

Trauma-Informed Architecture and Design Vendor Resource List

This resource guide includes architecture and design firms interested in working on trauma-informed projects that improve facilities for people who have experienced or are currently experiencing homelessness.

Note: Inclusion on this list does not guarantee availability, imply agreement for any specific projects, or imply or require pro bono or reduced rates from firms. This list is a guide intended to identify vendors. Organizations and individuals should fully research and vet all vendors before hiring them for your projects. United Way of Greater LA does not endorse or require use of any of the listed vendors for grant-funded projects.

Firms interested in being included in this list can reach out to homeforgood@unitedwayla.org.

David Baker Architects

Contact: Anne Riggs - Associate / Inclusive Design Lead

Website: dbarchitect.com

[Examples of DBA Work](#)

Description: David Baker Architects (DBA) is a nationally recognized, locally oriented architecture and urban design firm with a focus on sustainable, mixed-use communities that support stability and connection. At the nexus of housing, climate, and community, DBA's work seizes opportunities to enact meaningful change—forging strong partnerships to create livable density and resilient, human-centered places that uplift communities at all scales.

Based in the San Francisco Bay Area and Birmingham, Alabama, DBA's diverse, collaborative team is committed to designing and leading with expertise, curiosity, tenacity, pragmatism, and joy. We design thoughtful places that allow communities to thrive and that serve as a "multiplier of good"—that is, that enable and support engagement, connection, and other neighborhood benefits.

DBA is a Certified B Corp, a JUST 2.0 Label organization, and a seven-year signatory of the AIA 2030 Commitment, with strong values in advancing social equity and sustainability in architecture. We are also a California Benefit Corporation.

Our dedicated interiors studio, DBA Inside, focuses on the shaping of interior spaces—from integrated architectural interiors to freestanding projects—addressing health, functionality, and flow with refined layouts and curated, welcoming environments. DBA-Inside has extensive experience creating people-centered designs for affordable and supportive housing projects, service offices, community spaces, etc., including new construction, tenant improvement, and renovations.

Our R&D/pro-bono studio, DBA_Lab, partners with diverse clients and local non-profits in the creation of small-scale works that support communities, engage urban space, and spark imagination. These initiatives—including pro bono services, research, and prototyping—allow us to test new ideas and connect with people.

DBA-Lab community activations:

- [dbarchitect.com/GatherGarden](https://www.dbarchitect.com/GatherGarden)
- [dbarchitect.com/SparcItPlace](https://www.dbarchitect.com/SparcItPlace)

Learn more about our design approach in our new book, 9 Ways to Make Housing for People
- <https://www.dbarchitect.com/ideas/9-ways>.

Key elements that DBA incorporates in many of our projects are welcoming, dignified, comforting spaces utilizing thoughtful material and color choices, biophilic design elements, relationships to outdoor spaces, tactile textures and non-rectilinear geometric elements, and opportunities for individual and cultural identity and expression. Here are some links to some example projects on our website, PDFs also attached:

- Dr. George W. Davis Senior: [dbarchitect.com/DrGeorgeDavis](https://www.dbarchitect.com/DrGeorgeDavis)
- Lakeside Senior Interiors: [dbarchitect.com/LakesideSeniorInteriors](https://www.dbarchitect.com/LakesideSeniorInteriors)
- Tahanan Supportive Housing: [dbarchitect.com/Tahanan](https://www.dbarchitect.com/Tahanan)

We are also currently collaborating with Shopwork Architecture on a "Senior Housing Playbook" - design guidelines for senior and disability-focused housing for the D.C. Housing Authority, which features trauma-informed design principles. The Playbook is almost complete and will be available soon through the D.C. Housing Authority. A draft example introduction page is attached.

Gensler

Contact: Hetal Shah

Contact Email: hetal_shah@gensler.com

Website: www.Gensler.com

[Gensler Qualifications Package](#)

GGA+

Contact: Ali Barar, Greg Kochanowski, Matt Morseth, Staci Nesbitt

Contact Email: abarar@ggarch.com; gkochanowski@ggarch.com; mmorseth@ggarch.com; snesbitt@ggarch.com

Phone: (626) 568-1428

Location: 135 West Green St. #200, Pasadena, CA 91105

Website: GGARCH.COM

Description: Through our 40 years of designing for public enrichment, GGA holds a deep understanding of the needs of highly vulnerable populations and a process which is deeply rooted in trauma informed design. In addition to our recognized

work in healing and community building environments, we have led a number of industry forums on Trauma Informed Design including this year's National AIA Conference and the Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH).

[Supportive and Affordable Housing Selected Works by GGA](#)

HOK

Contacts:

Anne Fletcher, Managing Principal
Cara MacArthur, Director of Interiors

Contact Emails:

anne.fletcher@hok.com
cara.macarthur@hok.com

Website: www.hok.com

Description: HOK is a global provider of planning, design and delivery solutions for the built environment. Since the firm's founding in 1955, HOK has developed into one of the world's largest, most diverse and respected design practices. HOK seeks to promote architecture as a social work through the advocacy of design as a mode of community support and empowerment.

