



Energy Efficiency Program Nets Dameron Hospital \$98,000 Rebate.

STOCKTON- Striving to reduce the costs of community healthcare, Dameron Hospital with help from the **Healthcare Energy Efficiency Program, called**

From Left: Stockton Area Account Executive Kim Fuhrman of PG&E, Dameron Hospital Director of Plant Operations Jacob Wiebe, Senior Account Director Mary Juvik of PG&E S.F., and Richard Ponder, Director of Programs, Willdan Energy Solutions presenting a check for \$98,288 to Dameron Hospital's Chief Operating Officer Nicholas Arismendi.

HEEP is making a difference. The HEEP program, implemented by Willdan Energy Solutions, helped Dameron upgrade its existing mechanical control systems with new, energy-efficient models. These upgrades and energy efficiencies have resulted in a \$98,288.50 rebate to Stockton's Dameron.

HEEP is an incentive program created to assist hospitals and other healthcare providers install energy-efficient equipment to reduce energy consumption and, thereby, lower operating costs. The program is available to independent hospitals and other healthcare providers who are customers of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). There is a wide range of energy-efficiency measures that qualify for HEEP incentives, including those associated with lighting, HVAC, variable speed drives, motors, chillers, kitchen hoods, occupancy sensors, energy management systems, just to name a few.

Justifying new expenditures at a time when all hospitals are facing challenging financial times can be difficult. Many California hospitals are delaying new and replacement equipment installations because of financial uncertainties; however, investing in newer, energy-efficient models offers long-term benefits by reducing energy use.

Despite the difficult financial realities, last year cash incentives became available to hospitals that replace installed equipment with energy-efficient equipment or install energy-management controls under the HEEP initiative. Willdan Energy Solutions of Dublin, CA, a division of Willdan Group, Inc., is the implementer of the program. Willdan engineers analyzed the energy savings potential and recommended energy-efficient upgrades. Dameron's decision to proceed with the upgrades resulted in their receiving incentive funds for the project.

When Dameron Hospital facilities director, Jacob Wiebe, became aware of the program, he saw an opportunity. "Reducing utility cost and consumption is a focal point of my job here at Dameron Hospital. Reducing this usage and our environmental impact usually doesn't occur without cost and in today's healthcare market such projects are usually put on hold. PG&E's HEEP program provided the financial incentive to convert our energy efficiency ideas into reality. With the help of PG&E and Willdan Energy, Dameron Hospital is now reaping the benefits of these energy incentive measures. Monthly gas usage has decreased by as much as 30% and electrical consumption reductions are averaging 6% each month," said Wiebe. This program provided a pathway for PG&E to provide \$98,000 to the charitable efforts of Stockton's community owned hospital.

Medical facilities thinking of investing in energy-efficient equipment, or you need to replace old equipment and would like more information about energy-efficient options, please call Willdan Energy Solutions at 925-556-2600.

The Healthcare Energy Efficiency Program is implemented by Willdan Energy Solutions. The program is funded by California utility customers and administered by PG&E under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.