## Statement of **Environmental Principles**

We, Sustainable General Hospital (SGH), affirm our commitment to promote healthier communities both locally and globally, and to be an environmental leader in all aspects of our buildings and operations in a manner demonstrably protective of environmental and human health.

SGH recognizes the critical link between human health and the health of the environment, and will seek new and innovative ways to improve environmental performance through conservation, purchasing, reduction, re-use and recycling programs, and through partnership with others in the community to safeguard the environment.

SGH will apply these principles to achieve optimal environmental standards consistent with our mission, including our commitments to clinical excellence, community benefit, and fiscal responsibility.

In an effort to respect and protect the earth's resources, restore environmental quality, and protect human health, SGH will:

- Instill environmental responsibility as a corporate value.
- Incorporate environmental considerations and total facility life-cycle analysis into building design, construction, and renovation strategies.
- Minimize the generation of waste through source reduction, re-use, and recycling programs.
- Manage, minimize, and eliminate—where possible—the use of hazardous materials.
- Strive to purchase and utilize environmentally preferable products and services.

- Conserve energy/water and improve the energy/ water efficiency of our operations. Make every effort to use and promote environmentally safe, cost-effective, and sustainable energy sources.
- Evaluate and minimize each aspect of our organization's impact on global climate change.
- Use renewable natural resources and conserve nonrenewable natural resources through efficient use and cost-effective and careful planning.
- Employ prevention strategies to minimize negative environmental impacts we cannot eliminate.
- Ensure the health and safety of our employees by promoting safe work practices, reducing exposure to hazardous substances, and using the safest technologies and processes.
- Provide employees with safety and environmental information through training and education programs that enable and encourage them to make work practice decisions in support of these principles.
- Set annual goals and develop action plans to continuously improve the quality and measurable outcomes of our environmental programs.
- Monitor, evaluate, and report on our practices as they relate to these environmental principles.



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