A. Storm Water
The Life Expression Chiropractic Center was envisioned as a first step in the movement toward a more sustainable office facility. The green roof intercepts and delays the flow of incident rainfall, allowing it to flow through a gapped fascia at the edges. Although the green roof replaces some pervious surface displaced by the building footprint, building officials still required a full sized storm water retention basin behind the project. The green roof requires no additional irrigation thanks to its engineered lightweight growing media that simultaneously retains and drains water.
Clerestory windows permit light and air to enter the building.

Interiors illuminated with natural light

**Location**
Hazleton, Pennsylvania

**Architect**
Van der Ryn Architects

**Year Completed**
2001

**System Type**
Extensive

**Project Area**
6,000 sf (600 m²) total

**B. Energy**
Clerestory windows along the three wings of the building permit the introduction of daylighting and natural ventilation into the spaces, providing restful interiors and reducing the demand for electricity. The green roof itself lowers temperatures at the roof surface as compared with traditional roofing, reducing heat flow into the building on warm days. The system also provides some degree of roof insulation with its 2-3” (50-75 mm) of growing media and plant layer, though this effect is difficult to quantify at present.