



## UUMAN Sustainability Policy

As an accredited **Green Sanctuary**, Our UUMAN community is committed to lowering its impact on the environment and reducing its carbon footprint through wise energy usage and purchasing policies. In line with this goal, we will make our best efforts to do the following:

- When making decisions that involve using the earth's resources (energy or supplies) inform ourselves about our options and make the best choice available within the confines of our budget.
- Investigate alternative energy solutions as they become available.
- Use programmable thermostats in all areas and monitor their use.
  - Follow guidelines set by the Department of Energy for setting thermostats at 78 in summer and 68 in winter.
  - Set our water heaters at 120 degrees and ensure they are wrapped in insulating blankets.
- When replacing appliances, furnaces, air conditioners, purchase the most efficient, low-energy usage and low-impact lifecycle products we are able to afford.
- Purchase chlorine-free, post-consumer recycled paper products for the office, kitchen, bathrooms when possible.
- Encourage the use tap water on our campus rather than bottled water in order to preserve the human right to water and to reduce plastic waste and energy usage.
  - We will provide pitchers of water and/or large insulated water coolers (available in each building) when ever feasible.
- Plan for replacing toilets with dual-flush low-water usage toilets within a ten-year period.
- Plan for replacing our hot water heater with solar hot water or a tankless system within a ten-year period.
- Try safe and ecological pest control methods *before* resorting to the use of any chemicals both in our buildings and on our grounds. When necessary, we will use the safest chemicals that are effective in the elimination or removal of pests, by contracting with companies that are committed to green solutions.
- Strive to be pesticide-free.
- Use permanent signs highlighting our 7<sup>th</sup> principal along with specific instructions in kitchens, bathrooms and halls
  - (for thermostats, coffee makers, appliances, water heaters and any others that are frequently adjusted)

**Our Seventh Principle ~ Respect for the Interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.**