



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AIA MICHIGAN HEALTH FACILITIES SEMINAR: THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND

February 4, 2014 - Detroit, Michigan- The Health Facilities Planning Seminar provides architects, engineers, healthcare executives and other interested professionals with the latest available information to assist them in planning, designing, constructing and maintaining health facilities. AIA Michigan collaborates with the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) to ensure the presentation of the most up-to-date information that complies with state healthcare and facility regulations.

The Health Facilities Planning Seminar has alternated between Grand Rapids and the Traverse City area during its 47 years of continuous existence and this year it returns to the northern venue at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme, Michigan.

The seminar attracts a wide range of professionals concerned with the implications of evolving healthcare technology upon the facilities they plan, design, construct, administer or maintain. Each year, attendees include built environment specialists such as architects, consulting engineers and construction managers as well as health care professionals including: chief executive officers, chief operating officers, administrators, department heads, facility managers, hospital engineers, planners, project managers, risk management professionals and compliance officers are also in regular attendance.

The seminar also provides 11.5 hours of AIA/CES (Continuing Education System) for AIA members, with 5 of those hours relating to Health/Safety/Welfare. The AIA has long required continuing education for members to ensure they are up-to-date in their practice, but in November of 2013, the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) announced that continuing education would be mandatory for all licensed architects practicing in the state. As a result, this conference serves as a platform for the exploration of innovation and will enable AIA member and non-members to stay ahead of their completion while simultaneously complying with state regulations.

“The annual Health Facilities Planning Seminar was founded to promote the continuous improvement of Health facilities in the State of Michigan through education and discussion, and by exposing attendees to new ideas and trends,” says Robert Sharrow, AIA, of Albert Kahn Associates, Inc., one of the leading members of the seminar planning committee. “The Annual Seminar meetings are attended each year by 300 to 400 representatives from Michigan’s hospitals, architects and designers, and State of Michigan regulatory staff from LARA and the Fire Marshal. Each year, speakers are selected to inspire and educate attendees on a variety of subjects relating to the design, licensing and operations of Michigan hospitals. The annual conference is the only one of its kind in the United States, and over the years it has encouraged

a collaborative spirit among the people who design, license and operate health facilities in the State of Michigan.”

A hot topic in the state, “Place Making,” will be addressed as a planning focus for the health care environment. The session will define the parameters and goals of a therapeutic place, visually define successful existing models, and present how to use current innovations to design a therapeutic place that functions as an instrument for healing. In another session related to healthy public environments, the AIA publication “Healthy Communities through Design” will be explored to illustrate how a focus on public health can be designed into the built environment. This session will also include case studies of green health promotion and active design and attendees will learn how to apply new LEED pilot credits.

One of the sessions focused on operations will offer an overview of the journey from “Dietary to Culinary Wellness”. This presentation will explain the past, present, and future states of integrating clinical and culinary operations with a focus on efficient operations. An additional session is dedicated to the discussion of improving staff efficiency and improving patient and staff satisfaction while creating a safe environment for patients and staff alike.

Other sessions on the seminar schedule have a facility design theme with both a current and future focus. “The Transformation of American Healthcare: Strategies to Thrive in the Next Five Years,” will divulge the driving forces of healthcare and new, key trends will be explained, as well as a five-year forecast for the industry. In the “Demystifying LEED Platinum Healthcare” session, case study of Dell Children’s Medical Center will be examined to for notable LEED features and real energy performance post occupancy. This session will also discuss how to establish realistic benchmarking goals for other facilities and explore other sustainability paths outside of the LEED requirements.

An issue that continuously garners state and national attention is the aging of Baby Boomers. One seminar session will explain how many older people will be aging in place, using technology, but others will seek out housing options that better fit their interests/needs. Leading Edge and Trailing Edge boomers with different preferences have emerged but despite differences, the 85 and older group is the fastest growing age group in our country and the biggest challenge to effectively create a comprehensive design and care plan. Aging as a world-wide issue will also be discussed as the challenges we face in the United States are also being addressed in countries across the globe.

Another global issue that will be addressed is the idea of “Healthcare Megaprojects.” A presentation will explain what a Healthcare Megaproject is and where are they being built. The economic and social conditions that support Megaprojects will be detailed as well as the challenges for US firms designing Megaprojects.

Personal health will also be featured with a presentation on genetics, the latest research on sleep and diet, and research on infection prevention and immunizations.

The annual State Regulatory Update serves as the capstone for the seminar and will include important updates from the Bureau of Health Care Services/HFES, the Bureau of Construction Codes and Bureau of Fire Services to ensure that healthcare professionals and designers are aware of the newest state regulations to assure compliance.

Information about the conference and registration instructions can be found on the AIA Michigan website: www.aiami.com.

The American Institute of Architects Michigan, headquartered in the historic Beaubien House across from the Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit, is dedicated to bringing public attention the value and importance of architectural excellence and to recognize those whose notable achievements encourage all to make excellence in architecture the standard.

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