

Collaborations for Safer Materials:Health Care Sector

Kathy Gerwig

Vice President, Workplace Safety and Environmental Stewardship Officer



Why Environmental Stewardship in Health Care?

It's about health.





Collaborations for Safer Materials

- BizNGO Working Group multi-sector
- Health Care Without Harm vision, public policy
- Practice Greenhealth implementation
- Healthier Hospitals Initiative hospital systems and NGOs
- Center for Environmental Health multi-sector
- Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families public policy



How Priorities are Set Collaboratively

Safe Chemicals



Climate/Energy



Waste Reduction



Water



Sustainable Food



Safer Chemicals Collaborations – BizNGO Working Group

KP's Guideline:

We aim to advance an economy where the production and use of chemicals are not harmful for humans as well as for our global environment.



Safer Chemicals Collaborations – Practice Greenhealth

Sustainability Scorecard

- Supplier disclosure required
- 10 questions specific to chemicals in <u>each</u> product
- \$10 billion impact (and growing)



Safer Chemicals Collaborations – HCWH, Safer Chemicals/Healthy Families

Public policy

Toxic Substances
 Control Act reform
 (Federal)





Forms of Collaboration

- Board membership
- Funding
- Hosting events
- Cosponsoring activities
- References
- Endorsements



Lessons Learned

- Must be something in it for everyone
 - What do you want to get?
 - What can you give?
- Accelerate/improve what parties could do on their own
- Build and sustain trust
- Reputation management



www.kp.org/green



