

Category

Best EcoHealth Solution

Organization/Company Name

Provide the official name of your company or organization.

Stanford Health Care

Overview (Up to 500 words)

Provide key information about the company, including its origins, mission, and core philosophy.

Describe the solution, impact, and sector focus (e.g., water management, renewable energy, circular economy, waste management, sustainable agriculture, net-zero initiatives, etc.).

Consistently one of best-in-state hospitals by Newsweek, Stanford Health Care (SHC) is under the umbrella of Stanford Medicine, along with the Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford Medicine Children's Health, and other entities. SHC's Mission is healing humanity through science and compassion, one patient at a time. The Stanford Medicine Integrated Strategic Plan focuses on a human centered & discovery led approach to three pillars: Value Focused, Digitally Driven, and Uniquely Stanford.

Since the health care sector accounts for 8.5% of U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and nearly ¼ of global health care emissions, academic medical centers have a true responsibility. SHC's goal is to act and inspire by leveraging the agency of physicians and administrators in solution implementation. SHC has made significant strides in environmental sustainability, building on the great foundation of Stanford University sustainability initiatives through Stanford Energy Systems Innovations (SESI). Sustainability weaves throughout the Integrated Strategic Plan and Operations Plan via the Environmental Citizenship Composite Score (ECCS) which includes metrics in energy, GHG and waste and five sustainability topics (energy, GHG, water, chemicals and waste). In 2025, SHC was named Top 25 in Environmental Excellence in the nation by Practice Greenhealth. Highlights include:

1. Energy Efficiency: The Energy Management Plan (EMP) focused on energy load reduction for existing hospitals, clinics & office buildings, and electrification of new and existing buildings, is driving down Energy Use Intensity (EUI) by 25% by 2030, and achieved a 9.4% reduction to date.
2. Clinical Carbon Emission Reduction: By transitioning centrally piped N2O systems to a portable E-cylinder delivery, SHC achieved a reduction of N2O emissions by 96% with no impact to patient care. This equates to ~4,500 MT CO2e. This reduced remaining emission by 50%, setting SHC on the way to reduce scope 1 & 2 by 75% reduction by 2030.
3. Waste Management: SHC has established comprehensive landfill waste management programs emphasizing reuse, recycling, composting, and reducing waste at the source. The campus achieved a waste diversion rate of around 44%, impressive in highly regulated healthcare systems. SHC is halfway to achieving a landfill waste per patient day reduction goal of 60% by 2030.

4. Sustainable Transportation: SHC has launched programs to reduce Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) commuting. Programs such as commuter buses which have around 300 riders per day, and free or discounted carpool parking with around 50 groups per day have resulted in a reduction of 380 SOVs on campus, surpassing the FY24 target of 5.7% by 50%.

5. Clinical Integration: Since 2024, six initiatives were rolled out-Preference Card Optimization, Nitrous Oxide Conversion, OR Ventilation Setback, Plastic-Use Reduction, Infection Prevention Collaboration, and Room Air Exchange Rates- achieving key milestones in reducing energy use and waste in clinical settings and saving cost.

6. Community Engagement and Education: SHC is committed to fostering a culture of sustainability through education and engagement initiatives. In FY24, 207 nurses participated in educational programs focused on sustainable commuting, with many opting for alternatives to SOVs.

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9

Climate Health & Alignment with UN SDGs / National Policy Guidelines (500 words)

Please explain how your innovation mitigates or adapts to climate-related health risks and aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national climate policies.

Stanford Health Care's (SHC) sustainability initiatives align with UNSDGs in the following ways:

SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being): Stanford School of Medicine integrates critical climate-health topics-such as heat-related illnesses, wildfire smoke exposure, air pollution, environmental justice, and mental health-into its core clinical curricula. The Climate Learning Initiative in Medical Education (CLIME) and Medicine for a Changing Planet, facilitated by Center for Innovation in Global Health, provides specialized training for physicians. The Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability and its Center for Human and Planetary Health investigate how biodiversity loss, land-use changes, and climate shifts influence disease dynamics. The school's Disease Ecology in a Changing World (DECO) initiative examines ecological solutions for disease risk (ex. role of tree cover in reducing mosquito-borne diseases), supporting seed grants, fellowships, and policy translation.

SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure): In 2015, Stanford University opened a fully electric first-of-its-kind, heat recovery based Central Energy Facility. It enables the enterprise to exceed compliance with capability for dynamic energy demand management with the California grid, using patented technology. This award winning and replicable solution includes 100% renewable electricity portfolio, reducing campus emissions by 80% and benefitting SHC with a low carbon footprint.

SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities): SHC is a signatory to the Stanford Medicine Climate Resiliency Plan (2024), a partnership focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conducting proactive risk assessments. This plan prioritizes health equity, particularly for marginalized communities disproportionately affected by climate events.

SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production): SHC's Energy Management Plan (EMP) - focused on energy load reduction for existing buildings, electrification of new and existing buildings, and adoption of renewables - is driving SHC in reducing Energy Use Intensity (EUI) by 25% by 2030. Water-saving technologies, including low-flow fixtures and water-efficient landscaping, have resulted in a notable reduction in water usage. By diverting waste from landfills, SHC mitigates the environmental impacts of waste disposal, which can lead to health risk inducing soil and water contamination. SHC's sustainable procurement practices ensure environmentally friendly products and materials at care delivery, and procurement of energy-efficient products, medical equipment and sustainable building materials.

SDG 13 (Climate Action): The EMP has achieved a 9.4% reduction in energy use Intensity to-date, equivalent to annual energy use of ~2,607 California homes. SHC also procures 100% renewable energy from its community utility providers. SHC's Sustainable Landscape Design Guidelines enhances biodiversity and promotes human health, hosts native and climate-appropriate species, and supports diverse wildlife, including 300 bird species. Stanford's beautiful, open and green spaces enhance patient and family experience and improve health outcomes.

SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals): Through industry leadership in National Academy of Medicine, Practice Greenhealth, American Association of Medical Colleges, and American Hospital Association, SHC influences national climate policies and action and leads by example in tools and pathways. Through a formal governance structure and Sustainability Steering Committee that reports to C-suite leadership, SHC integrates sustainability into strategic and operations plan.

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4

Measurable Impact (300 words)

Explain how you benchmark success and impact using scientific validation and quantifiable metrics where possible (e.g., peer-reviewed publications, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) data, partnerships, net-zero targets, CO₂ reduction, resource efficiency, waste diversion rates, improved health outcomes, etc).

Stanford Health Care (SHC) has four primary sustainability goals to monitor progress:

Reduce Scope 1 & 2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions by 75% by 2030

Achieve Net Zero Emissions in Scope 1, 2 & 3 by 2050

Reduce Energy Use Intensity (EUI) by 25% by 2030

Reduce Landfill Waste Intensity (per patient day) by 60% by 2030

These goals align with Science-Based Targets, supporting global climate efforts through emission reduction and resource efficiency, while enhancing patient care and strengthening community ties.

To assess progress and benchmark impact against these goals, SHC developed the Environmental Citizenship Composite Score (ECCS). This composite metric summarizes all sustainability initiatives at the enterprise level, combining sub-metrics like EUI, GHG emissions, and landfill waste intensity as weighted averages annually. The ECCS enables leadership to evaluate sustainability efforts and gives staff, patients, and community clear insight into how initiatives tie to the organization's broader strategic goals.

As an internal operational metric, the ECCS falls within the Financial Strength pillar of SHC's Annual Operating Plan, creating a direct link between environmental citizenship and long-term organizational financial health.

In alignment with these goals, SHC calculates an annual ECCS metric through robust data collection and analysis, impact calculations in accordance with the GHG Protocol and other standards, and an in-depth stakeholder review process that reaches all levels of the organization. Through this process, over a period of 4 years, SHC has improved its ECCS metric from 17.8% to 24.2%, with an eventual target of reaching 48.5% by 2030.

In a concerted effort to role model success and increase impact at an industry level, SHC shares its sustainability metrics and best practices with sustainability consortiums within the Association of American Medical Colleges, Practice Greenhealth, Vizient, and various other platforms to ensure knowledge and impact is shared within SHC's peer network.

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Current Stage & Market Potential (500 words)

Describe the current stage and potential for scaling your solution to new markets, industries, or geographies. If any, include details on market demand, regulatory considerations, barriers to scale, adoption strategy and long-term sustainability.

Healthcare dove into sustainability with commitment and rigor in the last decade. The need became especially clear throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, when overall resilience and supply chain exercises became a major focus. SHC is in a transformative stage, with many best practices to share to other academic medical centers. SHC takes a "model of influence" role seriously with pride and humility.

