Designing the future of healthcare interiors since 2004

American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers
Thank you AAHID Founders. You made it possible!

Linda Bishop
Elizabeth Brawley
Jane Dailey
Barbara Dellinger
Carol Demlow
Gwen Deney
Susan DiMotta
Linda Gabel
Linda Haggerty
Mary Anne Hammond
Jean Hansen
Debra Harris
Karen Hoffman
Barbara Hulat
Ardis Hutchins
Andrea Hyde
Angela Keller
Judy Klich
Janet Kobylka
Margo Komplin
Dan Lee
Annette Littleton
Amy Lopez
Maria Lopez
Kevin Lynch
Jain Malkin
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Sharon Spruill
Gail Sterling
Franne Neild Stewart
Jocelyn Stroupe
Lynette Tedder
Lew Vassberg
Laurie Waggener
Jean Young
The single source for certifying healthcare interior designers

The American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers (AAHID) is a nonprofit organization committed to the development and administration of the CHID Certified Healthcare Interior Designer® Exam, the only certification for healthcare interior designers. AAHID is not a membership organization, but rather an organization that certifies interior designers in the U.S. and Canada that specialize in acute care, ambulatory care, and residential healthcare facilities design.

To promote the highest standards and values, AAHID:

- requires ongoing continuing education for all certificants to enhance their professional development, and maintain the highest level of professionalism, integrity and competence
- backs evidence-based research focused on the impact of the design of the built environment on outcomes
- values partners who transform the healthcare environment into one for healing, improving outcomes, and maximizing efficiency

Volunteers and partners

Volunteers are important to AAHID’s operation. Providing strategic thinking and leadership to drive AAHID initiatives, volunteers serve on the board of directors, review CHID exam applications, lead training and education presentations, and are involved in test development activities.

Industry Partners are companies that believe in and support AAHID’s mission to qualify and certify healthcare interior designers.

Our mission

The mission of the American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers is the certification of interior designers qualified by education, examination, training and experience to provide interior design services to the healthcare industry.

Our vision

The vision of the American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers is to be the essential certification for healthcare interior designers.
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When I earned my CHID, the economy was changing. Some design markets were drying up. Those experienced in commercial were moving to hospitality and healthcare, and not always successful. I got my CHID to set myself apart.

Kristin Ellingsen
CHID, IIDA, EDAC
KE Design Inc

San Antonio Regional Hospital
New Patient Tower
Upland, CA
Dear Fellow CHID Certificants, Industry Partners and Colleagues,

Designing the future of healthcare interiors since 2004!

Can you believe it? We are now 15 years old! This is a very proud moment in the history of such a vibrant organization. I am very excited to lead AAHID and continue to advance the work of our wonderful immediate past president Libby Laguta and the AAHID board. It is my privilege to serve along with my fellow Directors to continue this exciting journey. Thanks to the hard work of our Founders and CHIDs around the country, we are stronger than ever! We are a talented and distinguished group of designers that have earned the CHID Certified Healthcare Interior Designer® credential - a credential that validates our commitment to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and competence.

An anniversary is always a great time to recognize milestones and reflect on accomplishments. AAHID experienced many changes in 2019 for the betterment of the certification program. Most notably are the changes that impacted the essence of our organization - credentialing and testing.

Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together.

James Cash Penney

While our strength is in combined contributions, it is important to note the impact that each one of us can make. If you are wondering how you can make a difference, let me share how a special group of CHID volunteers did just that! This past year, the AAHID Test Development Committee (TDC) tirelessly worked with Certification Management Services (CMS), AAHID’s testing company partner, to strengthen the CHID exam. Reference materials were evaluated, existing exam questions were analyzed, and new exam questions were written for technical compliance ensuring the timely roll-out of a new exam form in October 2019. The collaborative dedication and hard-work of the TDC, resulted in an exam that yielded 84 new CHID certificants – the largest one-year increase in the history of AAHID.

This is a significant milestone for the certification program, with positive implications for the healthcare interior design industry. Today, we are 247 strong! That means 247 CHIDs who now distinguish themselves as qualified by education, examination, training and experience.
I would like to send a special thank you to the TDC for their commitment to ensuring that the CHID exam continues to set the standard for assessing competency among healthcare interior designers. And, a special thank you also goes out to all of you. Your ability to continue to spread the word about CHID certification is instrumental in the continued growth of AAHID. Keep it up! Together, great things are possible.

**Building awareness and strengthening relationships**

In 2019 AAHID advanced marketing efforts to enhance visibility and value. CHIDs were front and center at industry events. From leading exam prep workshops and educational sessions, CHIDs energetically advocated for certification.