One of HOK's core values has always been that we care about the people and places our work touches. Supported by a generous grant from the American Society of Interior Designers, we produced the report *Trauma-Informed Design for Homeless Populations*, intended to provide homeless shelters and other social service providers with design strategies that create a safe, healing and welcoming environment for vulnerable populations and the people who serve them.

JFAK Architects

Contact: Alice Kimm, FAIA -Principal

Contact Email: akimm@jfak.net

Phone: (213) 253-4740 x700

Website: www.jfak.net

Location: 1461 E 4th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90033

[Statement of Commitment to Trauma-Informed Design and Relevant Projects Portfolio](#)

Koning Eizenberg

Contact: Brian Lane - Principal

Contact Email: blane@kearch.com

Phone: (310) 828-6131 x122

Location: 1454 25th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404

Website: www.kearch.com

Description: Koning Eizenberg has been doing affordable housing since our founding 40 years ago. In LA we've worked from Skid Row to Santa Monica on affordable project types serving Families, Seniors, and the homeless among others including vets, transition-age youth, and people living with AIDS/HIV. Most have an extensive PSH component. In addition to housing, the office has done numerous facilities that provide social services such as the [Otis Booth Campus](#) a project that serves children and families exposed to violence. We are currently working with [Street Poets](#) to develop a new headquarters serving youth coming out of the justice system.

Since our start, KEA has felt good design has the ability to address health, well-being, and dignity to make a difference to residents and the neighborhoods we build in. Through our projects and contributions to the dialogue around housing in the region, we've continued to raise expectations from both developers and policymakers while expanding sustainability and equity around the right to housing and our desire to create positive change.

Our team bio can be found [here](#). See also [Dear Mayor](#) for a dialogue on housing fixes.

Completed Projects:

- [Flor Lofts](#) - 99 unit 100% PSH | Client: Skid Row Housing Trust
- [The Arroyo](#) - 64 unit Family | Client: SM Community Corp
- [28th St Apts](#) - 49 unit PSH (focus on TAY population) | Client: Clifford Beers
- [Waterloo Heights Apts](#) - 18 unit Senior, Vets, HIV | Client: Hollywood Community Housing
- [Belmar Apts](#) - 160 unit, Family | Client: Related/SM Community Corp

Projects on the Boards or in Construction:

- [Estrella Azul](#) - 80 unit PSH | Client: A Community of Friends
- [Woodlawn Social](#) - 74 unit Family | Client: Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH) & KMW Communities
- [SMV](#) - 187 unit Family + PSH, Metro Joint Development | Client: Little Tokyo Service Center

StudioMa

Contact: Camille Mugardechian-Armen, AIA

Contact Email: Camille@StudioMAinc.com

Website: StudioMAinc.com

Description: StudioMA, Inc. worked with a team of architects for Hollywood Community Housing to create a facility that supported both the organizations offices and multi-family housing that included an onsite laundry mat, social services offices, a community pantry, and a community center. This project was especially rewarding for the team to be at the grand opening as a line of families and individuals registered to be selected to move into the apartments. The idea of having a courtyard and laundromat onsite was a goal of our clients from day one and allows busy working parents and caregivers to complete their responsibilities during the evening and yet stay nearby for young and older family members. Social workers are onsite, and the various community and training spaces are well used amenities.

In addition, StudioMA, Inc. has worked for many years for the neuropsychiatric department at UCLA. During this time, we have designed several facilities where we have incorporated trauma-informed design guidelines and the Department of Veterans Affairs design guide for Mental health – these parameters help the team prioritize and reinforce the importance of stake holders, the end users, and staff needs during each phase of the project. The attached images (Nathanson Family Resilience Center, UCLA Childrens Psychiatric Partial program at NPI, NPI Geriatrics Luskin Center presentation, UCLA A Disorders community and treatment spaces) show our participation and the support provided to our clients in their efforts to successfully inform the community, raise funds, design, and build.

We provide full-service Architecture, Planning, Interior Design and Graphic Design services. Our team is committed to working to implement trauma-informed design guidelines and to support the important efforts to thoughtfully create and improve the available housing in greater Los Angeles.

[Examples of previous community projects and design package presentations](#)

Theory of Place

Contact: Kara Ingraham

Contact Email: Kara@TheoryofPlaceDesign.com/ Info@tTheoryofPlaceDesign.com

Website: www.TheoryofPlaceDesign.com

Description: We create environments that fortify the collective well-being of communities through projects that offer competent housing, social-emotional healing, economic independence, education, technology, social and cultural equity.

[Theory of Place Company Profile](#)

Cuneo Design Studio

Contact: Janice L. Cuneo

Contact Phone: (661) 644-1244

Contact Email: cuneodesignstudio@yahoo.com

Description: New designer interested in collaborating on trauma-informed design projects.

[Design Portfolio](#)

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