SHC has advanced sustainability programs at its Palo Alto Campus, serving as a leader in environmentally responsible healthcare. Its current initiatives offer a scalable framework with proven, measurable results for other markets and industries. There is a growing demand for sustainable practices across various sectors, driven by increasing public awareness of climate change and environmental health. Potential for scaling includes:

Academic Medical Centers: SHC's sustainability model can be adapted for implementation in other healthcare facilities, including hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities. The principles of energy efficiency, waste reduction, and water conservation are universally applicable, making it feasible to replicate SHC's success in diverse healthcare settings.

Industries Beyond Healthcare: The methodologies employed by SHC can also be applied to other industries, such as education, corporate offices, and manufacturing. The emphasis on data-driven decision-making, stakeholder engagement, and continuous improvement can enhance sustainability efforts across various sectors.

Geographical Expansion: SHC's strategies can be adapted for different regions by addressing local needs, such as conserving water in drought areas or improving energy efficiency where costs are high.

While the potential for scaling is significant, several barriers must be addressed:

Financial Constraints: To scale at pace, across various regions & industries, financial investment is still needed to overcome not only technical challenges but also to ensure affordable solutions are developed to decarbonize healthcare while meeting patient health & community needs.

Infection prevention: Patient care environments are subject to extra scrutiny as industry stakeholders ensure that any change in practices is safe to enact. Therefore, the model of influence and change usually involves extensive research, piloting & approval prior to implementation.

Regulatory Variability: Codes & regulations vary by geographical region, changing costs of implementation of sustainability solutions and the cultural perception of those solutions accordingly. This is especially seen in stringent California-specific healthcare construction standards, state-specific regulated waste, and the wide geographical variability in recyclable and compostable streams.

To facilitate scaling, SHC adopts a multi-faceted strategy:

Partnerships: Collaborating with local governments, non-profits, and industry can enhance resource sharing and knowledge transfer, making it easier to implement sustainability initiatives in new markets.

Education and Training: Providing training programs for all stakeholders fosters a culture of sustainability and encourages the adoption of best practices.

Continuous Improvement: Establishing a feedback loop for ongoing evaluation and adaptation of sustainability practices ensures long-term success and relevance in changing conditions.

SHC's sustainability initiatives are well-positioned for scaling across new markets, industries, and geographies. By leveraging existing successes, addressing barriers, and implementing a strategic adoption plan, SHC can extend its impact and contribute to a more sustainable future in healthcare and beyond.

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Staff and Advisors (500 words)

Describe your team's expertise (e.g., academic standing, intellectual property contributions, research collaborations, and professional communications). Highlight the team's role in innovation, policy influence, and industry leadership.

The team at Stanford Health Care (SHC) is composed of a diverse group of professionals with extensive expertise in sustainability, healthcare management, and environmental stewardship. This multidisciplinary team plays a crucial role in driving innovation, influencing policy, and establishing industry leadership in sustainable healthcare practices.

The SHC team includes experts with advanced degrees in fields such as environmental science, public health, healthcare administration, and engineering. Many team members have published peer-reviewed research on topics related to sustainability in healthcare, energy efficiency, and waste management. This academic foundation not only enhances the team's credibility but also informs evidence-based practices that are implemented within the organization.

SHC actively engages in research collaborations with academic institutions, governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations. These partnerships facilitate the exchange of knowledge and resources,

enabling the team to stay at the forefront of sustainability research and innovation. For example, collaborations with Stanford University have led to the development of cutting-edge technologies and practices that enhance energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact. Such partnerships also provide opportunities for joint research projects that contribute to the broader body of knowledge in sustainable healthcare.

The team is adept at professional communications, effectively conveying the importance of sustainability initiatives to various stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, community members, and policymakers. Through comprehensive communication strategies, including newsletters, social media, and community outreach programs, the team raises awareness about sustainability efforts and engages stakeholders in meaningful dialogue. This proactive approach fosters a culture of sustainability within the organization and the community.

The SHC Sustainably Programs Office (SPO) team is instrumental integrating sustainability and driving innovation within SHC. By leveraging sustainability data analytics, the team has implemented energy management systems that optimize energy usage and reduce consumption. SPO's commitment to continuous improvement is evident in the establishment of SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) sustainability goals, which guide the Environmental Citizenship composite Score described earlier.

SHC has established a robust governance structure, led by a Sustainability Steering Committee that includes C-Suite leaders and oversees the Sustainability Planning Team. This team manages subgroups such as Design, Construction and Engineering; Waste Minimization; Energy, Transportation and Water; and Technology & Digital Solutions. These subgroups report on efforts like reusable products, transportation savings, energy reduction, and landfill waste audits.