In November, we all came together in New Orleans at the Healthcare Design Conference and Expo to network with our colleagues, learn about the latest industry trends, and celebrate AAHID’s accomplishments and vision for the future. AAHID is anxious to keep the momentum for many years to come.

AAHID continues to enjoy supportive relationships with our industry partners. Thanks to their generosity, networking efforts, and collaborative participation, AAHID can expand their outreach to prospective certificants. Industry partners also open the door to new opportunities. In 2019 we were excited to begin collaboration with Tarkett on two white papers. One focusing on acoustics and the other on performance as it relates to flooring. Research is critical to help us understand which design factors are important to transform the healthcare environment into one for healing, improving outcomes and maximizing efficiency. If you have a passion for research, this is just another example of how you can volunteer and be part of setting industry standards.

As AAHID looks toward the future, we will strive to be relevant and influential. Your contribution to this effort is important. If you are not already part of the AAHID LinkedIn group, we encourage your participation. Post interesting articles, projects, and industry trends that serve to engage the healthcare interior design community and promote the important work that we do. Connect now.

2019 was a busy and exciting year for AAHID. Please join us in keeping the momentum going in 2020. Your partnership and support are valued and key to our strength as an organization. There are many ways you can support AAHID and if you have an idea or passion, please let us hear it!

Sincerely,

Carol Doering, CHID, IIDA, LEED AP
2020 President, AAHID
CHID allows me to stay current on the latest professional knowledge and trends to be able to create the highest level of design for residential healthcare clients.

Adair E. Pagnotta
ASID, CHID, NCIDQ
Sr. Associate & Director of Interiors
Noelker and Hull Associates, Inc.
Serving on the Board of Directors of AAHID is a unique opportunity to advance the practice of healthcare interior design. The leadership of AAHID is committed to fostering a positive change for the organization, while creating the best environments for healing and healthcare delivery.

AAHID board members reflect that commitment.

Libby Laguta, CHID EDAC ACHE L2D
President

Carol Doering
IIDA LEED AP CID CHID
IA Interior Architects
President-Elect

Kristin Ellingsen
CHID IIDA EDAC
OFG (Office Furniture Group)
Secretary/Treasurer

Laura Ethridge-Morris
CHID IIDA LEED AP BD+C
Lean Green Belt
Array Architects
Immediate Past President

Teri Lura Bennett
RN, CHID, IIDA, EDAC, NIHD
Johns Hopkins Health System/
Facilities Planning Director

Sandy Goodman
CHID IIDA EDAC LEED AP
LSSBB
CRGA Design
Director

Nancy Bounds
ASID CHID MS
NB Interiors
Director

Stephanie Reem
CHID EDAC CID WRID LEED AP
HGA Architects and Engineers
Director
Distinguish Yourself

Become a CHID.

The CHID Certified Healthcare Interior Designer® credential is the only certification that tells your colleagues, clients and potential employers that your education and experience in healthcare interior design distinguishes your qualifications.

Learn more and apply online at aahid.org.

UPCOMING EXAM: September 2020

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 1, 2020
Commitment to Credentialing Excellence

Changes ease the CHID application and examination process

Major enhancements were implemented to the CHID application and examination process. The creation of a new online fillable application and the elimination of the portfolio and letters of reference make it easier than ever to become a CHID. Now, applicants who meet the certification and required years of experience criteria, only need to obtain the endorsement of a current CHID.

The AAHID Board also partnered with a new testing company, Certification Management Services (CMS) paving the way for convenience and flexibility. Candidates no longer travel to testing centers to sit for the exam. The online, proctored exam may be scheduled any day within a pre-determined window, and the candidate can choose the location – even the comfort of their home.

CHID certification experiences historic growth in 2019

To celebrate AAHID’s 15-year anniversary, the Board approved a special, limited time only, celebratory rate for the 2019 exam. The call for applicants was supported by an aggressive outreach backed by AAHID founders, industry partners and current CHIDs. At the close of the application window, AAHID received the highest number of applications since the inception of the certification program.

AAHID realized a 52% increase in certified healthcare interior designers from 2018 to 2019. Overall CHID certification has grown by 75% over the past five years.

Moving forward in 2020

AAHID will offer the CHID examination one time in 2020. The application deadline is May 1 for the September 2020 testing window. Interested and qualified candidates can visit aahid.org and learn how to become certified.
AAHID Test Development Committee (TDC)

Working to maintain the highest standard of quality

Due to the changes in process and the new partnership with CMS, AAHID administered the CHID examination once in 2019. To prepare for the Fall window, the TDC spent many long hours and long days evaluating reference materials, analyzing the current relevancy of existing exam questions, and writing new questions to ensure the quality and fairness of the exam. Their collaboration was a true testament to their commitment to the certification program.

