

HackensackUMC Sustainability and Safer Chemicals



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The Deirdre Imus Environmental Health Center®
HackensackUMC
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HackensackUMC Sustainability 2001-2012

- Developed and implemented Greening The Cleaning® program
- Created one of the first Environmental Health Centers in Healthcare
- Launched the Sustainability Committee
- Initiated the first green hospital in the country of its size and scale
 - 97% recycled steel structure
 - Non-PVC hand railing
 - Cotton denim insulation
 - Recycled carpet tiles
 - Natural lighting
 - Organic food options
 - Non-toxic toys
- Rooftop garden where vegetables are used for food
- JTCC- Largest living wall



Green Cleaning

From Ranch to Hospital to Home



In 1998, Deirdre & Don Imus founded a working cattle ranch for kids with cancer. The ranch is a pristine, non-toxic environment, serving a vegetarian organic menu, the first of its kind.

In 2001, The Deirdre Imus Environmental Health Center[®] at Hackensack University Medical Center developed the Greening The Cleaning[®] program.

In 2005, The Deirdre Imus Environmental Health Center[®] helped to introduce a household line of Greening The Cleaning[®] products.

EPA Memorandum of Understanding February 23, 2012



HackensackUMC intends to **continuously improve** our programs to reduce waste, minimize the use of hazardous materials, prevent pollution of valuable natural resources, increase recycling, comply with all environmental regulations, and work toward sustainability.

CARING EVERY DAY TO TAKE GREEN FURTHER

The Deirdre Imus Environmental Health Center® is one of first hospital-based environmental health centers of its kind.



**ENERGY
REDUCTION**



**GREEN
CLEANING PRODUCTS**



**HEALTHIER
FOOD
OPTIONS**



The Deirdre Imus Environmental Health Center®



Commitment

- Patient Health
- Strategic Priority
- Standing Agenda Item
- Board of Governors
- Steering Committee
- Smart Goals

Medical Products – PVC / DEHP

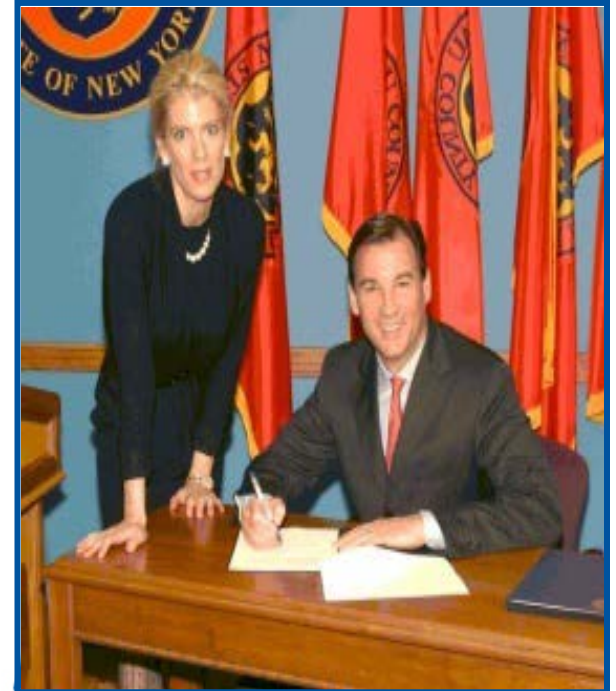
- Environmental Purchasing Policy
- EPP Reference Guide
- Create awareness
 - Internal Communications
 - VeriREP
 - Product and Value Analysis Committee
- Identify and document products
- Phase out and Eliminate

Styrofoam Elimination

- CEO - 30 Days
- Biodegradable food ware
- Reduced environmental impact
- Patients, employees and community
- Next step: Reusable

Green Cleaning - Legislation

Efforts at the Environmental Health Center have resulted in “Green Cleaning” Executive Orders from governors in multiple states - including New York, New Jersey and Connecticut - as well as related legislation in 10 states.



Research

As part of one of the nation's premier research and teaching hospitals, the Center aligns with Hackensack University Medical Center's commitment to discovering effective disease treatment and prevention strategies. Current projects include:

Pediatric Head Lice Study

Head lice affects 6 to 12 million school children each year, often exposing kids to potentially toxic treatments. The Center is conducting the nation's largest study on a pesticide-free head lice treatment.

CDC Study: Environmental Factors of Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders in NJ

This research examines the statistically high rates of autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders in New Jersey.

Challenges

- Getting everyone on the same page
- Cost increase - “But it is a green initiative”
- Awareness and understanding within large networks
- Maintaining GPO Compliance
- Manufacturing

Thank You

Enhancing environmental practices and initiatives, through a comprehensive sustainable program to ensure a safe, healthy environment for patients, employees, and our community.

