

Current Projects

For more information,
please visit

www.patientcentereddesign.org

Research Fund

The Institute is currently raising funds for a research project on the subject of lactation space design. Full or partial sponsors of research projects will be acknowledged in the Institute's published research report.

Patient Toolkits

As a courtesy to patients who participate in research studies and surveys, we offer complimentary tools. Kits may include promotional items, such as pens, notebooks or journals for recording patient history/experience, bags for packing personal items for a hospital stay, water bottles, etc. If your organization is interested in providing helpful items that may be offered to patients, or a monetary donation to purchase such items, please visit

<http://www.patientcentereddesign.org/sponsorship.html>



Patient-Centered Design Online™

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Design with Compassion

Written by T. S. Thompson, AIA

"Give thanks for the healthy kids in your life, and give to those who are not" is the slogan of the [Thanks and Giving® Campaign](#) by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The first time that I heard these words, I was not watching the TV, but listening to it as I worked on a task that required my eyes. I do not know if images were shown on the screen of children suffering from illness and being treated at the hospital. For me, the phrase explained it all. I *am* thankful for the healthy kids in my life; and I realize that the healthy kids in my life are no different, no better, and no less deserving of illness than the children who battle chronic diseases every day. So, I gave because I do have compassion for other families whose lives have been turned upside down by the illness of a child. Of course I recognize that many caring individuals may not be in a position to make a donation; while others may choose to help those in need in other ways. I do believe that this slogan was effective because it appeals to the average parent who does not need to go through the experience to understand that it must be difficult and to want to help.

It confuses me that there are still professionals in the health facility design field who express no interest in the patient's point of view. Are they intimidated by the idea of learning something new from a patient? Are they more preoccupied with a pre-determined design theme? Do they honestly believe that we as designers have all of the answers by simply conferring with one another? Why, even the most brilliant physicians must have a caring bedside manner in order to be most effective. What makes us any different?

As a health facility planner, architect and patient, I do strongly support academic research, practice-based research and good design; but, I also believe that all of these methods of informing

design can and should begin with a word from the patient. Based on comments from our readers, I am not alone. [Angela](#), an architect, states,

*I discovered your newsletter a couple of months ago and appreciate the great resource you have put in place. While I am an architect who specializes in healthcare design, I am also someone who has experience as both a patient and family member dealing with extreme and prolonged illness....**

[Anne-Marie](#), a corporate designer with 30 years of experience, writes

*Experience with family, friends and personally have enlightened me to view our built environments from the eyes of a person with an ability challenge. Most professional designs are based on legal standards but still do not meet the basic needs of the person who will use them....**

I know that I might be "preaching to the choir." After all, you probably read this newsletter to learn about patients' concerns. If you have experience as a patient or family member that influences your views of the built healthcare environment, why not share your perspective with another designer in your office? If you have not had a personal healthcare experience, but you recognize the importance of addressing the patient's needs through facility design, please spread the word. We can all give thanks that we are not currently confined to a hospital bed by taking action to consider someone who is.

*We encourage you to read the entire statements submitted by our readers, which are profound and thought-provoking. You may find them at www.patientcentereddesign.org/readersvoices.

Collaboration Program

Become a collaborator member of the Institute for Patient-Centered Design!

Patient Collaborator (No Cost)

Available to Patients and Patient Advocates

- Subscription to *Patient-Centered Design Online*TM
- Access to patient resources
- Invitation to participate in user surveys, test groups, and provide feedback.
- Free patient-readiness kit (while supplies last)

Academic Collaborator (\$50)

Available to students and faculty of academic institutions

- Subscription to *Patient-Centered Design Online*TM
- Name listed on our website
- Discount on publications
- Discount on educational materials for designers
- Email updates on grant opportunities
- Eligible for Partnership Collaboration

Individual Collaborator (\$100)

Available to any individuals interested in Patient-Centered Design

- Subscription to *Patient-Centered Design Online*TM
- Name listed on our website
- Discount on publications

Professional Collaborator (\$150)

Available for healthcare professionals, architects and interior designers

- Subscription to *Patient-Centered Design Online*TM
- Name and company name listed on our website
- Discount on publications
- Discount on educational materials for designers

Institute for Patient-Centered Design is proud to offer a unique continuing education series devoted to the needs of specific patient populations.

Understanding the Patient in Patient-Centered DesignTM

Lesson I

Designing for Patient Empowerment: A look at the inpatient room from the patient's perspective



[Free Preview!](#)

Registration: \$35.00
\$25.00 for Members*

(Earn 2 AIA/CES HSW learning units for the price of one!)

