

Urban - Upholstered Seat & Plastic Back PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Featuring:

 Behavioral Health - Mental Health Hospital

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DESIGN

NEW BUILD FACILITY FOCUSED ON WELLBEING



A mental health facility built two new state-of-the-art buildings on their Toronto, Ontario campus. The buildings opened in late 2020 and were created to provide a healthier, holistic patient experience by integrating the design of the new campus with the surrounding neighborhood. Located on historic Queen Street West, the campus has a long history as a mental health institution. Originally built as an asylum in 1850, with various iterations and ownerships in between, the new portion consists of two buildings constructed with wellbeing and recovery in mind. Consisting of an inpatient facility and a critical care and emergency assessment unit, both buildings have plenty of natural light and green spaces that include indoor and outdoor patient areas and other patient-focused services.



Spec products from behavioral health to public seating and tables are integrated into the new design, creating soothing patient spaces and a mental health resource library that's open to the public and filled with books and resources for the community.

When entering the building, visitors are welcomed into an open foyer with Dignity2 and Drum tables before reaching a nurse's station. Dignity's heavy-duty build is placed throughout the facility in supervised or semi-supervised areas bringing continuity to the space. Dignity2 offers comfort while the design of the chair ensures durability. All seating throughout the patient areas consists of single seats, which give patients the ability to maintain personal space when interacting with others. Safety for both patients and caregivers directed the decision for the soft-seating solutions through the facility. Features such as tamper-proof hardware, the option to add weight, and durable arm caps all factored into the product selection for the project. The Drum HD table was topped with a Corian® surface for added durability and cleanability with its scratch and stain-resistant properties.

The patient lounge, day rooms, or shared areas contain a mix of products including, Snowball 2 HD, Dignity2, Midway HD, and heavy-duty tables. Snowball 2 HD chairs offer a lighter look, but the H base design and weighted steel ensure a heavy-duty build designed to prevent the chair from being used as a weapon. Specified in both standard and bariatric widths, Snowball 2 HD provides a comfortable seat for all by preventing patients from feeling alienated when trying to find a seat. Using a mix of products puts the choice in the patient's hands and is designed to work with their comfort levels. Seating is not ganged, but it is weighted to 95 lbs, which prevents patients from moving furniture and posing a safety risk.



Creating a comfortable atmosphere for patients mattered and influenced the choice of product for each space. Midway HD, found in common areas throughout the buildings, offers a soothing motion with its unique flex back. Midway HD is weighted and features a sled base design and a lighter look for healthcare spaces.

With no detail left unturned, the cafeteria spaces give patients and caregivers both campus and nature views and plenty of natural light to promote wellbeing. Snowball 2 HD and Disc base



HD tables are both weighted and designed to prevent patients from removing or picking up the furniture. The tabletops have a 2MM bio edge that's pick-proof and either in a round or square shape with radiused edges to prevent potential hazards with sharp edges.

Snowball 2 HD can be found in the consulting rooms as well. The caregiver and patient chairs have the same design to promote a sense of equality when treatment takes place. Patients and caregivers are seated at the same level to encourage a healthier treatment experience.

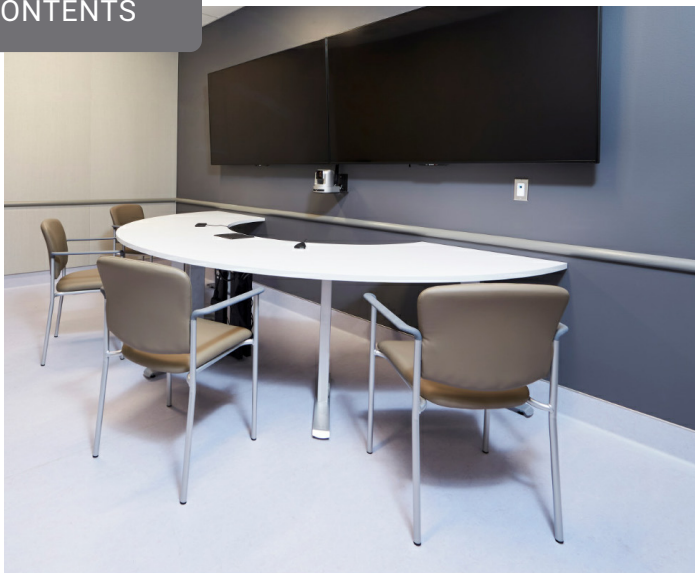




Rooms in the facility with the most privacy and least supervision include patient rooms and therapy rooms. Select roto-molded Hardi products are outfitted in these spaces due to their durable build and rounded edges with few pickup points. Hardi dining without arms is specified throughout the patient rooms, and Hardi Rocker in therapy rooms. Both products can be weighted with sand onsite if needed, and Hardi Dining can be fastened to the floor. Therapy rooms benefit from the soothing rocking motion of Hardi Rocker, which can aid in calming the patient. Constructed of polyethylene materials, Hardi is also used in a patient bathing suite. The durable nature of the roto-mold material also provides an impervious surface.

A unique space in the facility includes a community library that is open to the public and full of mental health resources. The room is fully supervised, meaning that it can have non-heavy-duty products included in the design. With its friendly-looking picnic inspired base, Annex table is used in a light-filled area of the library, and Snowball 2 chairs with a 4-point base surround the table. Manhattan tables and Urban seating can be found in the library, along with Dignity2 and Drum HD tables. Design continuity throughout the space is evident with the mix of HD and standard products using the same design.





Rehabilitation is a key aspect of treatment for specific psychiatric disorders, and the new facility includes a commercial-grade teaching kitchen for patients. Because the kitchen is a fully supervised space standard (non-heavy-duty), product was selected. Annex table is specified at 166" long with a 3 base design, creating ample personal space for patients when seated on the Snowball 2 chairs.

Another area that supports patient rehabilitation and life skills includes a light-filled art studio using standard Spec products. Manhattan

As telepsychiatry has become a widely accepted form of therapy during the ongoing pandemic and access to care a necessity, incorporating these spaces into the building became essential. The facility includes three telepsychiatry dedicated spaces. Power modules and technology had to be included in the design of the tables for easy connectivity. The table configurations included a custom tabletop shape that allows full visibility when conducting therapy sessions.

