

# **BUILDINGENERGY BOSTON**

---

## **Resilient Design for Facilities, Communities, and Climate**

**Nancy Hanright (Boston Medical Center)**

**Tracey Weeden (Boston Medical Center)**

**Joe Dussault (CMTA)**

**Nicole Voss (isgenuity)**

**Curated by Marcell Graeff (HGA)**

---

**Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) | March 20, 2024**

# Presentation Team



**Nancy Hanright**

Senior Director of  
Real Estate and  
Capital Planning



**Tracey Weeden**

Executive Director,  
BBHC



**Joe Dussault**

Principal and  
Partner, Boston



**Nicole Voss**

Director of  
Sustainability



# Boston Medical Center: Sustainability Initiatives

**#1**

**in Mass.**

Socially  
responsible  
hospitals (MA)

**#4**

**in USA**

Socially  
responsible  
hospitals (USA)



Healthcare Chair:  
BMC President

**\$200M**

in green bonds

Sustainable Portfolio



# Boston Medical Center: Energy Reductions

**2**

**megawatt**

Self-generating  
heat and power via  
power plant

**\$1.5M**

Annual energy  
savings reallocated  
to patient care

**19.4%**

2011 to 2021  
reduction in energy  
use

**2030**

Carbon-neutral  
goal year

# Boston Medical Center: Rooftop Garden

**2,700**

Square foot  
roof garden

**25**

Crop  
varieties

**5K+**

Pounds of food  
harvested  
annually

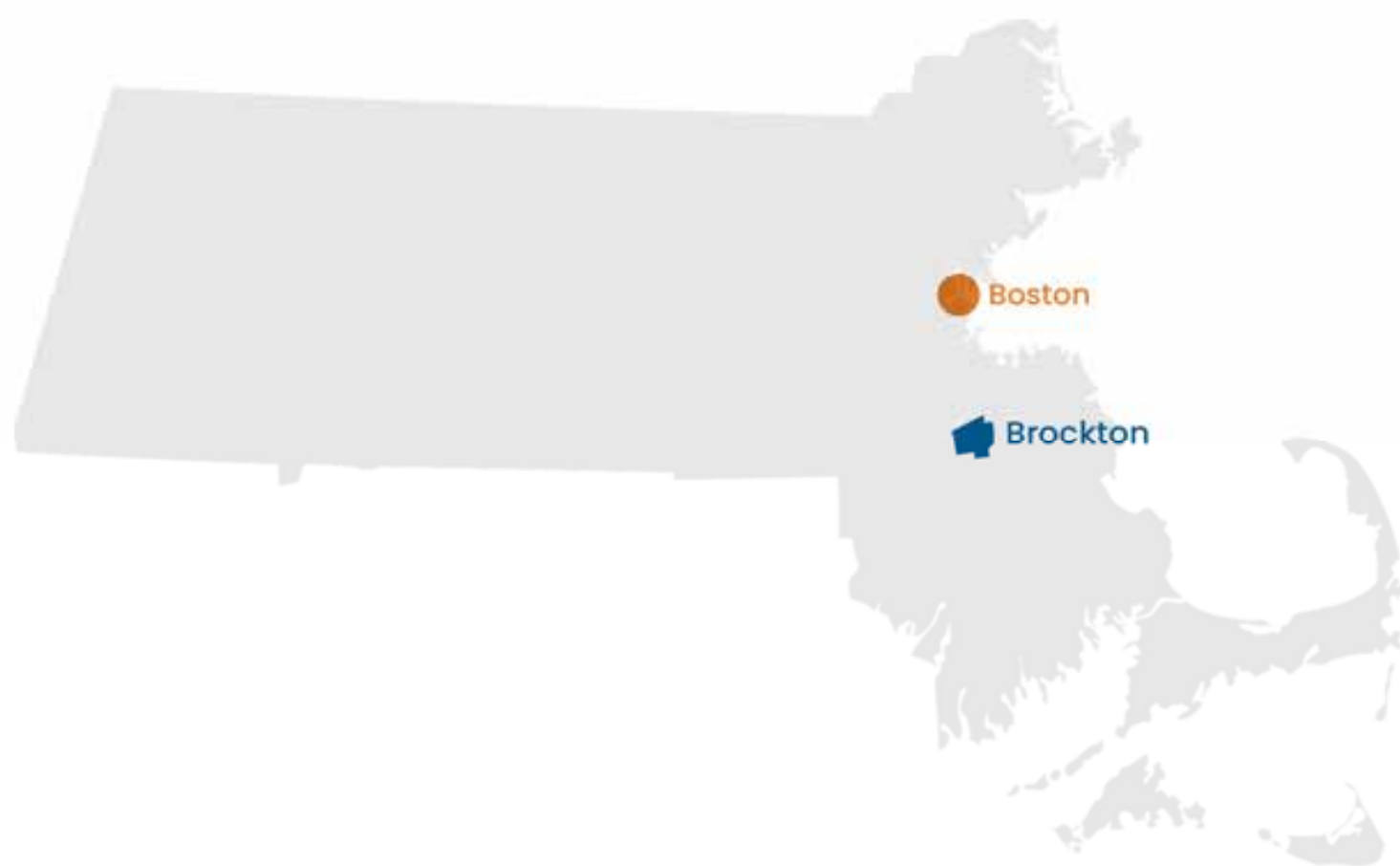
**15+**

Extra years of  
roof material  
life





# The Case for Brockton



## Behavioral Health: The Current Crisis

As of June 2022, **Region 5 (South Shore/Brockton)** experienced the **third highest peak** in MA of those waiting in ED's for inpatient BH admissions

Brockton Behavioral Health Center (BBHC) will serve to **meet critical member needs** by supplementing existing capacity in the region, and **reduce the overall costs related to unmet BH needs** in MA.

# Project Highlights



**82 Total Beds**  
56 Psychiatric Inpatient  
26 Clinical Stabilization  
Services (CSS)



**Adaptive Reuse  
of a derelict  
Nursing Facility**



**59,700 SF**



**Fast Track  
Design &  
Construction  
Opened October  
2022**



**Net Zero Energy  
Ready**





# Existing Facility

- Redevelopment of an out of service 1960's nursing home
- Relatively low Floor-to-Floor Heights
- Limited amount of existing insulation
- Existing structure was masonry bearing walls with steel joists
- Drab exterior; limited connection with the site





# Existing Facility Interiors



# Existing Building Systems

- Gas Fired Boilers
- Baseboard Heat in Bedrooms
- No Central Ventilation
- Packaged Rooftop Units for Common Areas
- Domestic Hot Water (DHW) - Fossil Fuel
- Gas Kitchen
- Electric Service Undersized