Lesson II

The Challenges of Extended Postpartum Recovery for NICU Mothers : A proposed architectural solution



[Free Download!](#)

Quiz fee: \$15.00
\$5.00 for Members*

(Earn 1 AIA/CES HSW learning unit.)

Lesson III

Antepartum Spaces: Design considerations to address the unique needs of expectant mothers



[Free Preview!](#)

Registration: \$35.00
\$25.00 for Members*

(Earn 1 AIA/CES HSW learning unit.)

*Professional Collaborator Members receive a discount on all educational materials.

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Available to Companies and Organizations

-Subscription to *Patient-Centered Design Online™*

-Company name and profile listed on our website (includes a link to the company's website)

-Discount on publications

-Group discount on educational materials for designers

To learn more, please visit

www.patientcenterreddesign.org/joinus

Understanding the *Patient* in Patient-Centered Design™ Continuing Education Series

"Patient-Centered Design" is a principle that should be in the forefront of any health facility project. Often, designers find themselves working with limited information about patients. This series offers new lessons regularly that explain the commonly overlooked details of seeking medical treatment and how these factors may be influenced by the built environment. Written *by* designers and *for* designers, the lessons include valuable input from interviews with patients and clinicians. For more information on the series, please visit http://www.patientcenterreddesign.org/education_series/all_courses.html

Please feel free to contact the editor with your questions, comments, or concerns at editor@patientcenterreddesign.org

Calendar of Events

February 28 – March 2, 2011

Health Facilities Design & Development

San Diego, California

<http://www.healthfacilitiesdesign.com>

March 13-16, 2011

2011 International Summit & Exhibition on Health Facility Planning, Design & Construction™ (PCD)

Tampa, Florida

<http://www.ashe.org/PDC/>

March 20-22, 2011

Environments for Aging.11

Atlanta, Georgia

www.EFA11.com

April 19, 2011

Continuing Education/Networking Event of

AIA AAH of GA

Atlanta, Georgia

<http://www.aiaatlanta.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=91>

May 2-5, 2011

Hospitals and Communities Moving Forward with Patient- and Family- Centered Care Intensive Training Seminar

St. Louis, Missouri

<http://www.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=d86c377f-0809-40bb-ae17-7f0cad08141e>

As a courtesy to site users, we have listed information about upcoming events and links to related websites for more details. This does not constitute a relationship between Institute for Patient-Centered Design and any of the websites, events or organizations listed. Nor does this represent an endorsement or guarantee of any kind. While we strive to keep such information updated, we make no legal or otherwise binding commitment to do so. We do not guarantee any of the information on the websites listed. Nor do we guarantee the events themselves.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Institute for Patient-Centered Design, Inc. We respect the rights of patients, family members and professionals to express their opinions and welcome comments on the topics published in this newsletter. We reserve the right to publish comments and letters at our discretion.

Each month, we feature a letter from a patient or family member addressing a specific need or inquiry identified during a medical visit or stay. Readers are encouraged to write letters to communicate their concerns to the designers and operators of healthcare facilities. To submit a letter, please visit

www.patientcenterreddesign.org/perspectives.



Dear Institute for Patient-Centered Design, I was an IFMA Professional Member, a board member of ASID for 10 years and Associate AIA for 25+ years. During the late nineties, I worked to adapt environments for a parent who progressed from hemiplegic to quadriplegic. However in January of 2003 I arrived at work one day and within 45 minutes was unable to see, within 48 hours I was admitted to a brain injury center with a lesion . . . rendered blind and used a walker, then progressed to a cane. While I have recovered, I gained a whole new understanding and "vision" for the needs of the patient and those with ability changes. The laws and understanding given in school do not begin to give a similar perspective – we need to share knowledge between our peers. I am happy to know this group exists.

~Anonymous

Dear Patient,

We are honored that you have shared your story with us. It is most relevant to the theme of this month's newsletter, "Design with Compassion," as well as a reminder that designers never know when they will be on the receiving end of patient-centered design. Your story echoes the reason that the Institute was founded: To give patients a voice in the health facility design arena. For those designers with a personal healthcare experience, we invite you to [share your story](#) to enlighten others on the importance of considering the patient's experience in design. To those without a personal story, we encourage you to review our very [first newsletter](#), which includes ideas for learning about patients through volunteer work.