Ballethnic Dance Company Inc. is dedicated to creating a space in classical dance for adults and children who are underrepresented by the community. Their mission is to inform, educate, and entertain their community, using their performances as a way to enact social change.

Ballethnic is an important and impactful member in their community, but unfortunately, their building was not conducive to practicing dance, since poorly regulated air flow caused extreme seasonal temperatures. Southface assisted with improving these conditions through funding and technical service from the GoodUse program (formerly Grants to Green). This program increased the building’s energy efficiency and decreased utility costs, making more funds available to support the Ballethnic mission.

In coordination with the Southface engineers, several updates were implemented throughout the building. This included replacing old HVAC systems and sealing gaps to tighten the building envelope. Water conservation was improved by the installation of rainwater barrels for irrigation, low-flow fixtures in bathrooms, and motion-sensor, high-efficiency water fountains. High-performance LEDs and motion-sensor controls replaced old light fixtures. These improvements create a comfortable environment for the dancers and workers of Ballethnic and encourage energy and water saving practices.

### SITE DETAILS
- **7,300** square foot facility
- Used by **8 to 10** people on weekdays
- Used by up to **30 children** on weekends

### IMPROVEMENTS
- Sealing building gaps
- Upgrading HVAC system
- Installing rainwater barrels
- Installing low-flow bathroom fixtures
- Installing high-efficiency water fountains
- Installing motion-sensor controlled LED lights

### BASELINE UTILITIES BENCHMARKS
- **$7,532** spent on energy per year
- **49.2 kBTU** of energy per square foot per year
- **51.0 kgal** of water used per year

### IMPACT
- Reduced energy cost by **29%**
- Reduced source EUI by **26%**
- Reduced water usage by **32%**
FIG. 1
Rainwater barrels for landscape irrigation. Decreases cost and usage of water on landscape irrigation.

FIG. 2
Updated ductwork and HVAC system. Gaps sealed to prevent loss of regulated air. Old or broken parts of HVAC replaced with parts above standard building code.

FIG. 3
Image caption describing project improvement or implementation.

FIG. 4
High-efficiency water fountain. Motion sensor prevents excess water use. Supports reusable water bottles with easy refill.