



Lifting The Energy Burden

SafeCenter, 1300 N. Hickory St., Owosso, MI

Building Overview

- Building owner: SafeCenter
- Building type: Four duplex residential buildings, one garage, one storage unit
- Year of construction: Late 1990s

Upgrades Completed

- Replaced 177 incandescent light bulbs into 70 different fixtures with LEDs

Energy Savings

- Annual savings of 11,292.5 kWh
- Annual savings of \$1,468
- Lighting energy consumption decrease by 78%

Project Funding

- Energy Audit: C.S. Mott Foundation Grant
- Lighting Retrofit: Consumers Energy
- Additional energy savings retrofit: Cook Family Foundation Grant



Project Summary

As part of the Nonprofit Capacity Building Energy Efficiency Program offered by the Cook Family Foundation, Michigan Energy Options (MEO) and Elevate Energy identified and selected Shiawassee County nonprofits seeking energy efficiency improvements. MEO and Elevate offered their expertise to expose areas of opportunity for energy and cost savings and assisted nonprofits in making upgrades.

The SafeCenter provides comprehensive services to the victims of domestic and sexual violence in Clinton and Shiawassee Counties. The center consists of four shelter buildings, a garage, and a storage

unit. The shelters are living spaces that must be climate controlled 24/7. On average, the SafeCenter was spending \$1,000 per month for water and electricity.

MEO and Elevate assessed the SafeCenter's buildings and provided a customized report highlighting the most cost-effective energy efficiency upgrades. The report included estimates of costs, savings, and payback times for the recommended upgrades. With support from Elevate, MEO helped coordinate with Consumers Energy to conduct a lighting fixture replacement for the SafeCenter, decreasing its lighting consumption by 78% allowing additional funding to help victims turn around their lives.

“ Saving money on utility bills will directly result in more resources for our clients and will have a positive impact on staff comfort. ”

Tonya Avery
SafeCenter Executive Director