Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children
655 Ethel St NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Located in the heart of Atlanta, the Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children seeks to ease the burden of homelessness for women and children and to assist in establishing self-sufficiency by providing comprehensive education and supportive services. Through the Shelter’s critical needs program, women and children have access to the following:

- Clothing closets and laundry facilities
- Restrooms, showers and toiletry and personal hygiene items
- Breakfasts and lunches
- Childcare and infant care items
- Essential medications and healthcare
- Mail, telephone, computer and fax machines

These services the Shelter provides for their homeless guests use lots of energy—hot water showers, toilets, laundry facilities, HVAC, 40 job search and training computers, and electric/gas kitchen appliances used to prepare meals, are all operated in-mass 6 days a week for the 150-200 guests they see every day.

In an effort to reduce their operating expenses and redirect those savings into their programs, the Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children applied for a Grants to Green Assessment Award in 2010.

IMPROVEMENTS

- Installing programmable thermostats
- Installing low flow faucets in the kitchen
- Purchasing commercial grade front-loading washing machines
- Installing a timer on the hot water recirculation pump and lowering the hot water temperature
- Instituting practices such as computer sleep and computer monitor power modes

IMPACT

The Shelter spent approximately $500 of its own funds to implement the other items.

- Reduced electricity costs by 21%
- Reduced gas expenses by 34%
- Reduced water costs by 24%