KAISER PERMANENTE

RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Greenhouse gas emissions are a known contributor to climate change and the rise of pollution and disease. At Kaiser Permanente, we realize that we have a responsibility to try to limit our greenhouse gas emissions, even while growing our health care services.

With more than 75 million square feet of real estate across eight states and the District of Columbia, Kaiser Permanente is aware that our environmental footprint is substantial. That's why we set an aggressive goal to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent by the year 2020 (compared to 2008). We expect to meet that goal three years ahead of schedule as a result of several initiatives announced in 2015 to reduce energy consumption and increase the amount of power coming from renewable sources.

Kaiser Permanente follows a two-pronged approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions:

- Maximize energy efficiency through green building solutions in new and existing facilities
- Increasing use of on-site and off-site clean and renewable energy solutions

Maximizing Energy Efficiency through Green Building Solutions

Recognizing the link between the health of the environment and human health, we have sought to make our health care facilities among the "greenest" and most sustainable around. To that end, Kaiser Permanente has played a key role in developing nationally recognized green building strategies for the health care sector.

Working with architects, engineers and public health care advocates, Kaiser Permanente helped to design and pilot test strategies for the *Green Guide for Health Care* and the more recent Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Healthcare rating system — both premier tools for building facilities that are healthier for employees, patients, communities and the environment. Eighteen of Kaiser Permanente's buildings and medical centers have received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star certification. This signifies that these buildings' energy performance rates in the top 25 percent of facilities nationwide.

In 2012, Kaiser Permanente adopted a policy to pursue LEED Gold certification for all new major building projects. The Westside Medical Center in Portland, Ore., which opened in 2013, is among the first LEED gold-certified hospitals in the Portland area, using green power sourcing and water-conservation features. One of our California data centers was the first (and currently the only) data center in the world to achieve LEED for existing buildings — Platinum certification.

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Moving to Clean and Renewable Energy Solutions

Clean and renewable energy solutions help Kaiser Permanente to reduce the use of fossil fuels and create healthier environments that support our members and the communities we serve.

Kaiser Permanente is currently engaged in on-site solar and other clean energy initiatives. We have installed solar panels at 16 locations across California and the western regions, generating nearly 19 million kilowatt-hours of clean, renewable energy for our hospitals and buildings each year. We have announced plans to increase our on-site solar generation by as much as 70 megawatts and to employ more than 150 megawatts of off-site solar and wind generation in the coming years.

Kaiser Permanente facilities in the Mid-Atlantic region are leading the way in sustainability with clean wind-energy power through the purchase of Green-e certified renewable energy credits. This deal matches 100 percent of expected annual electricity use by all of Kaiser Permanente's Maryland and District of Columbia facilities for two years starting in 2012, thus avoiding an estimated 41,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions each year.

A Greener Future

By lessening our reliance on fossil fuels and reducing our overall energy consumption, we are working to minimize our impact on the climate. The fact that this also reduces operating costs is good news for our members.

Kaiser Permanente believes in working together with other health care organizations, government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to drive greater environmental performance across the health care sector. We are a founding member of the Healthier Hospitals Initiative, a collaboration of major health systems and NGOs working collectively to accelerate improvements in the sector's environmental footprint. As part of that initiative, we have accepted the Leaner Energy challenge to reduce energy use intensity over the next three years.

At Kaiser Permanente, we will continue to measure, verify and publicly report our greenhouse gas emissions, and we are committed to rigorously tracking and reporting our energy measures.

Kaiser Permanente has received the following awards for success and leadership in greening its facilities:

- System for Change Award—the latest of the 171 awards that Kaiser Permanente has earned from Practice Greenhealth for leadership in environmental performance (2013)
- Green Power Leadership award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for outstanding onsite generation of power from renewable resources (2013)
- Named No. 1 green IT organization by *Computerworld* for implementing green technology practices that reduce waste, carbon dioxide emissions, energy use, and use of toxic chemicals (2011)
- Clean Air Award from Breathe California for efforts to reduce global warming and air pollution (2010)

Kaiser Permanente's notable achievements in green building include the following:

- Generating power on site at several medical centers through cogeneration, which significantly reduces energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions
- Installing reflective roofing on medical centers to help cool buildings and reduce each building's energy load by 10 percent
- Investing in new lights and window-film installations that are expected to save roughly $1 million each year in energy costs
- Reducing electricity use through motion-sensor and daylight-controlled lights, LED lights and natural light

If you would like to learn more about our commitment to our communities and environmental stewardship, visit **kp.org/green**