

First Place Design Goals & Features

	Icon	Design Goal	Description	First Place Features
1		Ensure Safety & Security	Ensuring a safe living environment is the top priority. Issues range from providing appropriate security systems to selecting nontoxic products and materials.	Single point of entry with 24-hour concierge (reference from private market sector used throughout); electronic keycard system for strategic door-lock access and monitoring; nontoxic, low-VOC materials used throughout.
2		Maximize Familiarity, Stability & Clarity	Changes and transitions can be problematic for adults with ASDs, so creating continuity and connection with the past is important. Design strategies include logical, spatial layout and use of familiar materials.	Expressed thresholds and transition spaces at unit entries and community spaces; materials strategically repeated throughout to increase familiarity.
3		Minimize Sensory Overload	Simplify the sensory environment by designing spaces to be quiet, visually calm and well-ventilated with appropriate lighting.	Refined material palette and subtle wayfinding colors provide clear understanding of spaces. Acoustic baffles, diffuse LED lighting and ample natural lighting provide even, comfortable illumination. Operable windows with window limiters provide safe, controlled access to fresh air and ventilation.
4		Allow Opportunities for Controlling Social Interaction & Privacy	To accommodate personal preferences, the design of any home should provide residents with a variety of social opportunities, including within a singular space.	Community spaces designed to support groups of all sizes—from a small gathering of two in a breakout space to a large party in the community room. All designed with flexibility and opportunities for chance interactions.
5		Provide Choice & Independence	The physical environment should be designed so that options are available—but few and flexible so that it can be adapted to change based on residents' needs over time.	Units and community spaces are designed with flexibility in mind, allowing for multiple furniture arrangements and various-sized gatherings. Special features include an electronic game room, LEGO lounge, fitness and zen rooms, culinary teaching kitchen, sports pool and more.

	Icon	Design Goal	Description	First Place Features
6		Foster Health & Wellness	To address any ongoing health vulnerabilities, the physical design should promote healthy living through the use of nontoxic materials, the availability of natural light and good ventilation, and the incorporation of universal design strategies.	Nontoxic and low-VOC materials used throughout. Secure, operable windows provided in each unit for ventilation. Large windows provide natural light. Amenities include a fitness room, swimming pool, health and wellness center and culinary teaching kitchen promoting healthy cooking tips.
7		Enhance One's Dignity	Everything from selecting a neighborhood that accepts diversity and supports its residents to designing a home that allows residents to personalize their spaces and define their living arrangements serves to enhance one's dignity.	First Place—Phoenix location selected for its supportive, surrounding community and resident opportunities community connection. Design makes architectural statement, adding to community beauty and character. Flexible unit plans allow for a variety of furnishings for residents to define their personal space.
8		Ensure Durability	Investing in high-quality materials, fixtures and appliances at the outset will result in lower maintenance/ replacement costs and will optimize resident safety.	Durable materials such as quartz countertops, fiberglass doors and recessed light fixtures provide functionality and longevity. Floor drains and extra waterproofing installed in each unit bathroom.
9		Achieve Affordability	Designing for longevity and incorporating green building practices can lower costs over the lifetime of the home.	Durable fixtures, finishes and systems maximize longevity while minimizing operation costs over time. The First Place Global Leadership Institute also opens doors to other residential options through training/education of support service providers and works with affordable housing developers.
10		Ensure Accessibility to & Support of the Surrounding Neighborhood	Site selection is critical to the overall success of any residential development. Access to transportation, community services, entertainment and shopping—coupled with a supportive neighborhood community—will create optimum results for residents.	Urban site provides access to many community amenities, including public transportation, lifelong education, health, employment and recreational opportunities.