AAHID gained 84 new certificants in 2019, due in part, to the hard work of this dedicated committee. AAHID would like to recognize the members of the TDC with a special thank you.

Antonio Amadeo, AIA ACHA CHID LEED AP EDAC LDC International, Inc.

Christine Brown, IIDA CHID LEED AP Berners-Schober Associates, Inc.

Linda Gabel, CHID IIDA The Ohio State University, WexnerMedical Center

Robyn Dubick, CID CHID IIDA LEED AP ID+C EDAC CR Goodman Associates

Carol Doering, CHID IIDA LEED AP CID Interior Architects

Jennifer Hrosko, CHID IIDA NCIDQ SSOE Group

Melinda Avila Torio, NCIDQ RID CHID CASP LEED AP THW Design

Teri Lura Bennett, RN CHID IIDA EDAC NIHD Johns Hopkins Health System/Facilities Planning

Celeste Kovar, CHID IIDA LEED AP Davis Design Inc.

Kristin Ellingsen, CHID IIDA EDAC OFG (Office Furniture Group)

Nancy Bounds, ASID CHID MS NB Interiors
Congratulations and Welcome to our New 2019 CHIDs

Melissa Bachmeyer, CHID
Sara Bailey, CHID
Christa Barr, CHID
Misty Bell, CHID
Amanda Benham, CHID
Peggy Berry, CHID
Anna Bertucci Ghelase, CHID
Necia Bonner, CHID
Juliette Bowker, CHID
Adrian Boysel, CHID
Drusilla Brewer, CHID
Anne Brooks, CHID
Yuyu Bu, CHID
Heather Bunting, CHID
Aimee Burmaster Hicks, CHID
Linda Bush, CHID
Karen Carbo, CHID
Angena Chang, CHID
Alexa Choles, CHID
Brenda Chrisman, CHID
Ashleigh Cotter, CHID
Dee Coyle, CHID
Jamison Delfino, CHID
Kelley Dorsett, CHID
Haley Driscoll, CHID
Cynthia Elkin, CHID
Christine Emanuelson, CHID
Kelli Falardo, CHID
Heather Flannery, CHID
Cindy Flinchum, CHID
Susan Frederick, CHID
Miriam Ganesh, CHID
Marianne Graffam, CHID
Emily Guidry, CHID
Sarah Harvey, CHID
Hanna Hayes, CHID
Whitney Hendrickson, CHID
Becky Holden, CHID
Isaac Holman, CHID
Lisa Jansen, CHID
Jaime Johnston, CHID
Mia Kile, CHID

Lauren King, CHID
Carolyn Kiss, CHID
Janna Kotlyar, CHID
Angela Kron, CHID
Lauren Kuhlke, CHID
Catherine Kwaske, CHID
Stephanie Alexandra Ludwick, CHID
Melanie Mangione, CHID
Susan Matthews, CHID
Megan McNally, CHID
Patty Melvin, CHID
Marleen Milligan, CHID
Christopher O’Brien, CHID
Shannon Oliveira, CHID
Leigh Palmer, CHID
Kara Parce, CHID
Patricia Paulson, CHID
Melissa Perry, CHID
Clairanne Pesce, CHID
Stacy Peters, CHID
Amanda Pirlot, CHID
Diane Polczynski, CHID
Melissa Pribyl, CHID
Tracy Randall, CHID
Linnea Rehnke, CHID
Susan Sanders, CHID
Laura Shoemaker, CHID
Danna Sigal, CHID
Brenda Smith, CHID
Christine Soto, CHID
Keith Stanton, CHID
Cheryl Sternstein, CHID
Emily Stewart, CHID
Steven Templet, CHID
Jennifer Tinsley, CHID
Linda Tobin, CHID
Christin Troutman, CHID
Jennifer Vuono, CHID
Meredith Westland, CHID
Leah Brown, CHID
Rachel Windham, CHID
John Zierdt, CHID
It takes years of education, experience and acquired knowledge to become a seasoned healthcare interior designer. But, to leave your mark on a potential client, you only have three seconds to tell your story. I simply say, “I am a CHID.”

