



Energy Efficiency Success Story

Little City Foundation, Palatine, IL

Savings

- **360,536 kWh** annual electricity savings
- **\$36,054** annual cost savings
- **0.8-year** payback period after grants and incentives

Building Overview

- Building type: 22-building campus
- Year built: 1969 (with later updates)
- Building function: mixed-use assisted living, education, training, and recreation

Upgrades Completed

- Converted T-12 lamps to T-8 with electronic ballasts
- Replaced outdoor HID lighting with LEDs
- Replaced incandescent bulbs with CFLs and LEDs

Costs and Resources Leveraged

- Total project cost: \$82,829.00
- Total out-of-pocket cost: \$29,179.30
- ComEd Smart Ideas Rebate: \$23,535.20
- Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation Grant: \$30,114.50
- Payback period before incentives: 2.29 years
- Payback period after incentives: 0.8 years

Project Summary

For more than 50 years, Little City Foundation has worked to ensure that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are provided with the best options and opportunities to live safely, work productively, explore creatively, and learn continuously throughout their lifetime. To this end, Little City provides a variety of comprehensive services on its 22-building campus including residential care, employment services and training, athletics, education classes, health, and art.

The Little City facilities are in use around-the-clock, every day of the year. This results in extremely high energy use and expenses. Partnering with ComEd, Elevate Energy, and Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, Little City worked to make cost-effective energy efficiency upgrades to their buildings. The work resulted in significant energy and cost savings.



From the Organization

“Implementing energy efficiency upgrades across Little City’s campus has the potential to save us tens of thousands of dollars each year-- dollars that we can use to continue and improve upon the programming and supportive services we offer clients and their families. We are grateful to ComEd, ICECF and Elevate Energy for their support”

— Shawn Jeffers, Executive Director

By reducing operating costs, Little City can direct more funds toward the important services and programs they provide to those in need.

Elevate Energy worked closely with Little City building staff to conduct a free energy assessment, review the results, and develop a plan that worked within the organization’s budget and timeframe. Incentives from ComEd helped reduce the initial project price tag of \$82,829 by nearly 30 percent. This combination of incentives and resources created an attractive payback period for Little City – it will take less than one year for the energy cost savings to pay for the initial investment in energy efficiency improvements.

