

WASHINGTON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH CASE STUDY



PROJECT SUMMARY

Washington County Mental Health Services (WCMHS) added a solar photovoltaic system from Norwich Solar Technologies to the roof of their Administrative headquarters in Barre and an industrial rooftop in Hartford and plans to use the savings on electricity costs to broaden their services to the community.

WCMHS, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit Community Mental Health Center, will see solar power from their rooftop array and two others offset 100% of their electricity usage, allowing them to translate those savings into services.

A **Net Metering Agreement (NMA)** with Norwich Solar Technologies, allows them to reap the **“Triple Bottom Line”** of Financial Performance, Social Impact, and Environmental Responsibility without the capital expense of purchasing their own solar array. The NMA gives them a predictable rate for 25 years starting below the current utility rates and escalating at less than half the rate of average electrical increases. This means their savings continue to increase over time.

We handled all details of the project for WCMHS on the project from start to finish, including the permitting, construction and, ultimately, maintenance. It was very rewarding to support WCMHS in reducing their energy costs while helping the environment.



SYSTEM CAPACITY

650-kW DC/450-kW AC

TYPE OF SYSTEM

- Ballasted Roof-Mounted

TECH DATA

- REC TwinPeak 350-watt modules
- SolarEdge 480V-AC Inverters

COMMISSIONING DATE

- December 2018

LOCATION

- Barre, Vermont



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ENVIRONMENTAL & COST SAVINGS AT-A-GLANCE



Yearly Solar Electricity
Production
575,000 KWH



Lifetime Energy Value
\$480,000



Estimated CO₂ Offset
**6,000 TONS
ANNUALLY**



**130,000 TREES
PLANTED**

Offset estimates based on 50K lbs. of carbon offset or 579 trees planted per kW over the Solar PV system's 25-year life.

PRODUCTION STATISTICS

Besides cutting energy costs \$17,000 in the first year alone, WCMHS's solar array will offset nearly 12 million pounds of CO₂, the equivalent of 20 million miles not driven. The system is projected to generate 575,000-kilowatt-hours in 2019, **equivalent to the yearly electricity use of 84 Vermont homes.**

ABOUT WCMHS

Washington County Mental Health Services is a comprehensive community mental health center providing mental health and developmental services throughout the Washington County community.

Over 8,000 individuals are served annually by this private, nonprofit organization with main offices in South Barre, Vermont. In 2018, WCMHS was recognized as a **Center of Excellence** by Vermont Care Partners, a statewide advocacy and practice improvement organization.

WCMHS is a major employer in central Vermont, with over 800 full and part-time staff.

ABOUT NORWICH SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES

We specialize in comprehensive clean energy services including development, design, engineering, procurement, and construction, and financial structuring including net metering agreements. Our partners include nonprofits, commercial & industrial clients, schools, municipalities, farms, community solar groups, health care facilities, and small businesses.



LEARN MORE
NorwichSolar.com
WCMHS.org



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