

PART THREE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PATIENT WELFARE

During the COVID era we all learned the critical need for managing indoor air quality, air transfers, and in-house healthcare for senior facilities. Facility designers and engineers are taking those learnings to create equipment maintenance and upgrade protocols that can be escalated in case of emergency situations. Increased air filtration, higher outside air quantities, Bi-Polar Ionization systems, all help to improve the air quality in the spaces, in addition to proper and frequent cleaning of common spaces. These are some of the design considerations required for senior living facilities. Specific requirements for isolation rooms and patient rooms need to be followed for all of the MEP and technology systems and designs. Bala has been a leader in COVID HVAC mitigation designs and we can help your facility improve spaces via using the latest HVAC solutions.



Many senior communities are also introducing sophisticated cognitive care facilities which require patient wander care technologies, and detailed patient interaction tracking while avoiding the feeling of being in a locked down environment. This is a delicate balance to achieve. Open, yet secure, spaces where there is freedom to participate in activities, such as music therapy and gardening, that make residents feel stimulated have been very effective but also require the use of less invasive monitoring technologies. This is all on the cutting edge of life care technologies and requires engineering foresight to accommodate future use cases.

ONE STOP FOR ALL ENGINEERING

Over this series we have explored exciting innovations that are reshaping senior community living to better reflect the dynamic and challenging requirements of baby boomers. Within just five years, the senior popu-

lation is projected to grow more than 30% and in many regions of the U.S., there are vast gaps in housing accommodations that will need to be addressed, when they get there. This is an opportunity for innovation and defined market expansion that is rare. It is important for architects and facilities owners to work with engineering partners who fully grasp the complexities of new life care facility development and the requirements of effectively upgrading/expanding existing properties. Their ability to navigate the breadth of services, preferably within one firm, can bring efficiencies and repeatable strategies that can be incorporated across senior care facilities nationwide. Being able to provide not only MEP/FP designs services but also technology (IT, AV and security), structural engineering, commissioning and sustainability services is an advantage that Bala provides.

Want to know more now?
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