In FY25, SHC advanced as an industry sustainability leader. The SHC Collective's initiatives resonate with stakeholders seeking practical solutions and guidance. SHC actively participates in 6 key industry organizations, including the American Hospital Association (AHA), Association of Academic Medical Centers (AAMC), National Academy of Medicine, Health Care Climate Council, Practice Greenhealth, and Vizient. With our SVP on the AHA Steering Committee and our President as AAMC Co-Chair, SHC has helped shape metrics and standards, promoting equitable and sustainable healthcare practices.

SHC was recognized among the top 25 U.S. hospitals for environmental excellence, earning the 2025 Practice Greenhealth Top 25 Environmental Excellence Award and four Circles of Excellence Awards in Chemicals, Food, Green Building, and Climate. This achievement places SHC at the top 1.5% for engagement and top 4.8% for performance.

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Financial Structure. (500 words)

Describe how your innovation is funded and sustained (e.g., key investors, funding sources, financial stakeholders, royalties, grants, revenue-sharing agreements, strategic partnerships such as academic institutions, equity groups, corporate alliances, and angel investors, etc.).

Stanford Health Care (SHC) has established a robust framework for funding and sustaining its innovative sustainability initiatives. This framework encompasses a diverse array of funding sources, strategic partnerships, and stakeholder engagement that collectively support the organization's commitment to environmental stewardship and operational excellence.

Key Funding Sources

1. **Internal Funding:** SHC allocates a portion of its operational budget specifically for sustainability initiatives. Internal funding is essential for implementing energy-efficient technologies, waste reduction programs, and water conservation measures. By prioritizing sustainability within its budget, SHC demonstrates a long-term commitment to environmental responsibility.

2. **Grants and External Funding:** The organization actively seeks grants from governmental and non-governmental organizations that support sustainability and environmental health projects. These grants provide critical financial resources for specific initiatives, such as research on energy efficiency or community health programs. SHC has pursued funding opportunities from environmental foundations and public health agencies.

3. **Strategic Partnerships:** SHC collaborates with academic institutions, such as Stanford University and its School of Medicine, to leverage research expertise and resources. These partnerships often result in research projects advancing sustainability goals and attracting additional funding from external sources.

4. **Corporate Alliances:** SHC engages with corporate partners who share a commitment to sustainability. These alliances can provide financial support, in-kind contributions, or access to cutting-edge technologies that facilitate the implementation of sustainable practices. For instance, partnerships with technology companies may yield advanced energy management systems that optimize resource use.

Sustaining Innovations

SHC's innovation in sustainability is funded and sustained through a combination of internal funding, grants, strategic partnerships, and stakeholder engagement. SHC is well-positioned to continue its leadership because the comprehensive approach not only enhances the organization's sustainability efforts but also contributes positively to the health and well-being of the communities it serves.

1. **Long-Term Strategic Planning:** SHC integrates sustainability into its overall strategic plan, ensuring that sustainability initiatives are aligned with organizational priorities. This strategic alignment fosters a culture of sustainability throughout the organization and secures ongoing support from leadership.

2. **Data-Driven Decision Making:** The development of a robust data collection process for sustainability metrics allows for regular evaluation of progress and identification of areas for improvement. This data-driven approach both informs future funding requests and demonstrates the effectiveness of sustainability initiatives to stakeholders.

3. **Stakeholder Engagement:** SHC actively engages key stakeholders, including staff, community members, and decision-makers, in sustainability programs. This engagement fosters a sense of ownership and commitment to sustainability initiatives, ensuring continued support and participation.

4. **Continuous Improvement:** The organization prioritizes continuous improvement in sustainability practices, exploring innovative solutions and technologies that enhance resource efficiency. By staying at the forefront of sustainability trends and best practices, SHC can adapt to changing circumstances and maintain the relevance of its initiatives.

5. Benchmarking: By participating in the Practice Greenhealth Awards and other benchmarking activities, SHC can benchmark its sustainability progress against peers while also gaining recognition that can attract potential investors and funding. This recognition enhances the organization's credibility and visibility in the sustainability sector, making it more appealing to financial stakeholders.

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Regulatory Compliance & Certifications (Optional Uploads)

If appropriate, provide any regulatory approvals, environmental certifications, or compliance documents demonstrating adherence to sustainability standards (e.g., ISO 14001, B Corp Certification, LEED, WELL, SBTi commitments, REACH, USDA, etc.).