Geothermal HVAC



Solar Photovoltaics Array



High Performance Kitchen



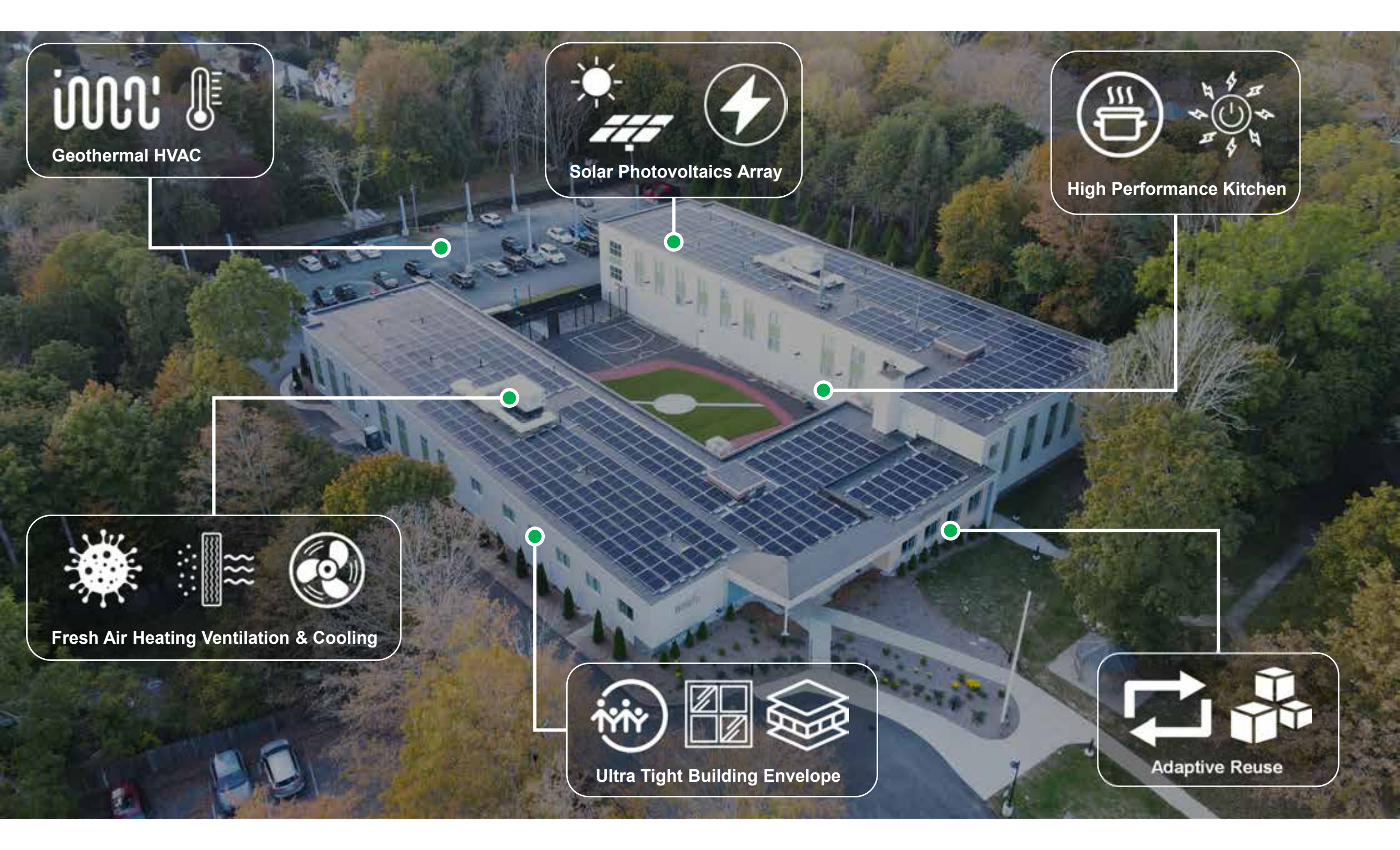
Fresh Air Heating Ventilation & Cooling



Ultra Tight Building Envelope



Adaptive Reuse



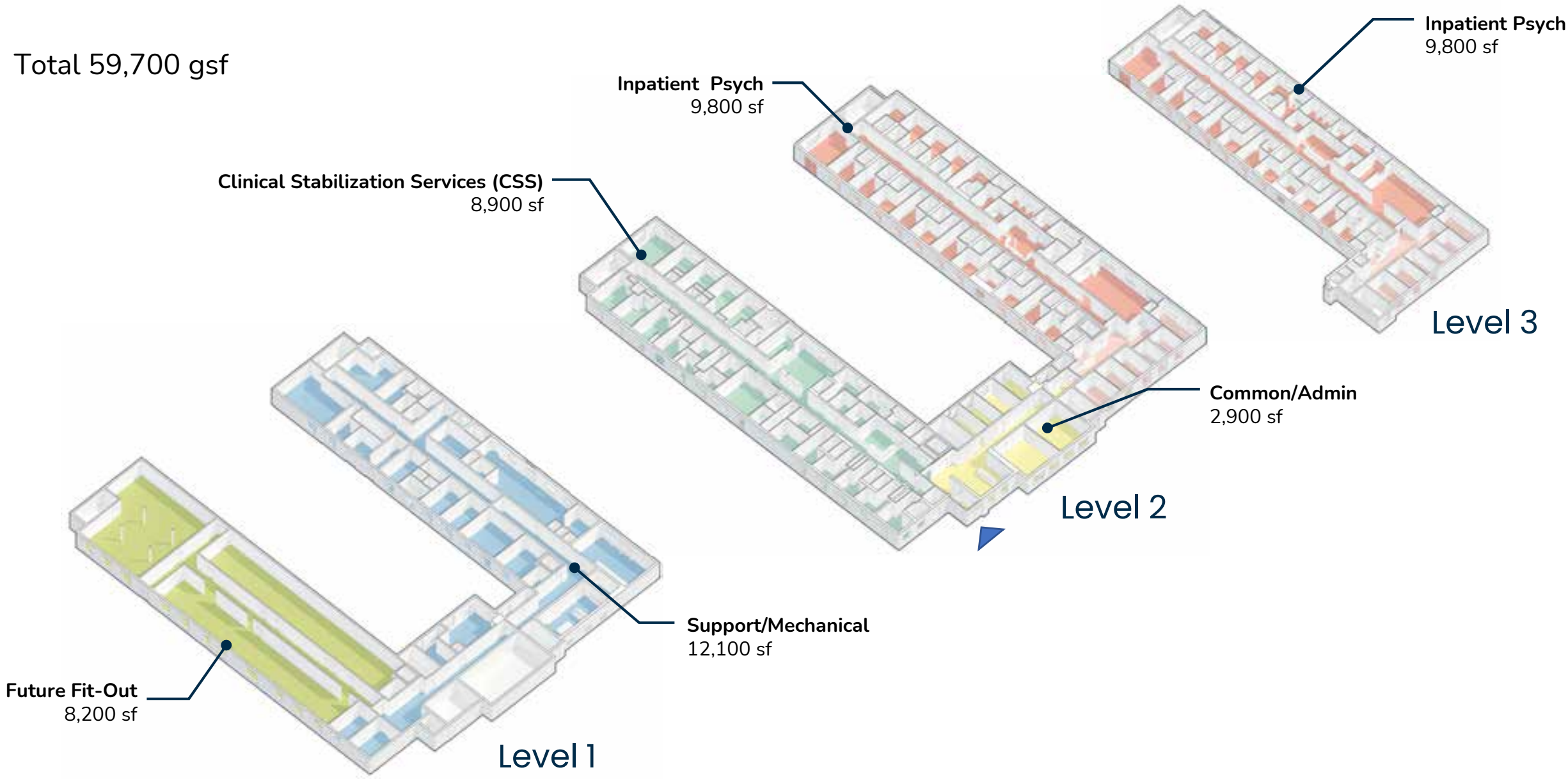


# Renovated Entrance



# Overall Program

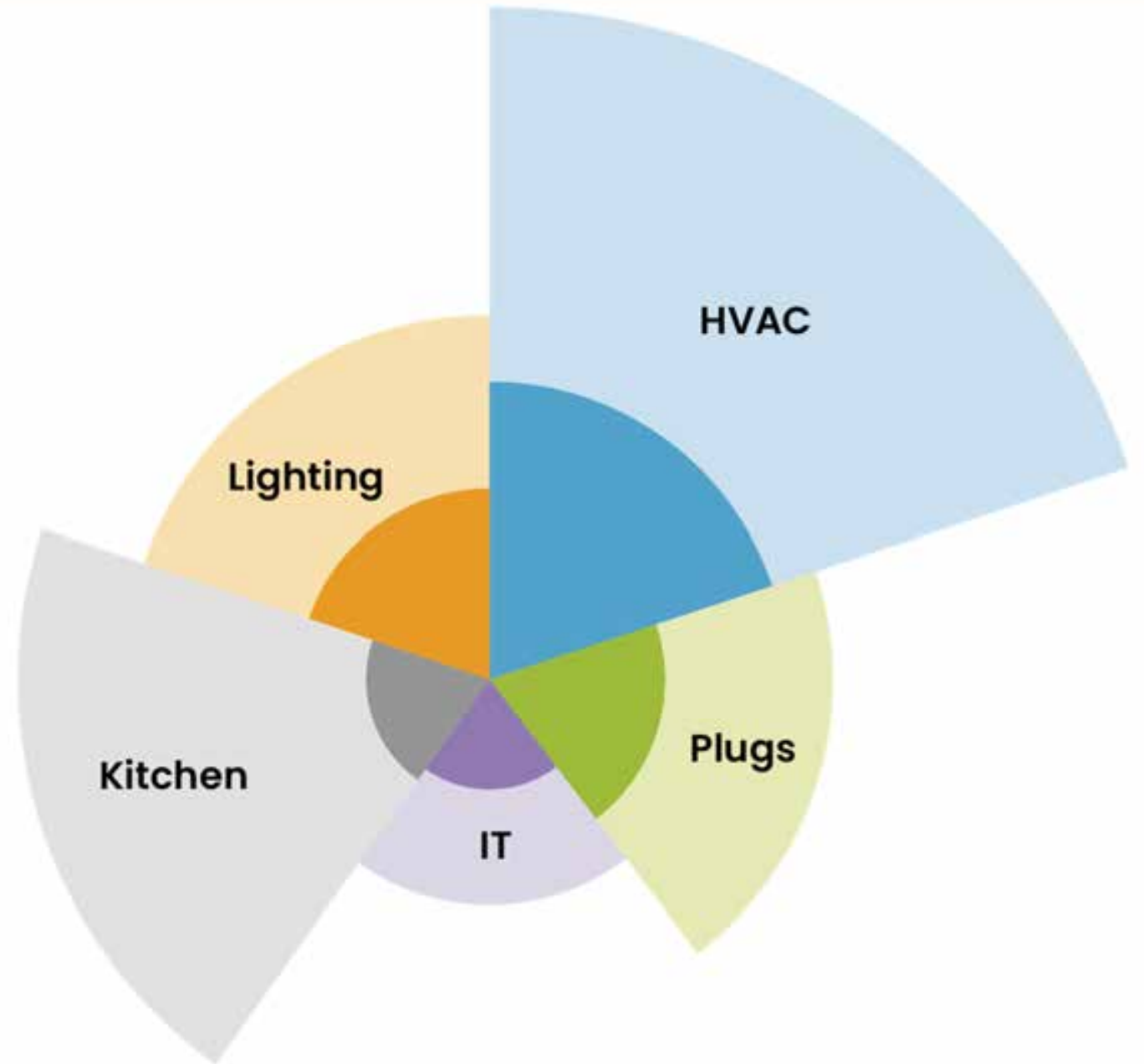
Total 59,700 gsf



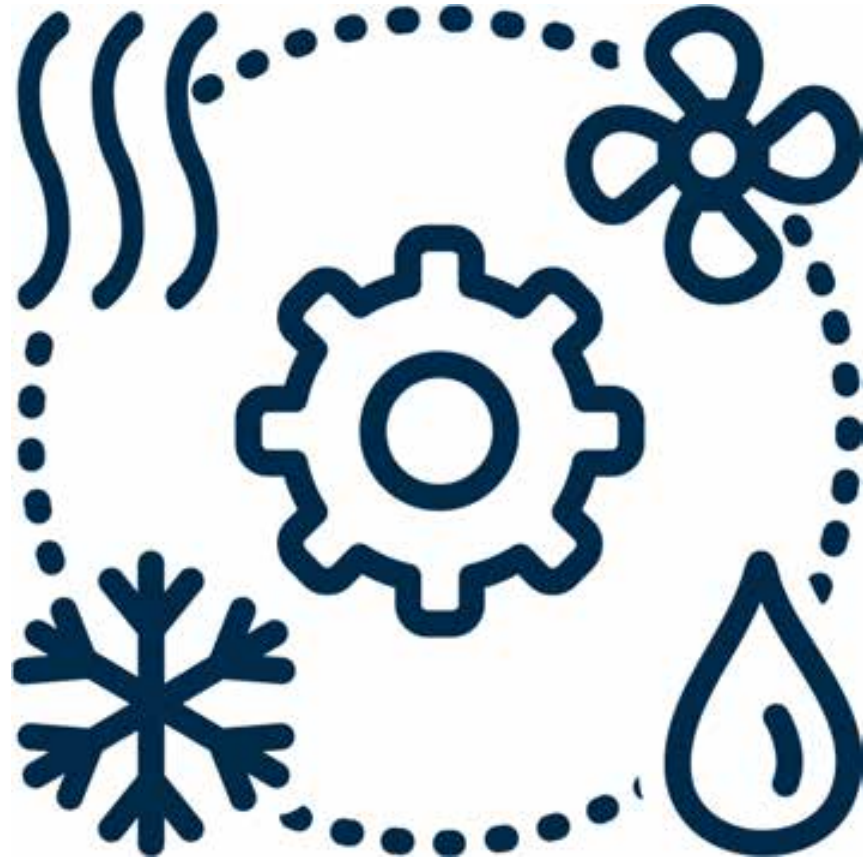


# Drastic Energy Reduction is the Key

- HVAC ~45%
- Kitchen ~20%
- Lighting ~20%
- Plug Loads ~10%
- Information Technology (IT) ~5%

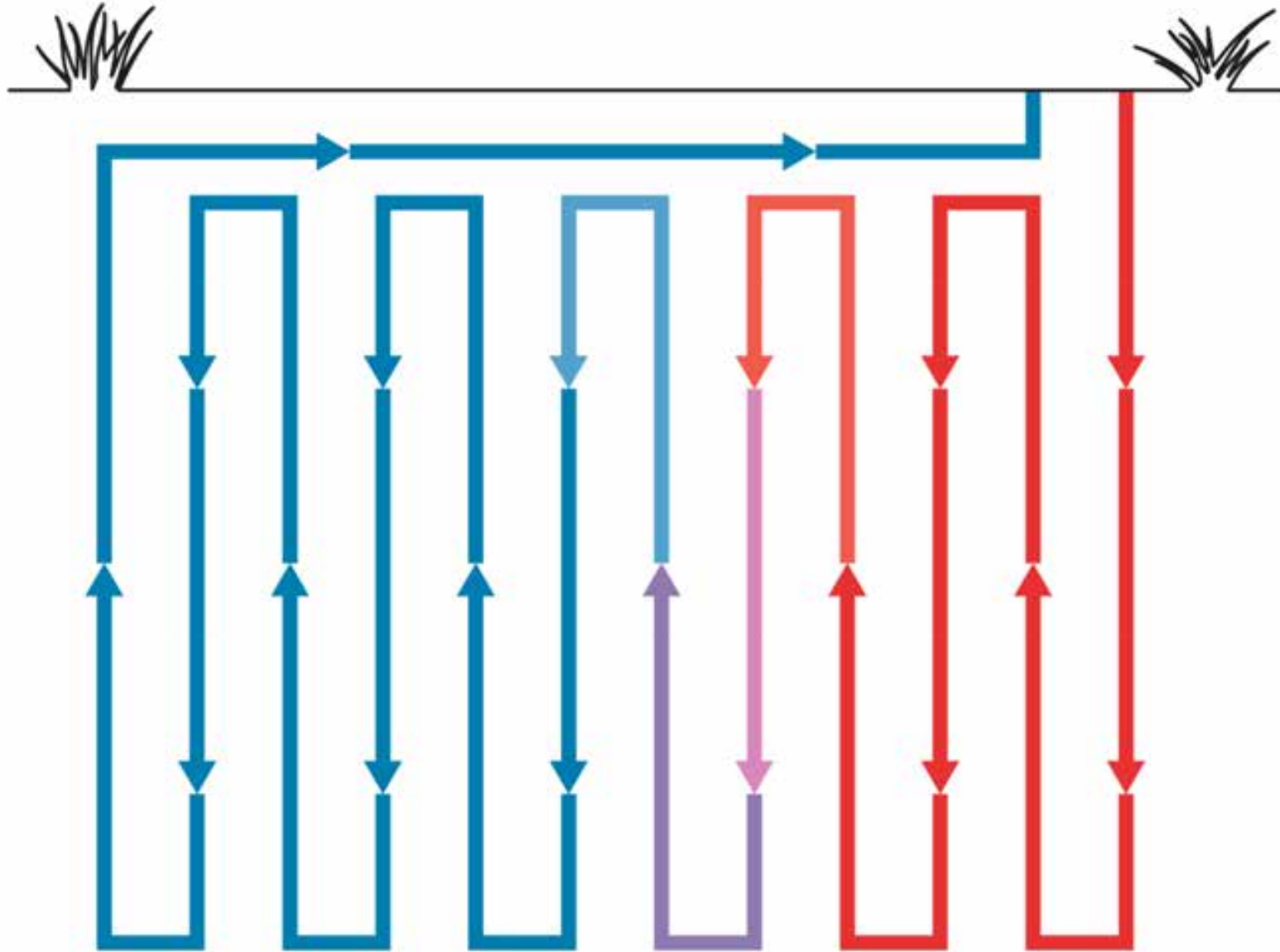


# Energy Conservation



- Geothermal Heat Pump HVAC
- Geothermal Domestic Hot Water Heating
- Heat Pump Dedicated Outdoor Air System (DOAS)  
Units with Heat Recovery
- All Electric Kitchen
- Water Source Kitchen Refrigeration and Ice Makers
- Kitchen Hood Demand Control

# How Does a Geothermal System Work?



## Geo-Exchange

The earth's constant underground temperature is a renewable resource that cools and heats water from the terminal building. In the winter, the water is heated by the earth, then exchanged in the terminal building.

