



HMC News Release

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HMC Architects Certified as a Planetree Visionary Design Firm

LOS ANGELES, Calif., November 2009—Planetree has inducted HMC Architects as a founding member of their Visionary Design Network; an honor bestowed to only five firms in the nation. The certification announcement took place in October at their annual conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Planetree promotes patient-centered care environments and formally recognized HMC Architects for their design excellence in healing environments, evidence-based design practice, and promotion of sustainability in healthcare environments.

“This certification recognizes our design culture, commitment, and thought leadership in regard to healing environments, patient-centered care, evidenced-based design, and sustainability,” offers Jerry Eich, AIA, ACHA, healthcare practice leader and principal for HMC Architects.

The certification process started more than eight months ago. HMC Architects originally submitted an application package to Planetree, and was later selected to move forward following a Planetree review of an internal self-assessment. The certification process culminated in July with a two-day site visit to HMC and to a client, Loma Linda University Medical Center.

During the interview, Planetree representatives remarked that, “no matter who we interacted with at HMC Architects, everyone gave us the impression that they were part of a greater practice and were committed to good design. We don’t see that with all the firms we interact with.”

HMC Architects is delighted with Planetree’s final decision and thrilled to receive this certification; it validates their dedication to the evidence-based healthcare design considerations they have consistently prioritized over the years, such as effective wayfinding, access to nature for patients and staff, patient safety, staff involvement and satisfaction, and patient privacy. These are concepts that consider the patient experience and improve the overall efficiency and healing potential of a medical facility.

HMC Architects is also particularly excited about this achievement because it serves as a great opportunity to learn from and share ideas with four respected and like-minded member firms. HMC is one of five founding members of the Design Network and the only firm in the Western Region of the United States. Other firms inducted in the network include Albert Kahn Associates, Earl Swensson Associates, Huelat Parimucha, and Kahler Slater.

HMC Architects > Design can change the world.

With an established reputation as an award-winning design firm and thought leader for healthcare, education, and government facilities, HMC Architects is one of the most prominent California-based planning and design firms engaged in projects around the world. To learn more about HMC Architects or to arrange interviews with the firm's leadership, please contact Janice Endsley at (800) 350-9979, or janice.endsley@hmcarchitects.com. Visit HMC's website at www.hmcarchitects.com and follow them on Twitter at www.twitter.com/HMCArchitects.