



IOWA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN RECOGNIZED FOR INNOVATIVE TEAMWORK

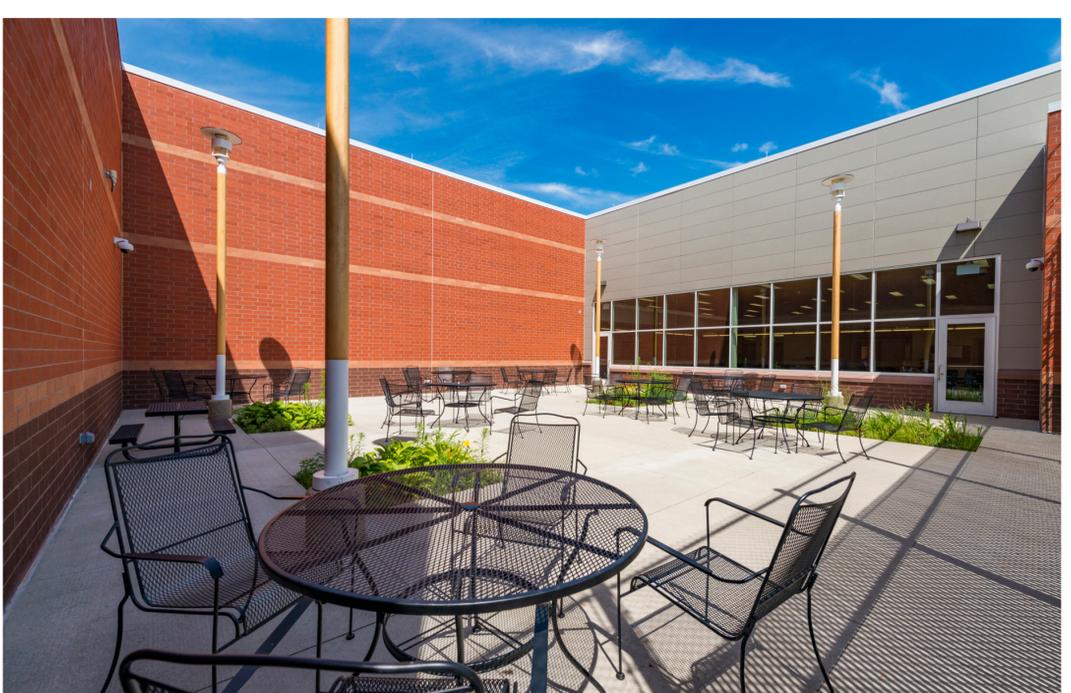
The Iowa Correctional Institution for Women project in Mitchellville, IA, recently garnered a top award in Building Design + Construction magazine's Building Team Awards (BTA) competition. The project was one of two Platinum Award winners – the competition's highest honor – and one of 13 overall winners.



Winning BTA entries demonstrate design/engineering/construction quality and excellence as well the building team's collaboration in overcoming obstacles and making the project succeed. Entrants must show how the building team worked with the owner, end users, and stakeholders. They also must detail how the team went beyond standard practice in finding unusual solutions to problems.



The Iowa Department of Corrections contracted with STV to rethink the prison building type from the ground up and develop a 21st century facility that would integrate gender-, health- and age-responsive programming into the fabric of design, making it among the first women's facilities in the country to incorporate this approach.



As part of our award-winning application, David Ziskind, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C, STV senior vice president and chief architect in the Buildings & Facilities Division (B&F), and Price Jepsen, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C, vice president and director of planning and programming for B&F, described how the project was a true collaborative effort. For this project, primary operational and functional concepts were developed in charrettes involving Iowa Department of Corrections administration, facility administration, medical and mental health professionals and the design team. Its design prioritizes treatment and rehabilitation, and addresses medical and mental health care in a manner not achieved before for this facility-type.

One of the hallmarks of this design program was STV's innovative solution to a budgetary challenge: few funds were available for landscaping the campus-like setting, so our team suggested the engagement of a nearby state university landscape department to work on the site. Iowa State University's Department of Landscape Architecture agreed to take on the landscape design as an academic study project. This was an invaluable solution for the Iowa State University students and correctional staff as well as offenders. It led to new sources of funding and a landscaped campus that provides refreshment, education, and a non-institutional environment. //