



Energy Efficiency Success Story

North Suburban YMCA, Northbrook, IL

Savings

- **34.8%** annual energy savings
- **\$51,670** annual cost savings

Building Overview

- Building type: 80,000 square foot brick building with exercise equipment, gymnasium, swimming pool, locker rooms, and office space
- Function: community center providing fitness facilities, child care, early childhood classes, and health and wellness services for families of all income levels

Financial Incentives

- \$50,970 total incentives over two project phases

Project Summary

Like many YMCA facilities, the North Suburban YMCA in Northbrook, IL provides a gamut of recreational and educational services to its community. When the YMCA began considering renovations, Elevate Energy helped to incorporate energy efficiency upgrades into the project and access incentives through the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program.

Technical assistance provided at no cost included an assessment of the building and a report recommending cost-effective energy efficiency improvements. Based on the recommendations provided, the YMCA decided to invest in new HVAC equipment, an energy recovery system, energy efficient lighting, and other improvements.

Once renovations are complete, the YMCA expects its energy expenses to decrease by nearly 35 percent, bringing the total savings to approximately \$51,000 per year. Incentives from the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program and ComEd helped to defray the cost of the improvements.

Howard Schultz, Executive Director of the facility, said that the program provided valuable technical assistance and financial incentives that made it possible to implement energy efficient upgrades that otherwise might have been cut from the project budget.



| Upgrades Completed in Phase 1 | Anticipated Energy Savings | | Financial Incentives |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | \$/year | % | |
| Install new locker room RTU: include energy recovery | \$7,608 | 4.5% | \$6,674 |
| Air seal area to be renovated | \$168 | 0.1% | \$151 |
| Implement temperature reset on hot water boiler | \$1,667 | 1.0% | \$1,554 |
| Install low-flow showerheads (<1.75 gallons per minute) | \$1,563 | 0.9% | \$2,012 |
| Tune-up existing boiler | \$490 | 0.3% | \$631 |
| Upgrade all light fixtures | \$4,917 | 3.4% | \$5,416 |
| Upgrades Planned for Phase 2 | | | |
| New HVAC units for lobby, office, studies, pool, area B | \$13,254 | 9.2% | \$14,473 |
| New cooling and DDC controls | \$3,553 | 2.5% | \$3,893 |
| Air seal windows, doors, penetrations, and ductwork | \$1,722 | 1.2% | \$1,874 |
| Install occupancy sensors and bi-level stairwell control | \$1,345 | 0.9% | \$1,479 |
| Install pool cover | \$1,816 | 1.3% | \$1,977 |
| Energy recovery in area B | \$386 | 0.3% | \$390 |
| Install demand-controlled ventilation in exercise rooms | \$4,853 | 3.4% | \$5,263 |
| Recover waste heat from AHU to domestic hot water | \$3,544 | 2.5% | \$3,840 |
| Recover pool dehumidification heat to domestic hot water | \$4,784 | 3.3% | \$1,343 |
| Total for Both Phases | \$51,670 | 34.8% | \$50,970 |

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