

Virtually every corner of the world has been affected by global economic issues. One of the worst hit is in Las Vegas USA. Companies are reducing expenditures on tradeshows and people in general are not having as much free cash to gamble or to spend in the resorts of Las Vegas. Las Vegas was the fastest growing city of the USA as homebuilders focused on serving the fast growing service population that supported the growth in the 1990s through to the mid 2000s. All of that has come to screeching halt. Las Vegas is one of top areas for home foreclosures in the world and unemployment is reaching extremely high levels and homelessness is growing quickly.

Catholic Charities is one of the largest charities in the USA and is focused on serving the needs of the poor and homeless.

Catholic Charities considered that a top chef has expertise on how to make the best dishes with whatever food is available. And more importantly they are skilled at how to judge if food is going bad and or how to maintain a pristine kitchen environment that would reduce bacteria and potential sickness. Making good quality food cost less than administering medical services. Catholic Charities also employed the military expertise of their VP of Administration to help them reduce operational cost and simultaneously increase productivity. Patrick Raglow is a retired US Airforce Colonel who had extensive expertise in serving his country and making the most of

# Catholic Church Becomes the Guiding Light to Going Green

How to save money when donations are down



Electrician retrofits fluorescent fixture to LED in under 10 minutes

Most all of the work of the Catholic Charities is made possible by generous donations from the caring public. When times are tough those donation levels fall and even most charities have to tighten their belts as well. Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas decided to not wait for the economy to turn but took some very proactive and progressive approaches to curbing reductions in donations.

If we told you they hired a top chef that had previously worked at the Wynn Hotel and

Giving Help and Hope to people in need regardless of race, religion or creed

**Catholic Charities**  
OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

<http://www.catholiccharities.com>



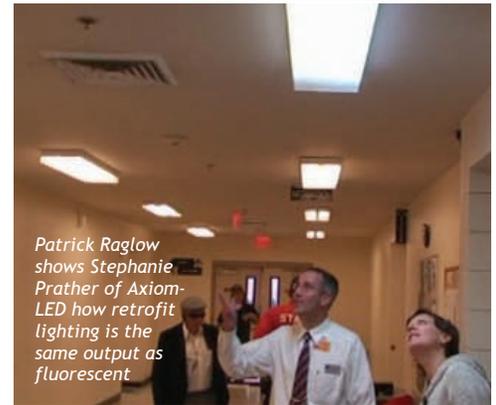
what was available to him. As the VP of Administration at Catholic Charities in Las Vegas Mr. Raglow has employed some progressive technological approaches to reduce bed bugs for example or to reduce power consumption.

Catholic Charities was spending over \$1 million USD in electricity each year. While there are a few hot months in Las Vegas most of the year it is cool and pleasant. Most might think that air conditioning is a large portion of the electric bill but it was found that their energy consumption was like most other commercial buildings.

Power for lighting was about 25% of their electric bills but accounted for over 50% of what the maintenance staff was working on during a day. Changing light bulbs and keeping areas well lit and safe is a top priority in a homeless shelter.

Catholic Charities decided to pursue LED lighting as an option to retrofit fluorescent lighting to reduce power and to reduce maintenance time and ongoing costs.

**hana**  
Maori word meaning  
"to shine, glow, or radiate"



Patrick Raglow shows Stephanie Prather of Axiom-LED how retrofit lighting is the same output as fluorescent

They determined that they would save an average of 60% of the electric power per light fixture for the same level of light.

They evaluated office lighting, shelter sleeping areas, common hallway areas, and storage rooms and

determined that the Axiom LED kits could be retrofit into an existing light fixture by their resident electrician in about 10 minutes. They also determined that the fixture would not require any further maintenance for 10-12 years versus an average of every 6-12 months for fluorescent.

Upon initial evaluation they realized they could save over \$100,000 on their electric bill and could free up considerable time spent on maintaining lighting and could be spent on improving other areas of their extensive facility. They also determined that their return on investment was going to be actualized in about 18 months when reduction in energy and reduction in maintenance cost and time were considered.

So instead of waiting for the economy to return they put a high end chef in the kitchen and used progressive LED lighting technology to reduce their overhead and increase their cash flow.

See video online at [www.AxiomLED.com/CatholicCharities/](http://www.AxiomLED.com/CatholicCharities/) [www.KiwiLED.com/CatholicCharities](http://www.KiwiLED.com/CatholicCharities)