*Kindly clearly label your files with company name and asset name.

N/A

Community & Social Impact (500 words)

Explain how your innovation benefits local communities, underserved populations, or public health (e.g., job creation, social equity, environmental justice, improved quality of life, tourism, etc.).

Stanford Health Care (SHC) has implemented a range of innovative sustainability initiatives that benefit local communities, underserved populations, and enhanced public health. These initiatives focus on environmental stewardship, community engagement, and health equity, contributing to improved quality of life.

Community Engagement and Health Education:

SHC is committed to engaging with the local community through health education initiatives, community health fairs, and partnerships with local organizations aimed at promoting health and wellness. SHC empowers all community members with knowledge about preventive care, healthy lifestyles, and available health services, to help alleviate health access disparities, particularly among underserved populations.

The Stanford Health Care (SHC) Sustainable Building Standards ensure that all new construction projects address community health needs by integrating a health situation analysis into the design process. By linking design strategies to specific community goals and performance indicators, the SHC Standards facilitate meeting of sustainability targets, promote health equity, reduce environmental hazards, and enhance overall community well-being.

In FY24, SHC contributed \$791M in benefits to the community; an 8% increase from the previous year. Contributions are comprised of financial assistance and charity care, health professions education, community health improvement services, subsidized health services, research, financial and in-kind contributions, community building activities, and community benefit operations.

Environmental Justice and Sustainability: SHC's sustainability initiatives, such as water conservation and waste reduction programs, directly contribute to environmental justice. By adopting water-saving technologies and practices, SHC not only reduces its environmental footprint but also promotes sustainable practices within the community, regardless of socioeconomic status.

Improved Quality of Life: The implementation of energy-efficient technologies and waste management programs, like the standardization of three stream waste bins across Stanford Medicine facilities, contributes to a healthier environment by reducing pollution. Improved air and water quality have direct positive impacts on public health, particularly for vulnerable populations who may be more susceptible to environmental hazards.

Job Creation and Economic Development The expansion of SHC's services and facilities not only meets the growing healthcare needs of the community but also creates job opportunities. As SHC expands its operations, it generates employment in various sectors, including healthcare, construction, and sustainability management.

Social Equity and Access to Care: SHC actively works to reduce barriers to care for underserved populations, including low-income individuals and marginalized communities. By expanding healthcare services and facilities, SHC aims to provide comprehensive care that is accessible to everyone, thereby improving health outcomes and reducing disparities.

Long-Term Health Outcomes: SHC prioritizes preventive care, community health education, chronic disease prevention, nutrition, and wellness education help reduce the incidence of preventable diseases, ultimately leading to healthier communities. This focus on public health not only benefits individuals but also reduces the overall burden on the healthcare system.

SHC's innovative sustainability initiatives provide significant benefits to local communities, particularly underserved populations. Through community engagement, environmental justice efforts, job creation, and a commitment to social equity, SHC enhances public health and improves the quality of life for residents.

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Document Uploads: Supporting Data & Evidence and References

Include letters of support, endorsements, or formal commitments from third parties, such as pilot partners, policymakers, academic institutions, news articles, or industry leaders, validating your approach and impact.

Provide quantifiable metrics, case studies, third-party assessments, or regulatory approvals to support your application. Please label all files with your company name and asset name.

*Kindly clearly label your files with company name and asset name.

Attached Files:

- [Stanford Affirmation Statement.pdf](#)
- [Stanford Climate Resilience Plan Executive Summary.pdf](#)
- [Stanford FY24 GHG Inventory Assurance Statement.pdf](#)
- [Stanford Medicine Climate Resilience Plan.pdf](#)
- [Stanford NSH LEED Online Credits.pdf](#)
- [Stanford Medicine Climate Resilience Plan_O.pdf](#)
- [Stanford TJC Certification.pdf](#)
- [Stanford PGH Email Award.pdf](#)

- [Stanford PGH Personalized Trend Report 2025.pdf](#)
- [BonusReportStanfordHealthCarePaloAltoCampus.pdf](#)
- [Stanford PGH Email Top 25.pdf](#)
- [Stanford PGH Email Circles of Excellence.pdf](#)
- [Stanford PGH Award Certificate.pdf](#)
- [Stanford PGH Email Circles of Excellence.pdf](#)

Final Submission

You have now validated and submitted your application and are officially a candidate to the Prix Galien USA 2025.

We wish you great success.