Ghina Itani
CHID, ASID, EDAC
Owner, Principal
Itani Design Concepts
Commitment to Educational Excellence

AAHID presents educational session to full house at Environments for Aging (EFA) Expo

2019 AAHID Board President, Libby Laguta, CHID EDA ACHE and Board member Nancy Bounds, ASID CHID MS lead an educational session on Senior Living Environments – healthcare or hospitality? at the EFA Expo and Conference in Salt Lake City, UT. This is the second year in a row that AAHID has presented an educational session at the EFA Expo.

HCD provided a platform to continue the discussion on Durable Coated Fabrics for Healthcare

On Monday, November 4, 2019 AAHID was pleased to host and participate in a panel discussion focused on New Information About Specifying and Cleaning Durable Coated Fabrics for Healthcare. The presentation provided an overview of new information about material selection from ongoing durability tests of heavy-duty commercial healthcare-rated fabrics in both laboratory and real-world environments.

Panel participants included:

- Teri Lura Bennett, RN CHID IIDA EDAC NIHD, Lead Interior Designer, Johns Hopkins Health System
- Shari Solomon, Esq. President, CleanHealth Environmental LLC
- Barbara Dellinger, MA FIIDA CHID CID EDAC NCIDQ, Director, Design & Research, Adventist Healthcare
- Linda Gabel, CHID IIDA, Interior Designer/Planner, the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

The panel is committed to working together to address this mutual challenge, recognizing the ability of a multi-disciplinary team of industry partners with shared purpose, to creatively solve these problems.

A copy of the presentation can be accessed on the AAHID website.
I am proud to be recognized as a specialist in healthcare focusing on the design of environments for healing and improved outcomes for all who visit, work or are cared for in a healthcare setting. The CHID credential has enhanced my credibility in the healthcare industry.

Jocelyn Stroupe
CHID, EDAC, IIDA, ASID
Principal
CannonDesign
Our partners make our work possible

Developing and maintaining industry relations is essential to furthering the AAHID mission. Industry partners play a major role in facilitating outreach efforts to potential CHID exam candidates and providing networking opportunities for current CHID certificants. AAHID is grateful for the generosity of our industry partners. Their support makes it possible to enhance the visibility and growth of the CHID certification.

Industry Partner Advisory Council – Strengthening partnerships through collaboration

As collaborative partners committed to creating the best environments for healthcare delivery, the Industry Partner Advisory Council engages in activities focused on certification and organizational growth. The Council conducts quarterly calls to optimize relationships and identify opportunities to promote the positive impact that CHIDs have on healthcare design projects.

The Council was chaired by 2019 AAHID President Libby Laguta and AAHID Immediate Past President Laura Ethridge-Morris.

Council Members Include:

- Jodi Fazio, Kwalu
- John Rademacher, Krug
- John O’Meara, HEWI Inc.
- Sarena Krueger, Mecho
- Amy Lasher, National
- David Carmona, Porcelanosa
- Ridley Kinsey, Patcraft
- Louise Nicholson Carter, CHID, Skyline Art

Developing strategies that focus on the growth of CHID certification, and enhance the benefits for our industry partners, the Council brings together diverse perspectives that encompass all avenues of healthcare interior design. The AAHID Board appreciates and recognizes the participation of each Council member as well as their contributions to furthering relationships.

CHID Ghina Itani, supporting industry partner Porcelanosa in HCD exhibit hall.
Candidate Forums – Providing visibility and opportunity

Irvine, California was the site of the August 2019 CHID Candidate Forum. Potential CHID candidates were invited to the OFG (Office Furniture Group) Orange County Showroom for an evening of networking and learning. The event provided guests with an overview of the certification program, a chance to win a CHID exam scholarship, and an opportunity to view some of the latest product innovations. AAHID would like to thank the following industry partners for supporting the Orange County Candidate Forum:

- Lonseal
- Krug
- Stinson
- SitOnIt Seating

CHIDs promote certification at MD Anderson Cancer Center – Houston, TX

CHIDs Louise Nicholson Carter; Skyline Art, Amy Lopez; McCoy Rockford Inc., and Gail Sterling; EYP Health, in coordination with Lucy Dye, Manager, Facilities Planning, Design and Construction at MD Anderson, lead a one-hour informative session on the CHID certification application and exam process. Held in November, attendees included registered interior designers and registered architects, all seasoned professionals who oversee responsibilities for MD Anderson’s “flagship” campus and outlying facilities. The group was enthusiastic and inquisitive. AAHID is appreciative of opportunities such as this to highlight the value of becoming CHID certified. Thank you to Lucy for introducing her team to the credential and Louise, Amy and Gail for facilitating this event.

