



2025

Sustainability Goals

Progress report

Sustainability at Corewell Health

Corewell Health acknowledges the deep interconnection between human wellbeing and the health of our environment. We are dedicated to safeguarding natural resources by advancing sustainable practices across our operations and investing in the vitality of the communities we serve. Our commitment includes reducing our environmental footprint through thoughtful strategy development that enhances and broadens existing initiatives such as responsible sourcing, team member engagement, efficient resource use, proper waste management, and continuous improvements in operational efficiency.

In addition, Corewell Health strives to foster a culture of sustainability that empowers our team members and partners to contribute to meaningful, long-term change. By collaborating with local organizations, embracing innovation, and setting measurable sustainability goals, we aim to create lasting positive impacts that support healthier people, healthier communities, and a healthier planet for generations to come.

Waste Pledge

In 2020, Corewell Health set a goal to recycle, compost or reprocess 40% of our total waste. Waste is complex and expensive to manage; however, we are committed to ensuring we reduce waste and responsibly dispose of waste into the proper waste streams.

Accomplishments

- 19% of waste was diverted from going to landfill through recycling, composting and reprocessing in 2025
- 305,532 lbs. of pre-consumer food waste was composted in 2025

Pre-consumer food waste composting

As the largest employer in Michigan, Corewell Health serves thousands of meals each week to patients, team members and visitors across its hospitals and continuing care locations. With food service at this scale, some level of pre-consumer food waste such as food scraps and unused food, is unavoidable. Food waste is a global issue that depletes valuable resources like water, land and labor, and contributes an estimated 8-10% of global greenhouse gas emissions due largely to methane released when food decomposes in landfills.

To help address this challenge, nutrition services, supply chain and environmental services partnered as part of Corewell Health's sustainability initiatives to implement pre-consumer food waste composting across all Corewell Health in West Michigan and Corewell Health in Southeast Michigan hospitals and continuing care locations. Pre-consumer food waste is defined as the organic material generated during transportation, production and processing. Composting reduces methane emissions, diverts organic material from landfills and transforms food waste into nutrient-rich soil that supports local ecosystems. Diverting food waste to compost provides greenhouse gas savings equivalent to planting 500 trees over 10 years.



SMART Moves

In 2025, the SMART Moves team, a specialized division of supply chain that supports the safe relocation, reuse and repurposing of furniture and equipment, made significant progress in advancing both operational efficiency and sustainability goals across the system. The SMART Moves program helps divert materials from landfills, generates value through recycling revenue and cost avoidance, and plays an important role in the community by donating furniture and equipment to organizations that support those in need.

Accomplishments

- 1,240 pieces of furniture and equipment repurposed within the system, resulting in \$752,649 in cost avoidance
- 60 recycling trips completed, generating \$13,623 in revenue from recovered materials
- 65 truckloads of furniture and equipment donated to local nonprofit organizations

Together, these results represent more than just logistical success — they reflect measurable progress toward reducing waste, extending asset life and supporting Corewell Health's sustainability goals.

\$13,623

in revenue from
recovered materials

\$752,649

in cost avoidance



Sustainable Food Pledge

Food is a significant, yet often overlooked, contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in health care. At the same time, the food served to patients, visitors and team members is closely tied to the health care industry's mission to improve health and well-being. At Corewell Health, building a more sustainable food system has been identified as a high-impact sustainability opportunity.

In 2021, Corewell Health signed the Healthcare Anchor Network's Impact Purchasing Commitment, which included a goal to source 20% of total food purchases from local and sustainably certified suppliers. This commitment reflects our dedication to supporting environmental stewardship, community health and local economic resilience through responsible food sourcing.



Nutrition Services team member Sarah Matthews serving up Tomato Bliss soups at Corewell Health Butterworth Hospital's Michigan Street Market & Grill.

Accomplishments

- 20% of total food spend is certified sustainable. Food and beverage products may hold a wide range of sustainability certifications, including USDA Organic, Fair Trade and Regenerative Agriculture Grown.
- 34% of total food and beverage spend is sourced locally, defined as suppliers located within the state of Michigan or within a 250-mile radius of a Corewell Health location. This local sourcing has a meaningful impact on regional farmers, business owners and the local economy.
- 191 local food and beverage suppliers currently partner with Corewell Health.
- We are launching an initiative around local food identification where locally sourced and produced food items are labeled with a "local" tag in Corewell Health cafés and food service areas to help team members and visitors make informed purchasing choices.

Sustainability at Corewell Health is not only an environmental imperative it is also a strategic financial decision. By achieving our sustainable food sourcing goal ahead of schedule, we have established partnerships that deliver measurable value. Today, 20% of our food and beverage spend is sustainably certified and 34% is sourced locally. These choices reduce environmental impact while strengthening our financial performance through shorter supply chains, lower transportation costs and more stable pricing. Collaborating with nearly 200 local suppliers including Tomato Bliss, a local, women-owned company, allows us to provide high-quality food to patients, team members and visitors while supporting the regional economy. These partnerships reduce reliance on volatile national supply chains and keep dollars circulating within our communities. Together, these decisions demonstrate how Corewell Health is advancing sustainability in ways that make health care extraordinary for our patients and members.

Energy Pledge

In 2022, Corewell Health established an energy goal to reduce carbon emissions from energy consumption by 15% from our 2019 baseline. For context, that's like eliminating close to all energy-related emissions generated from our largest hospital, Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, which accounts for 22% of Corewell Health's portfolio energy emissions.

