



Opening doors to a better life



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YMCA saves energy, money through upgrades

SEATTLE— Thanks to financing through the Washington State Housing Finance Commission’s Sustainable Energy Program, six YMCA of Greater Seattle locations have been upgraded for energy efficiency—and cost savings.

Plumbing and lighting upgrades, new facility controls and new, efficient equipment will allow the organization to realize significant savings annually.

“As part of the Y’s commitment to social responsibility, we strive to be as environmentally responsible as possible,” said Julie L. Brown, Chief Financial Officer of the YMCA of Greater Seattle. “We are grateful to the Washington State Housing Finance Commission for helping us to implement these important enhancements that will make these six facilities greener and will help to minimize our overall environmental impact.”

The YMCA will use energy audits to evaluate the energy and costs savings at the six upgraded locations.

These locations are the Downtown Seattle YMCA, the West Seattle & Fauntleroy YMCA, the Meredith Mathews East Madison YMCA, the Auburn Valley YMCA, the Bellevue Family YMCA and the Northshore YMCA.

The Housing Finance Commission issued a tax-exempt bond for \$2 million, allowing the YMCA to access lower-cost financing for the improvements.

“Energy costs are a significant budget factor for nonprofits, especially those providing facilities for the whole community to enjoy,” said Karen Miller, chair of the Housing Finance Commission. “We’re glad to support the YMCA in lowering these costs for a long time to come.”

In addition to its core mission of affordable housing, the Commission has focused on energy efficiency since 2009, at the direction of the state legislature. That commitment has increased access to below-market-rate financing for energy-related projects, large and small, throughout the state.

For more information on the Commission’s energy programs, see www.wshfc.org/energy.

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The [Washington State Housing Finance Commission](http://www.wshfc.org) is a publicly accountable, self-supporting team, dedicated to increasing housing access and affordability, and to expanding the availability of quality community services for the people of Washington. The commission, which receives no regular state funding for its operations, works with lenders, investors, developers, nonprofit organizations, first-time homebuyers, beginning farmers and ranchers and energy companies to bring private investment dollars to benefit families and achieve public goals in Washington.



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About the YMCA of Greater Seattle

The YMCA of Greater Seattle is the Northwest’s leading nonprofit organization strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Founded in 1876, the Y reaches more than 200,000 people of all backgrounds, abilities and financial circumstances annually through 13 branches, two overnight camps and more than 200 program sites throughout King and south Snohomish counties. It nurtures nearly 84,000 kids and teens to develop their gifts and give back to our community and engages nearly 14,000 volunteers who contribute more than 282,000 hours of service each year. Visit seattleyymca.org.