In the summer, the water is cooled by the earth, then exchanged in the terminal building.

# Geothermal Benefits

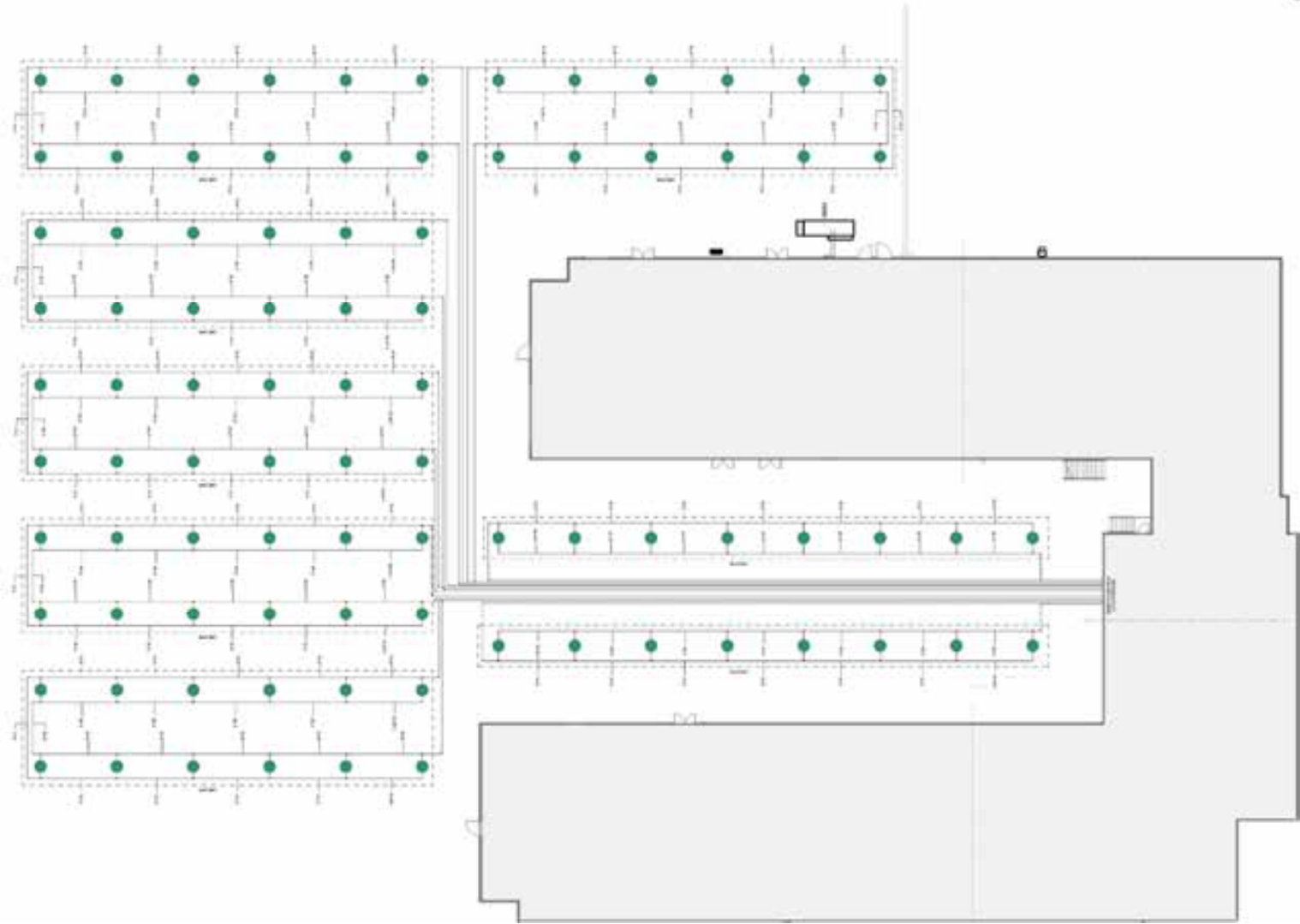
- Less Space Needed for Equipment / Units
- Noise Reduction vs. Other Systems
- Carbon Emissions Eliminated on Site
- Operating Cost Savings
- 40% More Efficient than Traditional System
- 50+ Year Life Expectancy of Wellfield
- No Chemical Treatment
- Water Savings
- Less Maintenance
- Redundancy



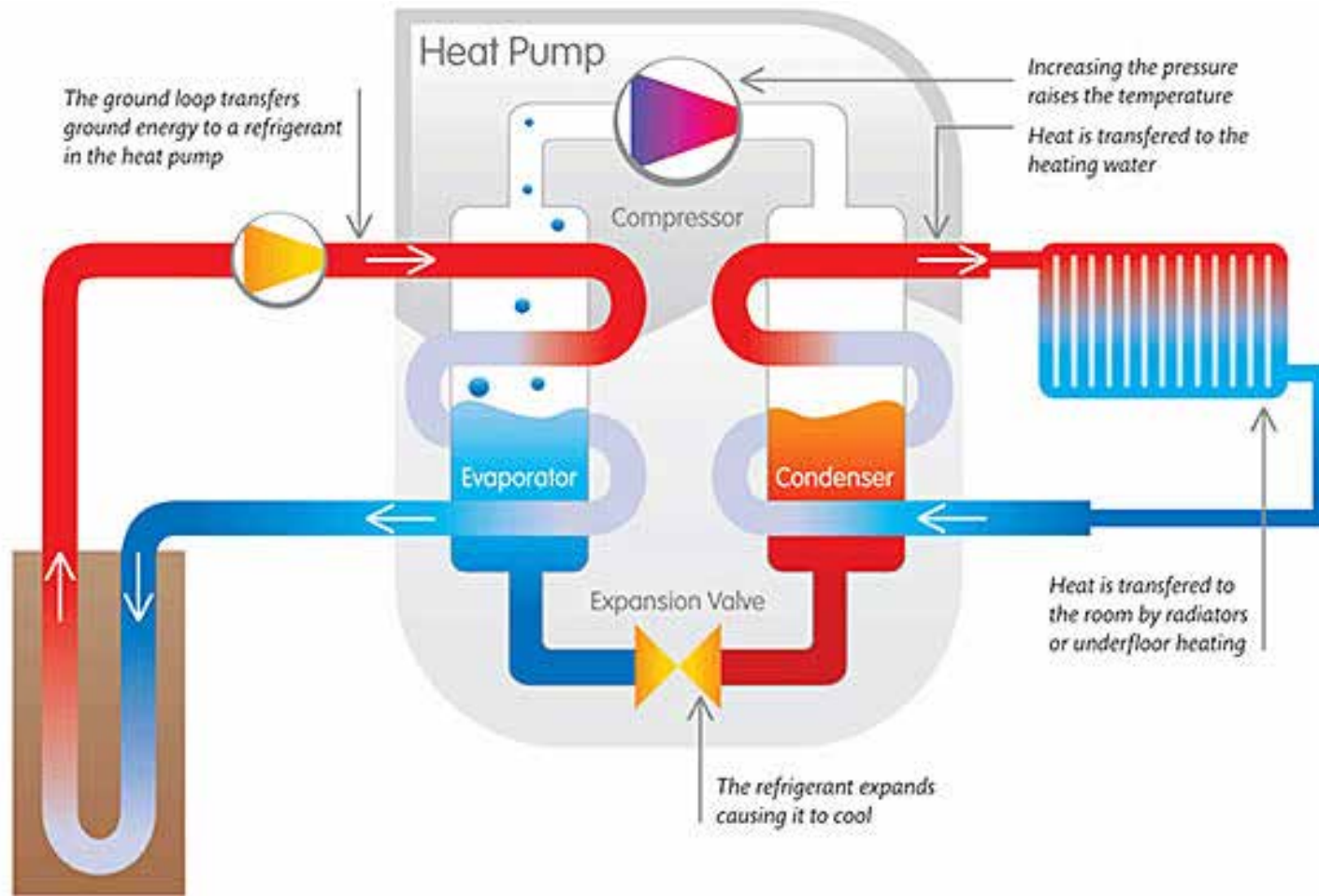


# Geothermal Well Field

88 wells @ 500 ft. depth



# It's a Simple System



Standard Filter Sizes, Drain Pan and Evaporator Coil, Fan/EC Motor, Condenser Coil, Warranty, Trouble Shooting



