

CASE STUDY

Nov 2017



COOLCALIFORNIA BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Crestwood Healing Center Pleasant Hill, CA

Community Leaders for a Greener Tomorrow

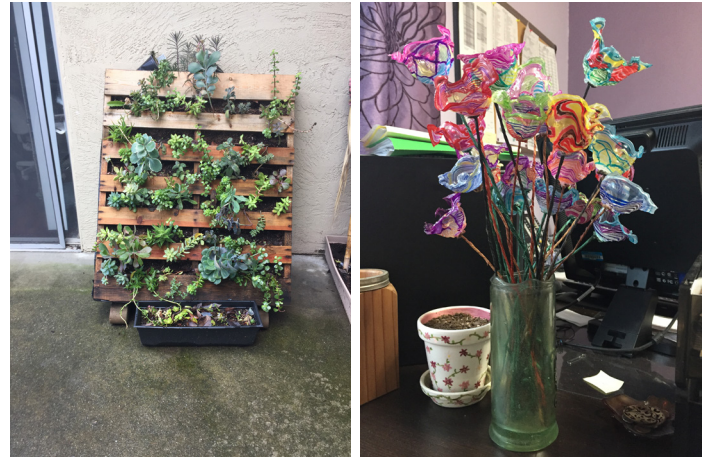


Crestwood Healing Center staff, being presented the Business of the Year award by Richard Corey, Executive Officer of the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and La Ronda Bowen, Ombudsman of CARB.

Crestwood Healing Center is a behavioral health services provider which has gone above and beyond to reduce their carbon footprint and serve as a beacon of sustainability in their community. By implementing a sustainability team and creating a position for a Sustainability Coordinator, they have devised creative strategies to cut waste, reduce energy consumption, improve client satisfaction and have fun while doing it!

Seeing a need for greater environmental responsibility and an opportunity to make a significant impact, Crestwood made numerous operational changes with sustainability in mind. Single-use items such as tableware, napkins, water cups and pill containers have all been replaced with reusable versions. For 2016, staff estimate they avoided sending over 100,000 paper napkins and over 90,000 plastic cups to the landfill, saving almost \$2,000 in the process.

To reduce water usage, the facility identified and repaired all leaks, installed low-flow toilets and shower heads, and replaced faucet aerators.



Crestwood Healing Center is always coming up with creative ways to upcycle their waste products.

Staff even took it upon themselves to design a garden irrigation system using water collected from washing fruits and vegetables. In 2016 alone, water savings were greater than one million gallons.

BUSINESS SNAPSHOT

Crestwood Healing Center has taken a holistic view of their business' environmental impact and pursued a comprehensive set strategies to reduce their footprint!

Facility Upgrades

- LED overhead lighting
- High-efficiency appliances
- Low-flow toilets, showerheads, and sinks
- Gray water garden irrigation system

Conservation Efforts

In 2016, the center avoided using:

- 100,000 paper napkins (~\$900 savings)
- 90,000 plastic cups (~\$1,000 savings)
- 1.1 million gallons of water (~\$4,500 savings)



For these water saving efforts, the facility was awarded a water conservation certificate by the Contra Costa Water District Board and deemed “a model for the surrounding community”.

Other facility upgrades include the installation of overhead LED lighting, recycling and composting programs, high-efficiency appliances, a green purchasing policy, and much more. Staff and residents also found that upcycling waste products into works of art is a great way to connect with the planet. From planters to office decorations, Crestwood Healing Center knows how to put a fun and creative spin on waste reduction.



Environmental Pledge Board at Crestwood Healing Center for patients and staff.

Crestwood Healing Center continues to come up with creative new ways to reduce their carbon footprint. With regular meetings, educational events, and a desire to make a difference, there is no telling what this organization may try next! Through community education and an upcoming organization-wide initiative, the facility’s impact is set to expand exponentially.



Travis Curran, Administrator of Crestwood Healing Center gave a moving speech at the small business awards ceremony on how small businesses can successfully initiate climate action in the community.

“Our facility exemplifies that being a role model is not just about what you are doing in your immediate setting, but also about what you do to inspire a community.” - Chloe De Lancie, Crestwood Healing Center



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