



PowerSecure



Metropolitan Ministries America's Most Effective Caregiver Supporting Their Community Through Unmatched Resiliency 24/7/365

CASE STUDY

About the Customer

Historically, Metropolitan Ministries serves an average of 30,000 families and homeless individuals year-round. Because of its location in the Tampa Bay area, the non-profit is exposed to severe weather that can cause flooding, high winds, and power outages. In September 2017 Hurricane Irma proved just how vulnerable they were, and how much the community and city at large depended upon them. Although they served more than 4,000 hot meals to local families from gas ovens, provided thousands of Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MREs) to area families, and sheltered many displaced families, as well as the more than 100 families already residing on the nearly 135,500-square-foot campus, they were concerned about preparing for the next storm.



The Challenge

Considering the entire campus was powerless for four days following Hurricane Irma, the round-the-clock work of the ministries' staff and volunteers lived up to its vision of "Becoming America's most effective caregiver to poor and homeless people."

The residents and visitors of Metropolitan Ministries went days without air conditioning in the humid, 95° heat and no electrical power from the local utility grid. Frightened people, in a difficult situation, sought comfort and safety in a trusted, but powerless, campus. When the staff, volunteers and leadership regrouped following the hurricane, the lack of emergency power was high on the list of areas for improvement to ensure a safe and reliable haven for their community in the event of a storm.



The Solution

PowerSecure and Tampa Electric (TECO) partnered together to provide Metropolitan Ministries with an economical, sustainable, and reliable microgrid solution to meet their emergency power needs. This ultra-clean, 625kW Tier 4 Final PowerBlock® designed by PowerSecure provides 100% resiliency to the entire campus for up to 48 hours before refueling is necessary. PowerSecure continuously provides the customer with preventative maintenance, 24/7/365 PowerControl® remote monitoring, refueling and dispatch, and a complete system warranty for the next 15 years.

The microgrid interconnects with Tampa Electric (TECO) and participates in TECO's Load Management program to earn credits toward Metropolitan Ministries' monthly electric bill. Additionally, PowerSecure, through its resiliency-as-a-service solution, funded the cost of the microgrid which is paid back through TECO's Load Management program benefits. PowerSecure will manage, maintain and dispatch the microgrid over the next 15 years, and then Metropolitan Ministries has an option to buy the microgrid that gives it full facility power resiliency with minimal financial impact.



Benefits to the Customer

With PowerSecure's industry-leading reliability, the distributed generation microgrid solution provided:

- 1** 100% backup facility resiliency
- 2** Enhanced visibility and optimization through PowerSecure's microgrid controller and PowerControl™ Platform
- 3** Metropolitan Ministries' 250 staff workers and more than 25,000 annual volunteers no longer need to worry about losing power during the next Hurricane or storm event
- 4** This microgrid can operate the facility load for up to 48 hours, before a fuel/DEF refill will be needed
- 5** This system is interconnected to TECO and can automatically provide power to the entire campus when needed

"...An executive with a local architectural company, who is also a member of our board, suggested we contact PowerSecure, a company he'd worked with in the past with good results. There was a sense of relief during the final stages of generator testing, knowing our families and the community will be able to rely on us for support during any major natural disaster."

- Mark Rios, Former Vice President of Real Estate, Metropolitan Ministries

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