# Electrical Systems



Normal electrical service size - 2,000A @ 208Y/120V

Emergency power system - 300kW Diesel Generator

Required Life Safety, Critical & Equipment Branches

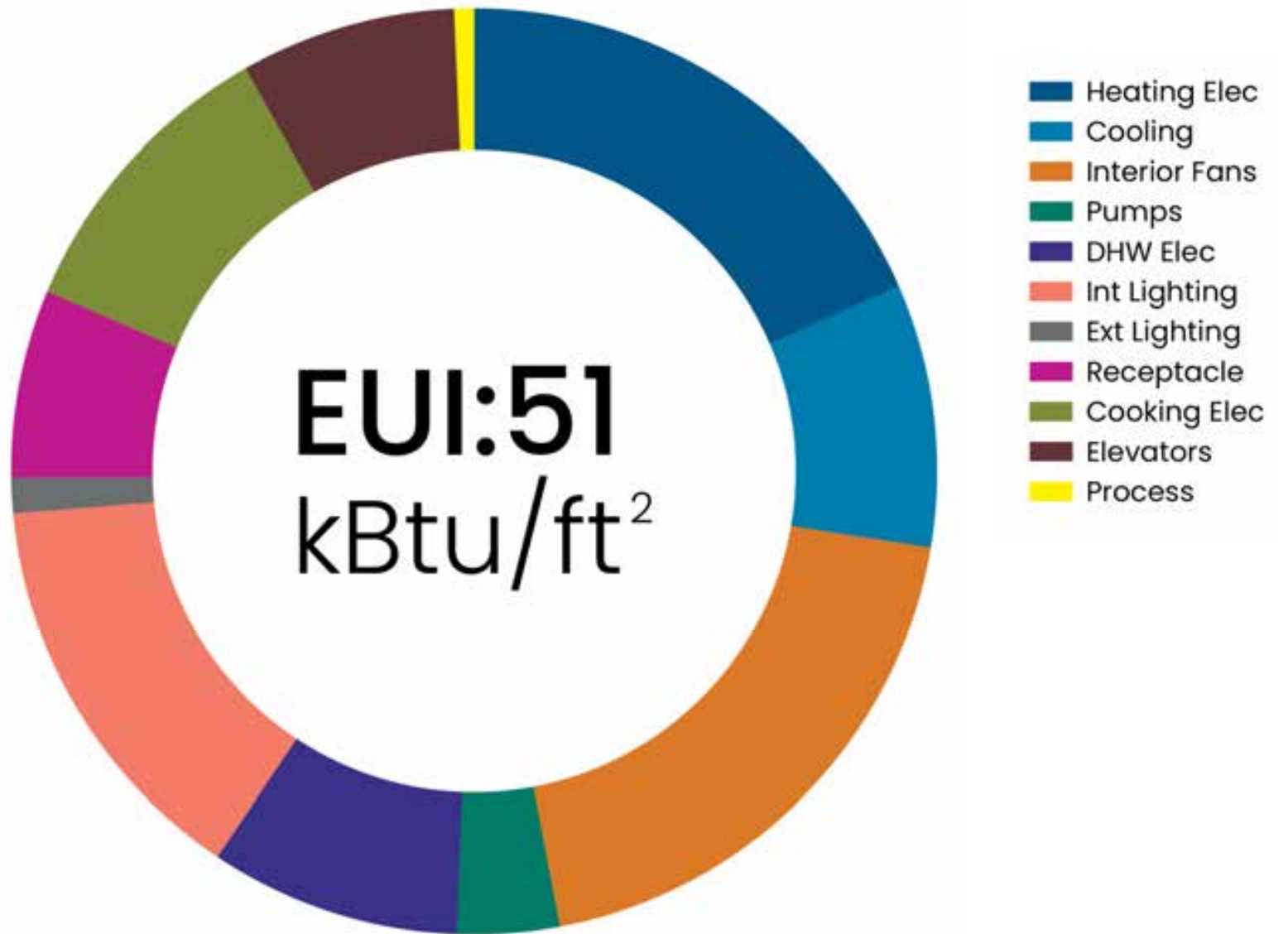
Optional Standby Branch includes all kitchen loads and (3) riser panels that exclusively feed heat pumps

Through Optional Standby Branch the entire facility has back up heating.

# Energy Model is Critical Element

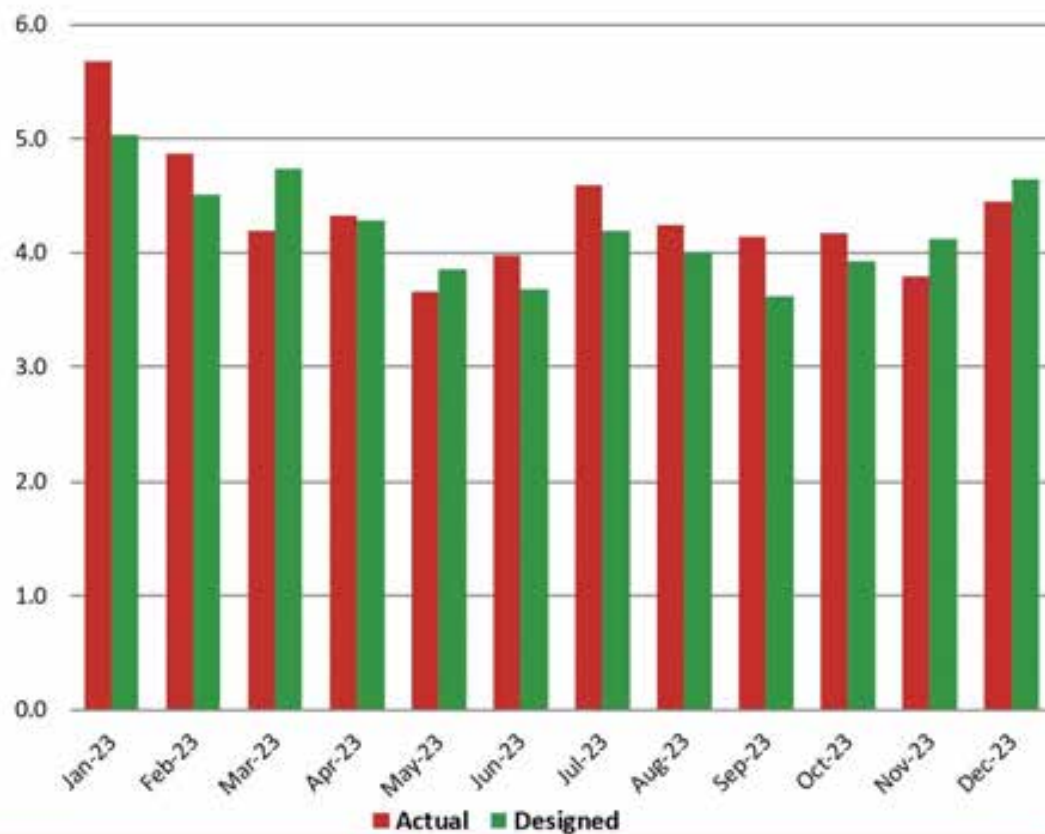
## Energy Model Output

- Electricity Cost = \$184,800
- Building Annual Electric Consumption = 840,000 kWh
- Published EUI Comparisons:
  - Senior Living = 116
  - Incarceration = 84.2

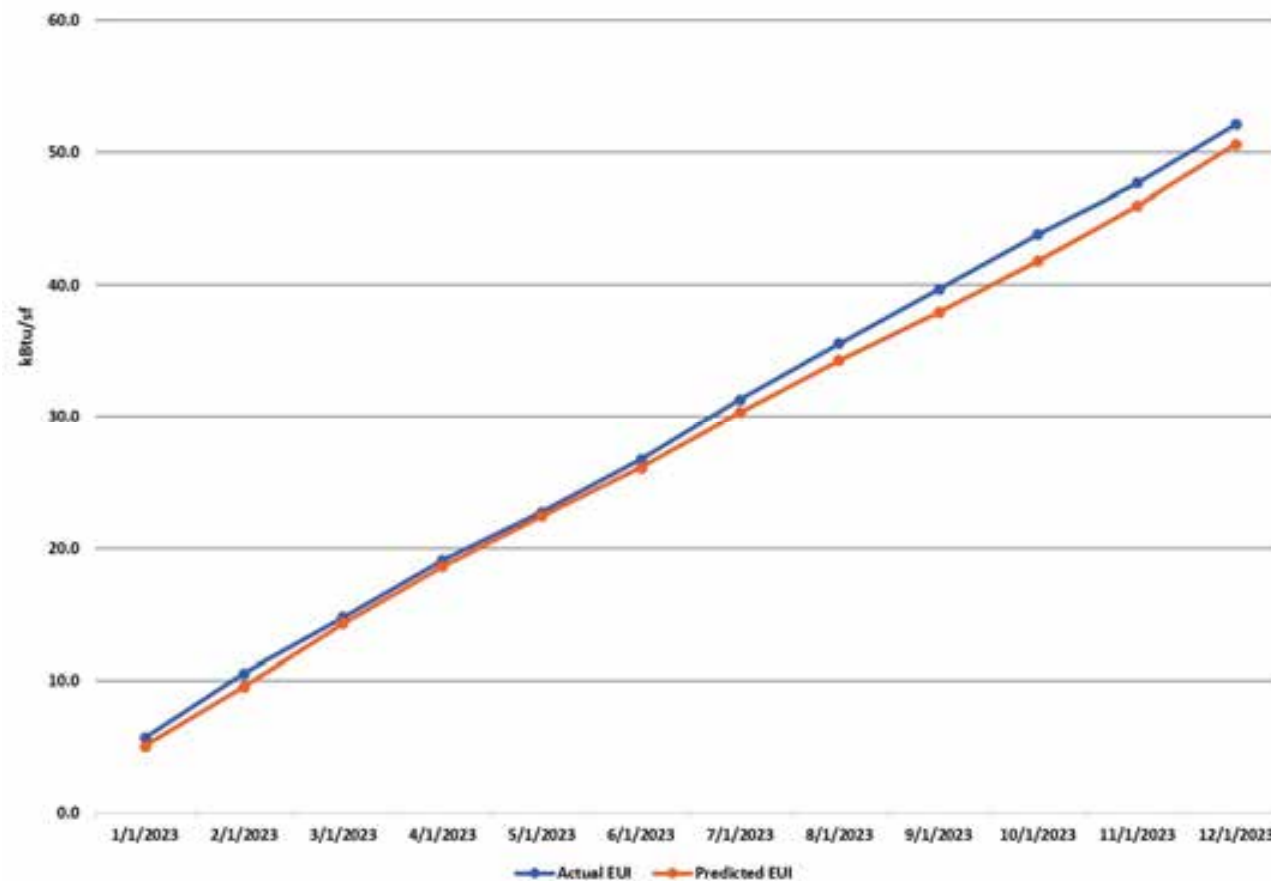


# Results!

### Monthly EUI (kBtu/SF)



### Predicted vs Actual EUI



51 EUI vs 52.5 EUI – 3%

# What did MEP cost?

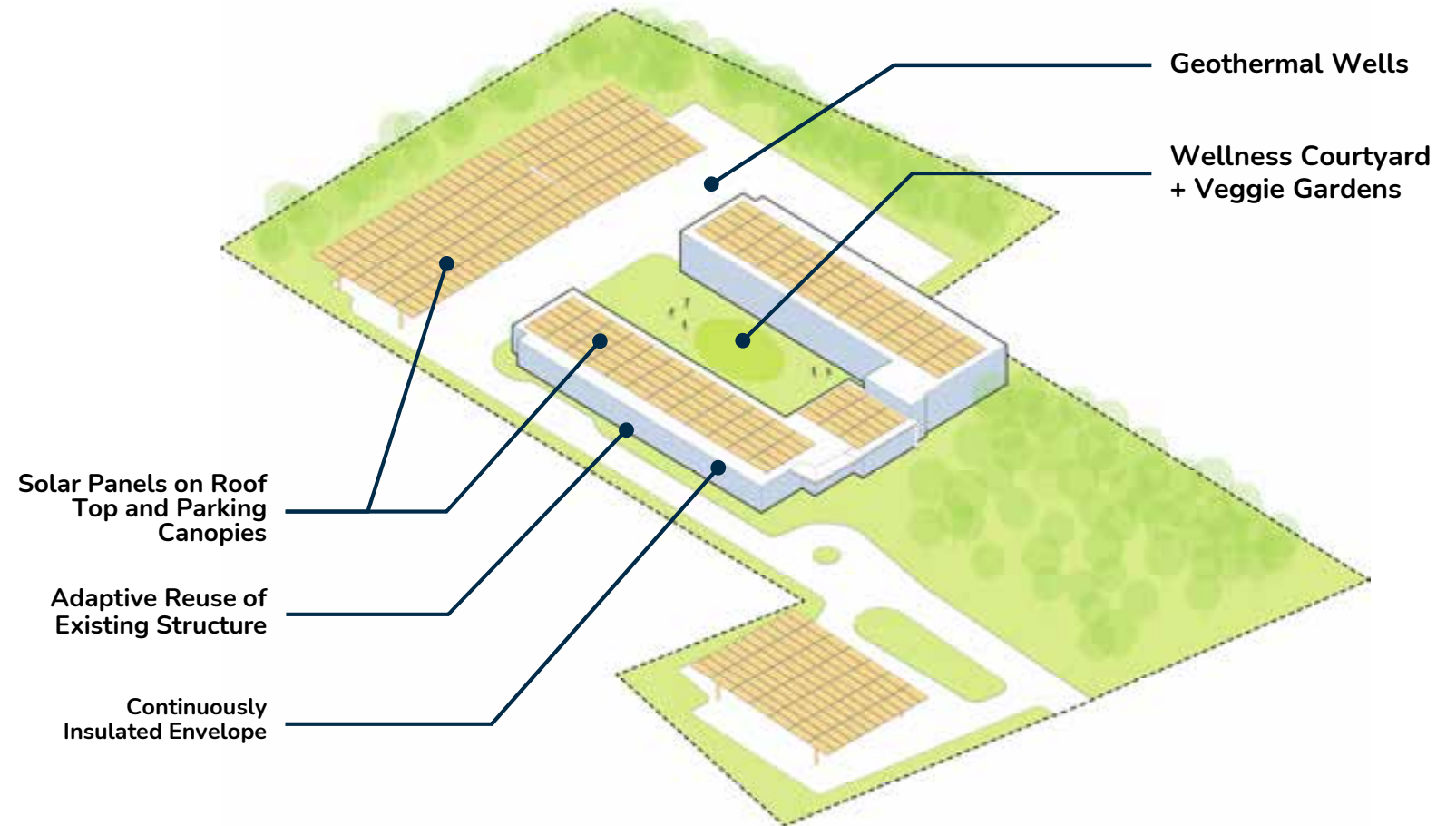
HVAC	\$4,500,000	\$80/SF
Plumbing	\$2,300,000	\$41/SF
Electrical	\$2,500,000	\$45/SF
FP	\$265,000	\$5/SF
<u>Wellfield</u>	<u>\$1,980,000</u>	<u>\$35/SF</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,545,000</b>	<b>\$206/SF</b>
	<b>\$31,000,000 - \$550/SF</b>	



# Unique Site and Building Features

## System Features:

- 700 kW system
- Modules = 1,367
- Energy to Grid = 971,148.8 kWh
- Designed for a 500 kWh energy storage system



