



**UCSF Health  
Sustainability Highlights  
Executive Summary FY17**

**Leadership in  
Health and  
Sustainability**



**UCSF HEALTH** (UCSF Medical Center at Mt. Zion, UCSF Medical Center at Parnassus, UCSF Medical Center at Mission Bay, and various clinics) is not only ranked the **top hospital in California**, but is also a recognized leader in healthcare sustainability. During FY 2016-17 (FY17), UCSF Health received multiple awards for its innovative sustainability programs and efforts to green the operating room (OR). This Executive Summary highlights UCSF Health's greatest accomplishments over FY17. For more details, please see the full online [Annual Report](#).

**LEADERSHIP**

For the third year in a row, UCSF Health was listed by Becker's Hospital Review as one of the **50 greenest Hospitals in America**. UCSF Health received Practice Greenhealth's second highest recognition, the **Emerald Award**, and a **Greening the OR Recognition Award**. UCSF Medical School faculty advocated for science by signing an [open letter](#) to draw attention to the serious risks of climate change, and the university sponsored a **"Stand Up For Science"** teach-in and rally.





## CLIMATE CHANGE

A key accomplishment toward meeting UCSF's goal of carbon neutrality by 2025 was the completion of its updated [Climate Action Plan \(CAP\)](#).

## WATER

The Medical Center at Parnassus removed 11 autoclaves located in the OR anterooms, saving over 11M gallons of water per year. This, along with other water reduction efforts, resulted in a decrease of 27M gallons of water in FY17. UCSF Health reduced its annual per capita water use from 349 gallons in FY16 to 313 gallons in FY17.

## ZERO WASTE

UCSF Health diverted 49% of its waste (without construction & demolition) from the landfill. Partnered with [MedShare](#) to collect 8,552 pounds of discarded, unexpired, sealed medical supplies for repurposing at third world clinics/hospitals.

## PROCUREMENT

Fully implemented a new Print Management System that drastically reduced paper and color toner consumption. The program includes 100% post-consumer waste (PCW) paper and scanning features. Full implementation at UCSF Health saves an estimated \$1M/year.

## SUSTAINABLE FOOD

UCSF Health achieved 26% of total spend on sustainable food—exceeding our goal of 20%. Launched [Roots & Shoots](#), a new program that features more root vegetables and less meat (better for your heart and our planet). Reduced food waste through a partnership with [Copia](#), a program that redirects excess food to local shelters.

## TOXICS REDUCTION

A key achievement for FY17 was the launch of the [Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit \(PEHT\)](#) web app, which helps clinicians and parents better understand how children can be exposed to environmental pollutants and steps to decrease harmful exposure.

## CULTURE SHIFT

The UCSF Medical School offered a two-week [inquiry course](#) to first year medical students, focused on how climate change affects human health. A second [faculty curriculum workshop](#) explored how sustainability and climate change can be incorporated into UCSF's curriculum, and the Office of Sustainability launched Phase II of [Climate Changes Health](#), a campaign that emphasizes the vital connection between climate change and health.

## GREEN BUILDING

Started construction on UCSF's new, state-of-the-art [Precision Cancer Medicine Building \(PCMB\)](#), which is seeking LEED Gold certification. The [ACC5 Heart and Vascular Center](#) is pending LEED CI Gold certification.

