

A GREEN UPGRADE AT GUNDERSEN

The Behavioral Health building at Gundersen Health System recently received a sustainable upgrade: 388 solar panels.

“The power will directly feed the building,” says Alan Eber, director of Gundersen’s Facility Operations. “If the solar panels generate more electricity than needed, the power will be sent back and used in our on-site power plant.”

Not only will the green addition help improve the health of the environment, it’s estimated that the project will save Gundersen about \$15,000 per year.

“The financial benefits of the system will increase over time,” Alan says. “Burning coal is still the dominate way electricity is generated in our region. By reducing the amount of electricity we use, we offset how much coal is burned.”

The solar panels are another reminder of the commitment Gundersen and its environmental stewardship program Envision® have toward improving the health and well-being of the Tri-state Region. The healthcare system also has developed biogas and other renewable power opportunities available through partnerships with municipalities, utility companies and businesses to meet its current and future energy needs.

Gundersen Health System is headquartered in La Crosse, Wis., with hospitals and clinics in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. For more information, call (855) 669-1653 (toll free), email envision@gundersenhealth.org or visit gundersenenvision.org.

