TEACH receives Greening the Office Gold Level Certification

TEACH recently received the Greening the Office Gold Level Certification from Carilion Clinic for a sustainability project designed and led by Heather Mason and Deborah Ferron.

The “Do What You Can” project launched in April, 2023 at the Center for Simulation, Research and Patient Safety and consisted of a rotating 4–6-week facility-based education/engagement phase, and a long-term institution-based phase.

During the facility-based phase, the team educated staff at the Sim Center on sustainability initiatives such as using a personal water bottle to reduce plastic waste, turning off lights to conserve electricity, and methods to print more efficiently.

At the institution level, in a facility with no previous recycling initiatives, the team was able to institute Single Stream Recycling (collecting 783.8 lbs), thin plastic and battery recycling, and collecting pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

This is a two-year certification, with ongoing action in sustainability.