Healthy and Health-Promoting: The Hospital in the 21st Century

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Health By Design Symposium
Charleston SC
September 24th, 2003
The Healthy Community Model

Convivial Community

Human Health

Livable Environment

Viable Environment

Equitable Sustainability

Adequate Prosperity
Over-arching principles

• Sustainability  • Conviviality
• Livability       • Viability
• Equity          • Prosperity
Principle #1: Sustainability

• We are part of the biosphere, human health depends upon ecosystem health
• Design must protect and enhance ecosystem health
Principle #2: Livability

- We are 80% urbanised and spend 90% of our time indoors, so the built environment is our 'natural' environment.
- Design must create livable and safe environments for people.
Principle #3: Equity

• The poor live downwind, downstream and downhill, live in the worst homes and neighbourhoods, have the worst working conditions

• Design must address and reduce, and certainly not exacerbate these conditions
Principle #4: Conviviality

- Humans are social animals, our health is linked to our social networks
- Design must encourage and support social interaction, and not foster social isolation or segregation
Principle #5: Viability

- We are what we eat, drink and breathe
- Design must not contribute to the burden of toxicity to which people are exposed
Principle #6: Adequate prosperity

• Both people and communities need enough wealth to acquire the basic needs for health
• Design should not impose unwanted additional costs on people or communities
Healthy

Create
• healing environments for patients
• a healthy workplace for staff

Health-promoting

Contribute to
• a healthy community
• a healthy local and global ecosystem
Principle: Primum non Nocere

At a minimum, do no harm to
- patients
- staff
- the community
- the ecosystem,
and preferably, improve the health of them all
Hospital Role in Creating a Healthy Community

Contribute to building all four forms of community capital:

• Natural
• Social
• Human
• Economic
The four forms of community capital

- Social capital
- Natural capital
- Human capital
- Economic capital
Build natural capital

• Energy efficient design
  - walk/bike/transit friendly
• Resource conservation
• Pollution reduction
• Creation of greenspace/habitat
Build Social Capital

• Provide space for community involvement
• Provide space for mutual aid and self-care
Build human capital

- Use non-toxic materials
- Create a peaceful environment
- Create a safe and healthy workplace
- Incorporate art
  - engage local artists
- Provide nature or views of nature
- Use local workers/companies
Build economic capital

• Be economical!
  - eco-efficient
• Use local workers/companies
• Reduce the cost of getting there
Thank you!

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