These emission reductions are being achieved through a combination of energy efficiency and optimization strategies, including LED lighting upgrades, infrastructure replacements, building automation and control enhancements, cogeneration plants and a growing commitment to renewable electricity sourced from both onsite generation and utility-supplied programs.

Accomplishments

- 9.3% reduction in carbon emissions to date

Corewell Health partnered with Trane to implement a Combined Heat and Power system (CHP, also known as cogeneration) at Corewell Health Pennock Hospital. Traditional systems rely on electricity produced at a power plant and onsite boilers to produce steam or hot water for heating needs. A cogeneration unit generates electricity onsite and uses waste heat recovery to meet heating needs, therefore reducing emissions associated with producing and transmitting these utilities separately. Typically, a cogeneration unit may achieve 70%-90% energy conversion efficiency, while traditional systems operate at or below 40%. The 400KW CHP at Corewell Health Pennock Hospital supports the winter electrical load and the summer hot water load for the hospital and will reduce the total electricity and natural gas spend for Pennock Hospital by ~13% as well as provide increased resiliency in the event of electric grid outages. The cogeneration unit is expected to be online and operational by end of April 2026.

Partnering with Consumers Energy to bring renewable electricity to Corewell Health

In 2025, Corewell Health contracted with Consumers Energy to procure 100% renewable electricity for facilities in the West region. Through this program, new renewable energy resources will be developed in Michigan and are expected to come online in 2028. Once operational, this initiative is projected to reduce Corewell Health's building-related greenhouse gas emissions by 15%-20%, representing a significant step toward our 2040 carbon neutrality goal.

As one of the largest participants in the Consumers Energy renewable energy program, Corewell Health is demonstrating a long-term commitment to environmental stewardship while supporting Michigan's clean energy economy.

Waste Anesthesia Gas Pledge

As part of our commitment to the Healthcare Anchor Network we stood up a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions specific to anesthetic gas by 50%. Anesthetic gas is an operating room requirement that has big impacts on the outside world. Waste Anesthetic Gases (unused gas exhaled by the patient or leaked from cannisters or pipes also known as WAG) may make up 5% or more of a hospital's entire carbon footprint.

Accomplishments

- To date, we have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 47% and have completely eliminated desflurane, a notoriously high-GHG emitting anesthesia gas, from our pharmaceutical formulary.

Greening anesthesia practices

Beginning in 2026, desflurane anesthesia gas was removed from the pharmaceutical formulary. By moving away from the use of desflurane, we anticipate significant operational, economic and environmental benefits, including \$350,000 annual cost savings, standardization across all hospitals, supplier and SKU reduction, and a reduction in GHG emissions by 423 metric tons of CO₂E (MTCO₂E), carbon dioxide equivalent, year over year. This initiative will be a contributor in helping Corewell Health reach our carbon neutrality goal by 2040.

Another initiative to reduce waste anesthesia gas is the replacement of outdated and end-of-life anesthesia machines. This initiative focuses on standardizing equipment with a machine model and software that is clinically superior to the other models and more environmentally friendly. The shift to this type of equipment will provide additional benefits including:

- Minimizing postoperative pulmonary complications
- Reducing preventable adverse events in the OR
- Maximizing workflow efficiencies
- Delivering care to a wide acuity range
- Addressing staff safety, training and burnout
- Reducing inhalation agent spend
- Minimizing patient length of stay
- Reducing anesthetic agent waste
- Adopting eco-friendly, green protocols
- Adopting reusable accessories

By 2030, we anticipate that 134 machines will be updated to this more environmentally friendly anesthesia machine, leaving less than 100 machines remaining to phase out.

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Pledge

Beginning in 2021, by signing onto the Healthcare Anchor Network's Impact Purchasing Commitment, Corewell Health agreed to aim for 50% of fleet vehicles it purchases or leases to be electric, hybrid or any other type of alternative fuel vehicle (AFV) to help reduce Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions.

Accomplishments

- 51 hybrid vehicles purchased or leased
- Two electric vehicles purchased or leased
- Equating to 8% of total fleet (686 vehicles) classified as alternative fuel
- 38 charging stations installed

EPA SmartWay Affiliate Program

In 2025, Corewell Health became an affiliate partner to the Environmental Protection Agency's SmartWay Affiliate Program. This EPA program provides resources for companies to create more efficient fleets to help transport our goods in a more environmentally friendly way.



In early 2025, Corewell Health leased its second electric vehicle, a Ford Lightning truck. The shift to AFVs will provide both a greenhouse emission (GHG) reduction and will also provide cost savings over the life of the vehicle due to rebates/incentives and reduced fuel and maintenance costs.

Planet Health Business Resource Group

In the fall of 2025, the Planet Health Business Resource Group (BRG) hosted a successful highway cleanup to beautify a two-mile stretch of I-96 between the East Beltline and Cascade Road in Grand Rapids. A huge thank you to the 14 volunteers who came out to pick up litter off the side of the roadway, resulting in over 100 bags of trash that were properly disposed of through the Michigan Department of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway Program.



Planet Health

Events and achievements in 2025

- Grand Rounds event “Avoiding Severe Weather Impacts on Health: A New Take on Healthy Homes Interventions” Speaker: Dr. Carina Gronlund
- Electronics recycling events
 - 10 participating hospitals spanning each region
 - 2,613 lbs. of electronics recycled ranging from TVs and printers to lightbulbs and microwaves!
- Updated supply chain sustainability policy
- Presented on “Sustainability as a Lifestyle” at Lakewood Middle School in Lake Odessa, MI
- Quarterly newsletters
- Book Club
 - “A Life on Our Planet” by David Attenborough
 - “The Omnivore’s Dilemma” by Michael Pollan