

April 2020

## A message from the President



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.

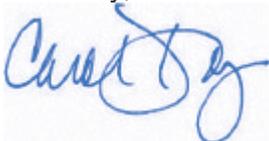
In November, we all came together in New Orleans at the Healthcare Design Conference and Expo to network with our colleagues, learn about the latest industry trends, and celebrate AAHID's accomplishments and vision for the future. AAHID is anxious to keep the momentum for many years to come.

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