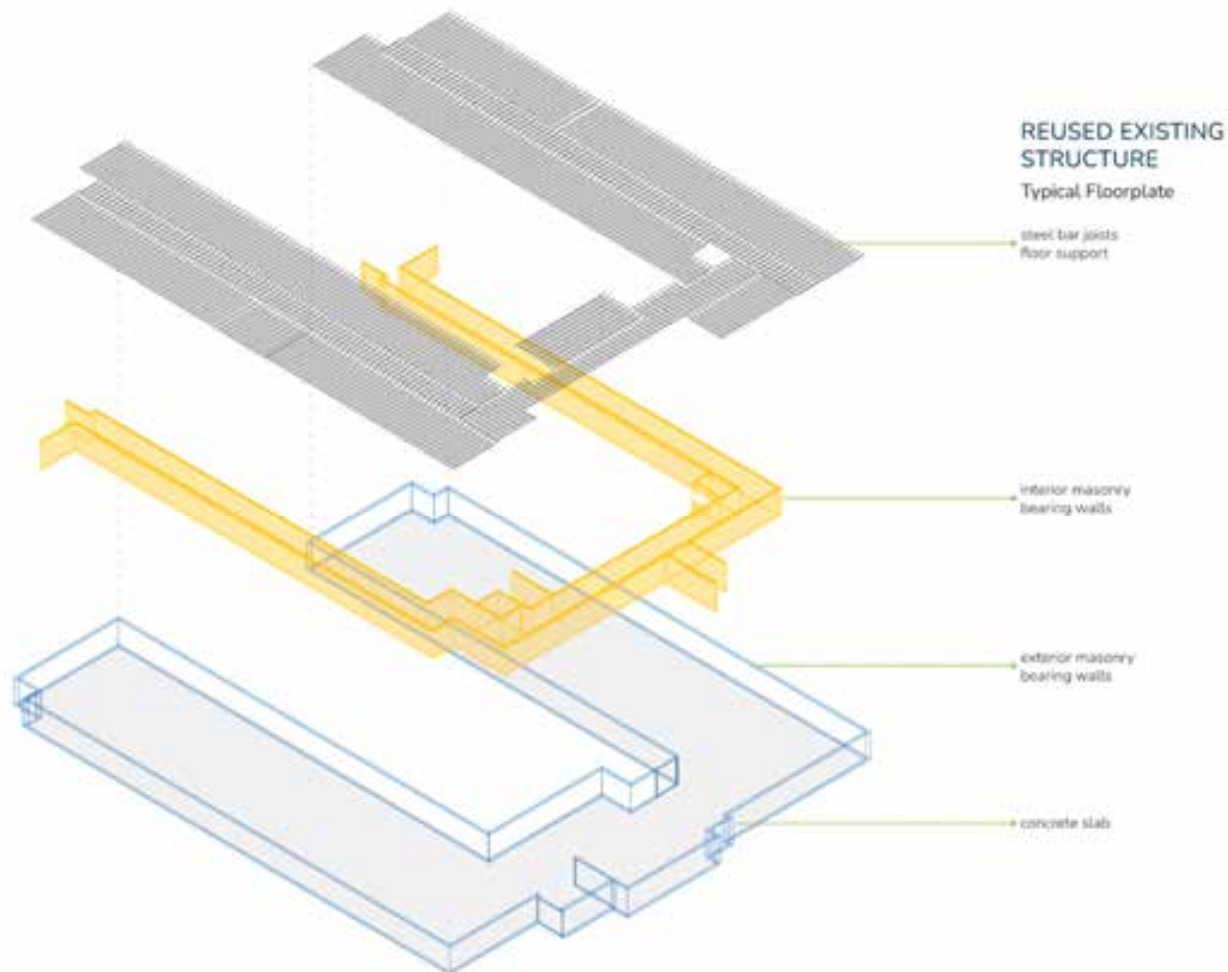




**Adaptive Reuse**



# Adaptive Reuse of Structure



## Structure and Shell Reuse

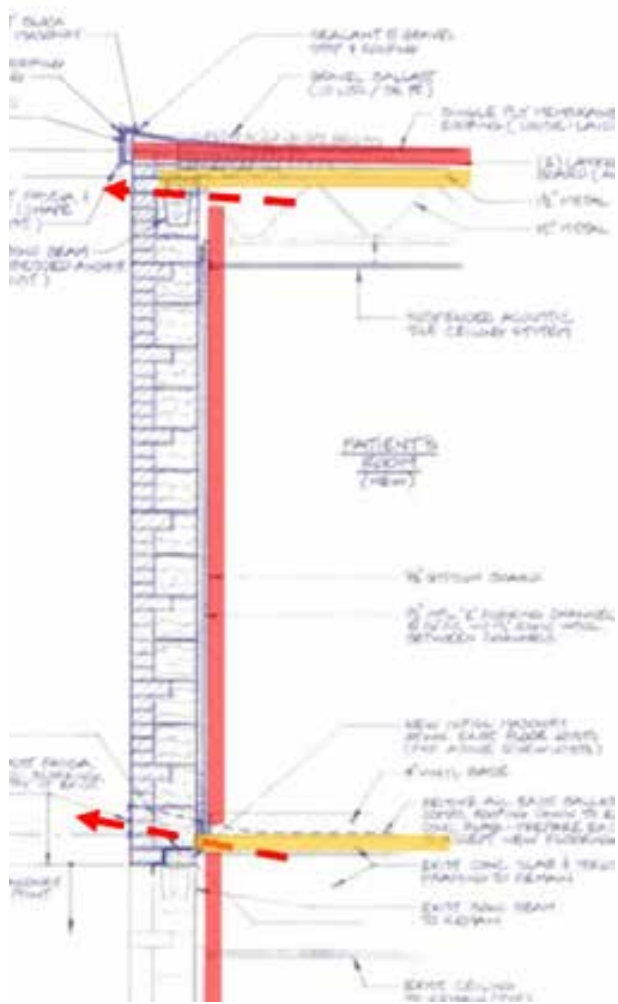
- Fortunately, the building's original program as a nursing home was a relatively straightforward conversion
- Primary structure is composed of masonry bearing walls and steel bar joists
- The steel and masonry structure was almost entirely reused; new openings in interior bearing walls were minimized to avoid schedule and structural impacts

EMBODIED CARBON

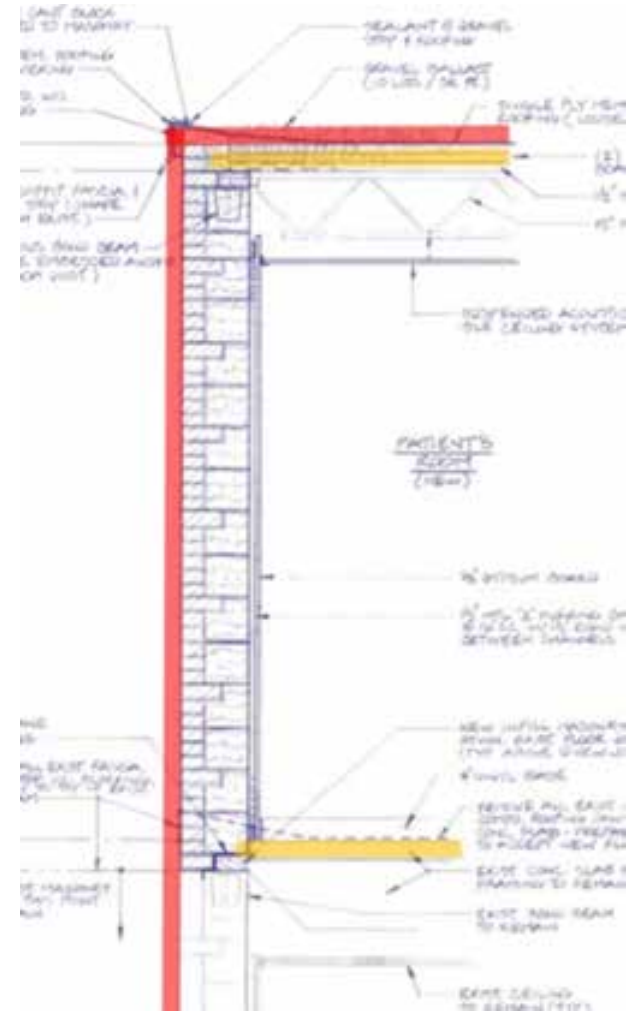
**108** kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup>

# Envelope Upgrade

Interior Insulation (non-continuous)

