving test for staff.
- Establish energy saving group to learn new knowledge and operations.
- The Engineering Department should submit a report to propose ideas of improving energy efficiency, and the hospital would provide incentives to staff for implementation.

Taiwan: Changhua Christian Hospital

The superintendent and all staff are dedicated to environmental protection and advocating energy efficiency. By actively participating and supporting energy conservation measures, they have won awards on waste reduction from the government. Furthermore, the local health bureau also set green hospitals and environmental protection as one of the most important goals in Changhua.

In order to promote and educate environment protection in the hospital, Changhua Christian Hospital held the following activities:

- Set up the Environmental Protection Committee to promote the “Save Energy and Reduce Waste” campaign and provide incentives to encourage staff to brainstorm ideas of environmental protection in the hospital.
- Designate the units in each ward to educate staff and patients on how to reuse plastic waste. Such as vacant syringes, hemodialysis cans and the tube of IV set.
- Educate people from the local communities on the importance of environment protection.
- Learn and share the experience with other hospitals on reusing and recycling biomedical waste

Changhua Christian Hospital will continue to get involved in socially beneficial activities, promote pollution reduction, and the purchasing of green products, and act in accordance to the international and national environmental protection practices.

Taiwan: Buddhist Dalin Tzu Chi General Hospital

Buddhist Dalin Tzu Chi General Hospital hopes to implement green hospital from inside out while promoting the culture of environmental protection. Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation has practiced environmental protection for more than twenty years, therefore, Tzu Chi Hospitals also encourage staff to participate in the QCC program in the hospital. Take patient safety, for example, the nurses design the wheelchair paddle socks to keep the feet of the elderly warm; and sputum percussion by intravenous drip bottles. The nurses incorporate implemented environmental protection works into taking care of patients' safety.



Buddhist Dalin Tzu Chi General Hospital- Creative environmental protection posters.

4. Conclusion

By sharing these experiences in this manual, we hope to assist other hospitals formulate environmental management policies, establish objectives and indicators for a greener hospital, allocate sufficient resources, engage in staff education, and set up environment monitor system to become environmentally friendly hospitals.

It is truly believed that by teamwork, from an individual level to an organizational level, we can change the healthcare institution from a huge energy consumer to an environmental protector. We call upon more hospitals to join the works of environmental protection and work towards a healthy, environmentally friendly workplace.

Acknowledgements

- Buddhist Dalin Tzu Chi General Hospital
<http://www.tzuchi.com.tw/>
- Buddhist Tzu Chi General Hospital, Taichung Branch
<http://www.tzuchi.com.tw/>
- Buddhist Tzu Chi General Hospital, Taipei Branch
<http://www.tzuchi.com.tw/>
- Chang Gung Medical Foundation, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital
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- Mackay Memorial Hospital Hsinchu Branch
<http://www.hc.mmh.org.tw/>
- Miao-Li General Hospital, Department of Health
<http://www.mil.doh.gov.tw/>
- National Taiwan University Hospital
<http://www.ntuh.gov.tw/>
- Singapore: Alexandra Health Cluster
<http://www.ktph.com.sg/main/home>
- Taipei Medical University- Shuang Ho Hospital
<http://www.shh.org.tw/>