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# Local company donates energy-efficient lighting kits

Thanks to a partnership with the Green Savings Company, the Ronald McDonald House in Fort Lauderdale will receive more than 100 energy-efficient lighting kits, which are being installed over the next few weeks.

The Green Savings Company initiated the

partnership as a way to reach out to the local community and also to promote its T5 retrofit lighting kit, a lighting conversion system designed to save energy and reduce costs.

"This is definitely something that we really needed," said Soraya Moya, executive director of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Florida. "We're very grateful to them."

The Ronald McDonald House is a residence for families with critically ill children staying in nearby hospitals. With more efficient and improved lighting, the facility can remove excess lamps and will need fewer light bulbs.

The new fixture kits can reduce costs up to 80 percent, said Alex Vidal, marketing director for the Green Savings Company. The kits are the flagship product of the company, which opened in Fort Lauderdale two years ago.

"It's an inexpensive way for them to go green and reduce their carbon footprint without having to spend a lot of money because it's a cost-efficient method," Vidal said.

Also engaged in the partnership is Mr. Electric, which offered to install the kits.

The electrical contractor removed T12 and T8 fluorescent light bulbs and replaced them with the T5 retrofit bulbs, which are among the

more energy-efficient bulbs on the market.

With the Ronald McDonald House paying roughly \$2,100 a month for electricity, the potential savings could not come at a better time.

"Everyone is hurting with the economy, and we're very appreciative of our relationship with them," Moya said. "It's less of a burden on us and the families that stay here for one, two or three months."

The potential savings could be used to improve other programs, as well as purchase needed furniture and other items.

"The more we save, the better we'll be able to operate and branch out," Moya said.



**SAVING ENERGY** Alex Vidal, right, of Fort Lauderdale, hands Pat Kelsey of Fort Lauderdale a T5 retrofit light bulb. The new bulbs will help reduce lighting costs by 30 to 80 percent at the Ronald McDonald House in Fort Lauderdale.

STAFF PHOTO/  
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