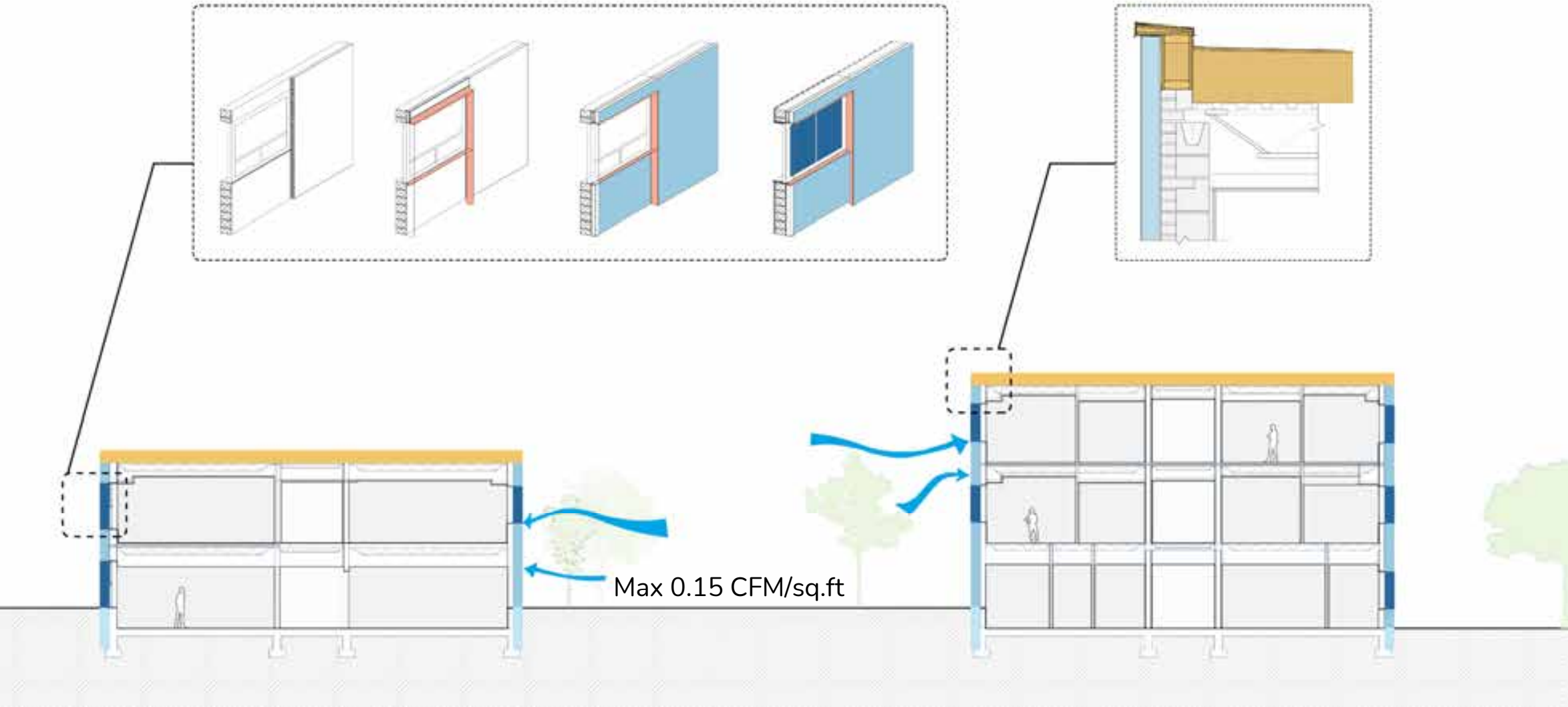


Exterior Insulation (continuous)



Above grade: 5" EPS continuous exterior insulation added R-19 to the existing mass walls  
Below grade: R-15 (down 12")

# Envelope Upgrades



# Window Mockup





# Before/After



# Before/After





# Patient-Centered Design



# Nature-Based Design

Greenhouses





# Nature-Based Design

Greenhouses

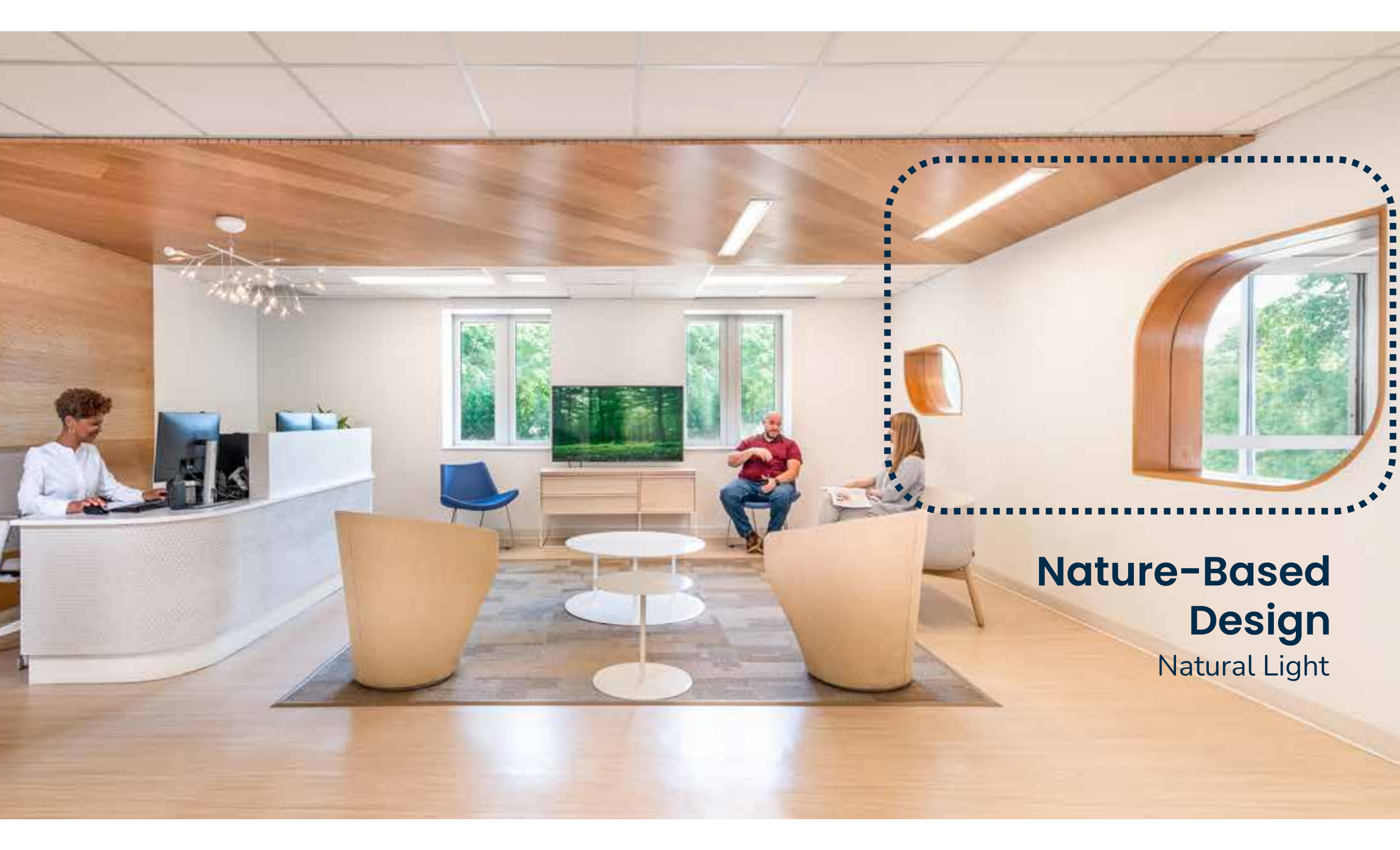


# Nature-Based Design

Natural Materials







**Nature-Based  
Design**  
Natural Light



# Placemaking

Hospitality-Driven  
Design



# Placemaking

Personal Choice &  
Control over  
Environment



# Color as Wayfinding





## Resiliency: We have had to rapidly change our operations to bring additional IP Psych beds online in response to a regional BH emergency

- A **February 7<sup>th</sup> 10-alarm fire at Signature's Brockton Hospital** resulted in the closure of all inpatient services (including a 22-bed psych unit) and the emergency department at that hospital exacerbating BH access and capacity constraints in the region
- In response to the Signature Brockton fire, we relocated our 26-bed CSS from our Brockton facility to a shuttered 21-bed CSS unit in Brockton's High Point Treatment Center, **to add 24 new IP psych beds** (for a total of 80 IP Psych Beds)
- We anticipate our CSS operating in the High Point space temporarily (initial lease period of 12 months) before **relocating to a permanent** location (to be identified)
- We anticipate this new IP unit to be a **permanent addition** to the region's BH treatment landscape





# Access is the true north of our work



**80**  
beds

**Net Zero**  
design

**60,000** sf

**100%**  
repurposed

**Open**  
Oct 2022

# What Makes a Healthy Building?







# References



- Hunt, J., McMurray, K. & Sine, D. (2020). **Behavioral Health Design Guide**. White Paper/Behavioral Health Facility Consulting. Retrieved from: [bhfcllc.com](http://bhfcllc.com)
- Card, A., Piatkowski, M. & Taylor, E. (2018). **Design for Behavioral and Mental Health: More Than Just Safety**. White Paper/The Center for Health Design. Retrieved from: [healthdesign.org](http://healthdesign.org)
- Case Study: **Sodra Alvsborg's Psychiatric Clinic**, Design by White Arkitekter, 2021.
- Shepley, M. M., & Pasha, S. (2013). **Design Research and Behavioral Health Facilities (Literature Review)** (pp. 1–81). Concord, CA: The Center for Health Design. Retrieved from [www.healthdesign.org](http://www.healthdesign.org)
- Bratman, G., Anderson, C., Bergman, M. (2019). **Nature and Mental Health: An Ecosystem Service Perspective**. White Paper/ Science Advances Vol 5, No.7, Retrieved from [science.org](http://science.org)