Kristin Ellingsen, AAHID Secretary/Treasurer, leads a Candidate Forum in the OFG Orange County Showroom.
Industry Events – Networking and sharing expertise

The healthcare design industry provides several forums throughout the year for AAHID to expand its reach, gain visibility, promote the CHID certification, and support our industry partners. In 2019 AAHID made its presence known. CHIDs were involved in on-site exam workshops, educational sessions, and networking events. Here are some of the highlights:

**Design Connections FL – February**

This event always provides a great venue for networking. CHIDs had the opportunity to promote the certification program, support our industry partners, and provide valued insight on exciting new healthcare products.

**Environments for Aging (EFA), UT – April**

The largest conference for senior living provided a platform to promote CHID certification. Libby Laguta and Nancy Bounds presented an educational session on Senior Living Environments – Healthcare or Hospitality? The session was so well received that this dynamic duo looks forward to presenting again at EFA.

**NeoCon, Chicago, IL – June**

Many CHIDs and AAHID Board members were present at the largest and most diverse, annual commercial design conference. Twenty-six AAHID industry partners have showrooms or exhibits during NeoCon. In June, Kwalu debuted their new permanent showroom at the Merchandise Mart. Industry partner Krug hosted CHIDs to a showroom event, where they had the opportunity to provide valuable product insight and feedback. Several CHIDs had the distinction of serving as judges at this year’s event. Members of the panel included: Libby Laguta, L2D.design; Laura Ethridge Morris, Array Architects; Lilliana Alvarado, UpHealing; Kathleen Benoit, Architects Alaska Inc.; Karen Muraoka, KM Design; Linnea Rehnke, Advocate Aurora Health; and Janet Kobylka.

**Leading Age, San Diego, CA – October**

CHIDs were present to support our Industry Partners and gain recognition with other committed professionals who share the aging services space.
Healthcare Design Expo & Conference (HCD), New Orleans, LA – November

What better place to celebrate AAHID’s 15th anniversary than in New Orleans at the HCD Expo and Conference? The AAHID Annual Meeting and Reception provided the perfect backdrop for celebrating the Academy’s accomplishments and recognizing our partners who have been instrumental in supporting our mission. AAHID hosted and participated in an educational session featuring a distinguished panel of experts who shared new information about material selection from ongoing durability tests of heavy-duty commercial healthcare-rated fabrics in both laboratory and real-world environments. For the first time ever, CHID candidates had the opportunity to sit for the exam on-site at HCD. AAHID also had a presence in the exhibit hall creating an opportunity for CHIDs to share their stories about certification with visitors and engage attendees to participate in our Passport Program increasing traffic to our industry partners’ booths.

This year’s Nightingale Awards were determined by a distinguished panel of judges featuring several CHIDs including Libby Laguta, Carol Doering, Teri Lura Bennett, Janet Kobylka, and Karen Muraoka.

Several Founders were present for AAHID’s 15-year anniversary celebration. Front row: Lynette Tedder, Karen Muraoka, Andrea Hyde, Barbara Dellinger, Jane Rhode, and Aimee Platt. Back row: Linda Gabel, Jocelyn Stroupe and Janet Kobylka.
Healthcare Design 2019

Highlights from AAHID’s 15 Year Anniversary Celebration
Thank you to everyone who helped make the AAHID HCD 2019 experience a great success. We are excited to continue the celebration.

A special acknowledgement to the following industry partners, organizations and CHIDs for their support.

**Booth Furnishing Sponsors**
- Mohawk, Kwalu, deko markerboards

**Annual Meeting & Reception Sponsors**
- Presidential level: Lonseal, Mohawk, Tarkett
- Executive level: Kwalua, Mecho
- Associate level: Allseating, Ecore, Stance Healthcare

**Passport Program Winner**
- Ghina Itani, winner of a complimentary registration to the 2020 HCD Expo and Conference

**Booth Volunteers**
- Linda Gabel, Lynette Tedder, Helen Lanes, Stephanie Fallon, Jennifer Mitchell

**Event Photos and Videos**
- Ghina Itani

**Emerald Expositions & Healthcare Design**
As interior designers in this field, we often have to be able to defend what we do and our knowledge level. I believe CHID is a catalyst which offers clients and colleagues that level of understanding.

Leann Pederson
CHID, IIDA, LEED AP ID + C
RDG Planning & Design
# Our Industry Partners and What They Do

The American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers is proud to partner with industry leaders who share a commitment to transforming the healthcare environment through interior design.

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“The CHID credential helps distinguish the professional designer as an individual with relevant expertise in designing for healthcare environments.”

Mary Turgeon
CHID, IIDA, LEED AP ID + C
Principal
Gawron Turgeon Architects, P.C.
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