

ONE-STOP EFFICIENCY SHOP®

# Arc's Value Village

## Project Background

Arc's Value Village began the process of upgrading to LED lighting after a One-Stop Efficiency Shop lighting consultant visited their Richfield location and noticed outdated, inefficient lighting throughout the store. The lighting consultant knew the store could benefit greatly from LEDs and offered to perform a free lighting assessment. He discovered the store was dealing with failing fluorescent bulbs and at-capacity circuits. Maintenance was difficult and time consuming for in-store employees and finding bulbs with matching color and temperature was a challenge.

The lighting consultant learned two other Arc's Value Village stores in the area dealt with similar problems but lacked the capital needed to make upgrades. Fortunately, CEE's One-Stop Efficiency Shop was the perfect solution to provide low-interest non-profit financing, bring in qualified contractors for bidding, find the best rebates and equipment for the space, and maximize savings for upgrades in all three locations.

## Facility Assessment

The Richfield location needed lights that would be longer lasting, easier to maintain, uniform in color and temperature, and lower the overall building energy use. After performing a free lighting assessment, the One-Stop lighting consultant created a customized report with recommendations, estimated payback periods, energy savings, and rebates to help the Arc's Value Village team make the best decision. The lighting consultant connected the organization to grant funding available through the City of Richfield and EnerChange to help cover upgrade costs and reduce payback periods.

## Improvements

The lighting consultant recommended an extremely high performance, low wattage LED T8 with the same color and consistency throughout the store to maximize cost-savings and improve customer experience. The new lights are much easier to maintain and come with a 5-year warranty to cover the cost of replacement. With uniform brightness and color, the lighting quality throughout the store has dramatically improved.



“Energy savings and the maintenance issues were biggest reasons. Rebates helped make the decision easier.”

**Greg Rue**  
Director of Thrift Business



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## Problems

- Frequent fluorescent bulb and ballast burnouts
- Costly and frequent maintenance
- Mismatched lighting colors
- Circuits at capacity

## Results

- Reduced maintenance costs
- Improved lighting quality and customer experience
- Reduced overall energy load
- Utilized CEE's low-interest, nonprofit financing and grant funding

## Total Rebates & Savings – All Three Locations

  
**\$22,182**  
in annual savings

  
**207,700**  
kWh saved

  
**\$32,166**  
in rebates

  
**1.4 year**  
average payback

“A big change has been the consistent bright lighting. Our fluorescent lighting was all mismatched color, and it was difficult for our in-house staff to keep up with replacing bulbs. Our stores now look bright and inviting.”

**Greg Rue**  
Director of Thrift Business

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Center for Energy and Environment's (CEE) One-Stop Efficiency Shop<sup>®</sup>, sponsored by Xcel Energy, offers free lighting consulting and rebates to help businesses save energy and reduce operating costs through lighting upgrades. Visit [mncee.org/onestop](http://mncee.org/onestop) to learn more.