



CREATING A GREEN TEAM: **One Hospital's Approach**

Michael Tortora
EHS Officer
CT Children's Medical Center



Green Team

- **T. C. F. K. A. the Haz Mat Committee**
- **Representation from several departments-
meets quarterly- subcommittee of EOC**
- **Review of Hazardous Materials**
- **Future initiatives**
 - **Plastics recycling**
 - **Green cleaning**
 - **Green building**



PETE

Agenda

- **Meetings are scheduled at least quarterly or as needed**
- **Review of recycling rates- tracking percentages**
 - **Solid waste**
 - **Medical waste**
 - **Recycled materials (mixed paper, bottles and cans, etc...)**
 - **Universal waste (batteries, ballasts, electronics, bulbs)**
 - **RCRA waste (Pharmaceuticals)**
 - **Grease**
- **Hazardous materials review**
 - **Chemical monitoring**
- **Environmental Initiatives, waste minimization**



CCMC Green Team

- **EMT representative**
- **Environmental, Health & Safety Officer- Chair**
- **Nursing- frontline, generators of waste**
- **Facilities- building, electrical**
- **EVS- cleaning, waste management, recycling**
- **Pharmacy- RCRA drugs**
- **Other interested parties**

Environmental Management

- **Required by law.**
- **Going above and beyond compliance.**
- **CCMC's efforts have been recognized nationally.**
 - **2007 Partners for Change Award**
- **CCMC strives to be a national leader in environmental management.**
- **A number of hospitals are being recognized.**



Hospitals for a Healthy Environment



- **H2E = Hospitals for a Healthy Environment.**
- **Joint project between (MOU)**
 - **USEPA**
 - **American Hospital Association**
 - **American Nursing Association**
 - **Healthcare Without Harm**



CCMC Recycling Program

- **Universal waste**
- **Paper**
- **Bottles and Cans**
- **Specialized Medical Equipment**



CCMC Recycling

- **Universal waste**
 - **Batteries- 988 lbs.**
 - **Bulbs- 1382 lbs.**
 - **Electronics- 7026 lbs.**
- **Cooking Grease- 3325 lbs.**
- **Total Recycling rate of 24%**

CCMC Recycling

- **Paper**

- **Cardboard- 24000 lbs.**
- **Confidential- 153,350 lbs.**
- **Mixed paper- New in 2007**

Cost Benefits

- **Regular recycling**
 - Cardboard dumpster
 - Confidential paper
 - 14% overall recycling rate
- **Mixed paper- one dumpster**
 - 36 tons / year recycled
 - Savings of \$3200 / year
 - 22% overall recycling rate



Other Benefits

- **More cardboard is getting recycled**
- **Before one FTE was dedicated to folding boxes**
- **Construction dumpster is filled and emptied less often- 2-day cycle to 10-day cycle**



CCMC Recycling

- **Specialized medical equipment**
 - **2006 disposed of 20 tons of medical equipment:**
 - **C-Arms**
 - **Multiple X-Ray viewers**
 - **Stretchers**
 - **IV Poles**
 - **Ultrasound machines**
 - **X-Ray developing equipment**

Cost Benefits

- **Regular Disposal in Dumpster**
 - Labor
 - Transit
 - Disposal
- **Total > \$8500**
- **Recycled through IRN**
 - Labor included
 - Transit arranged
 - Many materials go to the greater good
- **Total = \$7679**

The Greater Good

- **Our materials helped out several programs that place used equipment in hospitals and clinics in impoverished areas**
 - **The majority of items went to a clinic/hospital program in Haiti**

Energy Savings



- **Light sensors**
- **Saves 980kW per year**
- **Cost savings of \$84,000 annually**
- **Payback is 1.3 years**
- **Project completed with grant from CL&P and loan from CHA**

CT H2E- CHER

- **State (DEP) recognition**
- **National recognition**
- **Compliance with regulations**
- **Environmental leadership**