

# Earth Savers and CommonSpirit Health: Collaborating for Sustainable LED Lighting Retrofit Solutions

Offering installation & service nationwide



**CommonSpirit Health**, one of the nation's largest nonprofit healthcare systems, has been at the forefront of providing comprehensive health services in communities across the country.

With a commitment to sustainability and cost efficiency, CommonSpirit sought innovative ways to reduce energy consumption and operational costs without compromising on lighting quality. They were also looking for solutions that could be applied to multiple facility locations.

## CHALLENGE



CommonSpirit Health faced a significant challenge. Existing lighting systems across the health system's 142 hospital facilities were outdated, energy-intensive, and costly to maintain. At the same time, the facilities had different needs at each location across the U.S. That meant they needed a vendor with extensive experience working with [healthcare facilities](#) in addition to LED retrofitting and system upgrade expertise. That's what sparked the partnership.

These lighting systems contributed to higher operational expenses and needed to align with CommonSpirit's sustainability goals. The organization wanted a partner who could provide ongoing energy-efficient lighting solutions that are cost-effective and environmentally friendly while also meeting strict lighting quality standards.



**"Earth Savers has a national footprint, so they're able to work with us across all of our facility locations."**



*– Robert W. Vandling,  
Sustainability Program Manager,  
CommonSpirit Health*

**"Every dollar we save goes back to patient care. So, I'm passionate about saving energy."**



## SOLUTION



CommonSpirit developed a relationship with Earth Savers, a leader in energy-efficient lighting solutions, to address these challenges. Over time, Earth Savers has become an essential resource to CommonSpirit for a variety of LED lighting solutions.

The partnership focuses on the following areas:

### Assessment and Planning

Earth Savers conducts thorough assessments of CommonSpirit's lighting infrastructure across [multiple facilities](#) on an as-needed basis. These assessments include analysis of energy consumption patterns, lighting quality, and maintenance costs.

Planning also includes reviewing past documentation for CommonSpirit, which is a longtime customer of Earth Savers. Having an established relationship with Earth Savers is beneficial to CommonSpirit because the team understands the client's specific needs and preferences.

**“They know what we want, how we want it, and continue to perform while working well with us on pricing.”**

### Customized LED Lighting Retrofitting Solutions

Based on the assessments, Earth Savers designs customized LED lighting retrofit solutions tailored to meet CommonSpirit's specific requirements. The proposed solutions include the installation of energy-efficient LED lights and systems in existing facilities.

With CommonSpirit managing so many healthcare facilities at a time, consistency across facilities is essential to meet [healthcare lighting quality standards](#). One example of consistency requirements is with the color rendering index (CRI) in healthcare facilities, where accurate color representation is crucial for medical professionals.

**“Our facilities’ color rendering index needs to be at least a 90 score to help improve the clarity of the colors represented, and while it doesn’t influence energy savings, it is imperative for nurses and doctors while performing their jobs,”** said Vandling.



## Ongoing Support and Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of the new lighting systems, Earth Savers provides ongoing support and maintenance services. This includes regular inspections, prompt resolution of any issues, and continuous monitoring of energy savings.

**“There’s a lot of trust that I put in [Earth Savers] that they are going to go back and fix it if there’s an issue, and they aren’t going to bill me for it even if the issue is with the product and not the service delivery,”** Vandling said.

## RESULTS

The collaboration between Earth Savers and CommonSpirit Health resulted in significant benefits.

- **Energy Savings:** The new LED lighting systems significantly reduced energy consumption, which has translated into substantial cost savings on electricity bills.
- **Operational Efficiency:** The reduced maintenance requirements of LED lights decreased downtime and maintenance costs so CommonSpirit can allocate resources more effectively.
- **Enhanced Lighting Quality:** The improved lighting quality enhanced the overall environment of the healthcare facilities.
- **Sustainability Goals:** The reduction in energy consumption and carbon footprint helped CommonSpirit work towards achieving its sustainability goals.

## CLIENT PERSPECTIVE

Robert W. Vandling, Sustainability Program Manager, CommonSpirit Health, praised the partnership with Earth Savers. He said:

**"Let’s say I have a hospital in Texas where I need to do a lighting retrofit. I simply ask Earth Savers to perform an onsite audit and prepare a comprehensive and competitive proposal since they are already familiar with our lighting standards and requirements.**

**My approach with Earth Savers is different from my experience with other vendors. In many cases, lighting contractors tend to try and push one product over another, and sometimes those products are cheaper. However, even though their products may be less expensive, there is usually a reason as to why they are cheaper. On the other hand, Earth Savers take responsibility for using only high-quality products that they would stand behind. And if something goes wrong, they take care of it, no questions asked. That has been a key aspect of our partnership, and it’s why I have full trust in them."**

## CONCLUSION

The successful partnership between Earth Savers and CommonSpirit Health demonstrates the transformative impact of energy-efficient lighting solutions. By addressing the challenges of multi-facility healthcare lighting systems, Earth Savers helped CommonSpirit achieve substantial cost savings, operational efficiency, and sustainability goals.

