aahid

American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers

CHIDS AT EVERY PHASE:

Enhancing Healthcare Environments Through Design Expertise



Project Phase	When CHIDs Get Involved	How CHIDs Contribute	Why CHID Expertise Matters	Cross-Collaboration
Pre-Design	At project inception; during strategic planning and programming	 Conduct user group interviews Analyze workflow and space needs Research evidence-based design (EBD) solutions Help align goals with patient/staff needs 	CHIDs bring insight into how interior environments affect outcomes—critical for planning efficient, healing spaces from the start	Collaborate with architects, planners, engineering partners, clinicians, and facility managers to identify needs, priorities, and regulatory drivers
Design & Implementation	During schematic and design development through construction documentation	 Develop functional, code- compliant layouts Select materials and finishes for health, safety, and infection control Design for wayfinding, accessibility, and comfort Oversee interior documentation and coordinate with A/E team 	CHIDs ensure the space supports safety, comfort, and efficiency while reflecting the facility's identity	Work closely with architects, engineers, infection prevention, procurement teams, and contractors to maintain design intent and address technical challenges
Post-Design	During move-in, occupancy evaluation, and beyond	 Support post-occupancy evaluations (POE) Track how design decisions impact satisfaction, safety, and operations Recommend adjustments and enhancements 	CHIDs help measure success of design strategies and support continuous improvement	Collaborate with researchers, architects, facilities, EVS, and health system C-Suite