



“ In addition to cost savings, being supported by a team of experts [through the NPP] is so beneficial because members of the Family Matters staff don't have to spend our limited time doing research in areas outside of our expertise. ”

— Ann Hinterman, Director of Community Engagement and Grants Management at Family Matters

## Family Matters

### Project summary

Family Matters partners with youth, families, and communities to cultivate a way of living in the world that develops strong relationships, meaningful communication, and safe environments for courageous social change as they seek to build an equitable society for all. The organization engages more than 1,000 members of the Rogers Park community each year.

As of 2020, Family Matters' 100-year-old building had a 42% higher energy use intensity than its comparable peer buildings. WSP's assessment determined that the main sources of the building's energy and water consumption were space heating and lawn irrigation. Additionally, Family Matters wanted to optimize occupant comfort and reduce temperature fluctuation throughout the facility. As a result, Family Matters focused their energy-saving improvements on retrofitting the building's interior lighting and pipe insulation, upgrading the water heater, and installing a smart thermostat. Their efforts have resulted in considerable energy savings for their property.

Future projects recommended for Family Matters include motion-sensor light switches, on-site solar panels, high-efficiency water faucets, water leak detection, and centralized waste bins. These projects will save Family Matters even more on energy costs and will ensure that they and their building can continue to serve the greater Rogers Park community.

### Energy-saving improvements

- Interior lighting and boiler pipe insulation retrofits
- Water heater replacement
- Smart thermostat installation
- In-building waste sorting and disposal optimization

### Estimated annual savings

- \$1,105
- Equivalent to CO2e emissions from 43,900 miles driven and 289 trees planted

### Project costs

- \$15,916 total project cost

### Project funding

- \$16,000 grant from NPP

To learn more, visit [www.IllinoisGreenAlliance.org/NeighborhoodPowerProject](http://www.IllinoisGreenAlliance.org/NeighborhoodPowerProject)

