



LEED for a Neighborhood Community Project Action Center to End World Hunger

New York, NY

Sustainable Exhibition Space

Mercy Corps, an international relief and development organization that works to alleviate suffering, poverty and oppression by helping people build secure, productive and just communities, is building its first public exhibition space in the U.S. in Lower Manhattan. Located in Battery Park City, the 4,000 sq. ft. Action Center to End World Hunger will offer students and visitors an opportunity to learn about global hunger issues through state of the art exhibitry and interactive displays.

Steven Winter Associates, Inc, acting as LEED consultants and the commissioning agent, is assisting the project team pursue a Platinum rating through the LEED for Commercial Interiors green building program. Mercy Corps' goal for the Platinum certification goes well beyond the requirements of the Battery Park City Authority, which requires that all new buildings achieve a minimum LEED Gold rating.

The design team includes Gary Shoemaker Architect, IP Group Engineers and ESI Design. The team is aggressively pursuing green strategies that will be highly visible to the public, including cork-faced "field huts" in which groups can gather and learn about critical issues facing today's communities, and furniture constructed of wood salvaged from Hurricane Katrina debris.

Ultra low-flow fixtures on lavatory sinks with dual flush toilets will result in a potable water use reduction of 45% compared to the baseline case, and will educate visitors about water conservation.

The finishes and exhibitry will be built of FSC-certified wood and low emitting material. Optimized use of daylighting and lighting controls, demand controlled ventilation, radiant floor heating and Energy Star rated appliances will also contribute to energy savings.

The Action Center to End World Hunger plans to open its doors to the public in the fall of 2008. The center will host passers-by, families, news media, as well as many of the 17,000 students in the area.



Client:	Mercy Corps
Location:	Manhattan, NY
Building Type:	Commercial Interior / Public Space
Building Size:	4000 sq. ft.
Project Status:	Construction Administration
Reference:	Michael Cooper Mercy Corps New York, NY
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