

## Chicago Lithuanian Youth Center Boiler Replacement Project Final Report

First, we would like to thank Rotary District 6450 for the district funds to put towards this ongoing project.

The Chicago Lithuanian Youth Center:



1950s to present day.

The Chicago Lithuanian Center was built in 1958 by the Lithuanian diaspora displaced from Lithuania by World War II. The purpose was to teach the Lithuanian language and culture to future generations. A portion of the building also housed a Jesuit monastery. Currently the Chicago Lithuanian center is home to a Lithuanian Saturday School for children, several organizations, archives, and hosts many events. It is also home to three museums: Ramovenai Lithuanian Military Museum, Lithuanian Cultural Museum and the Lithuanian Museum of Medicine. It is a necessary part of the Lithuanian community and must be preserved and taken care of.

Over the years, the building has fallen in some disrepair due to a lack of funding and staff. Last year the boiler systems completely broke down which resulted in a need for complete and total replacement. The cost went well into six figures. Through donations like ours, the CLC was able to raise a large portion of the money and secure a loan to pay the rest. The outline of work is in the attached PDF. Our club which has strong ties to our Lithuanian roots, felt it was important to contribute to this repair project. While the replacement itself is complete, it is apparent that more funds will need to be raised for ongoing repairs and maintenance.

Our contribution (District and Matching): \$2,200

Project total cost: \$185,210 (original estimate) \$249,500.00 (final cost as of December 2020)

Rima Žiūraitis

Grants Chair

Rotary Club of Chicagoland Lithuanians

Here are the images from the work that was done:





