



The Pebble Project

Join a community of progressive healthcare organizations and professionals who are committed to applying an evidence-based design process to create healing environments that improve quality of care, promote safety and health, and increase operational efficiency.



Come Learn & Share With Your Peers

Why spend countless hours researching a new paradigm, looking for benchmark facilities, and evaluating costs – only to find that someone at another organization has already done the same and would have gladly shared their insights with you?

The Pebble Project connects you to those individuals, plus a lot more. This unique, international research initiative brings together like-minded healthcare executives, clinicians, design professionals, product manufacturers, and industry experts to learn from each other and share their experiences.

We offer peer-to-peer support, knowledge and information of best practices and the latest evidence-based design research, as well as ideas to help you stretch limited resources and maximize your entire project team's time and energy.

You Can Make a Difference

When you toss a pebble into a pond, it creates a ripple. The Pebble Project creates a ripple – first in your own organization and then across the industry. Together, as Pebble Partners we can transform how healthcare buildings are designed and make a measurable difference in people's lives.

By committing to using an evidence-based design process and then documenting and sharing the results, you can help advance the field and promote change. The Pebble Project guides you through the process, providing research and programming expertise that you won't find any place else.

You are committed to improving both the quality of care for your patients and the work environment for your staff and are actively engaged in a learning process to do this.

community

synthesis

Who Joins the Pebble Project?

The opportunity to join the Pebble Project is open to any type of organization that provides or creates healthcare delivery environments.

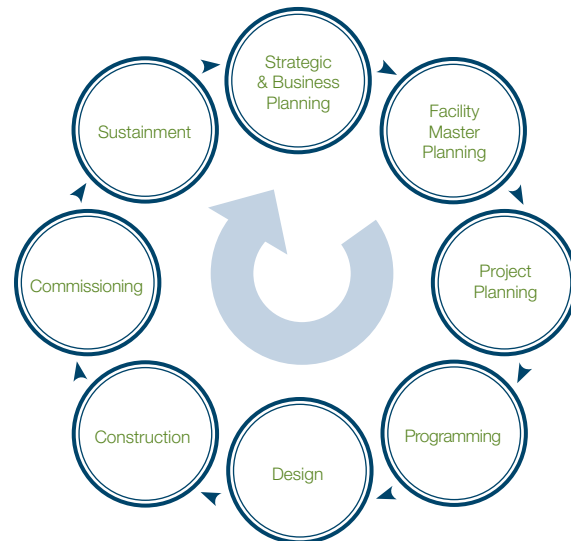
Membership includes representation from:

- Large and small acute care health systems
- Academic, research and teaching hospitals
- For-profit national hospital chains
- Ambulatory care facilities
- Specialty hospitals
- Senior living environments
- Urban tertiary medical centers
- Suburban hospitals
- Government health authorities
- Healthcare equipment providers
- Architectural & design professionals

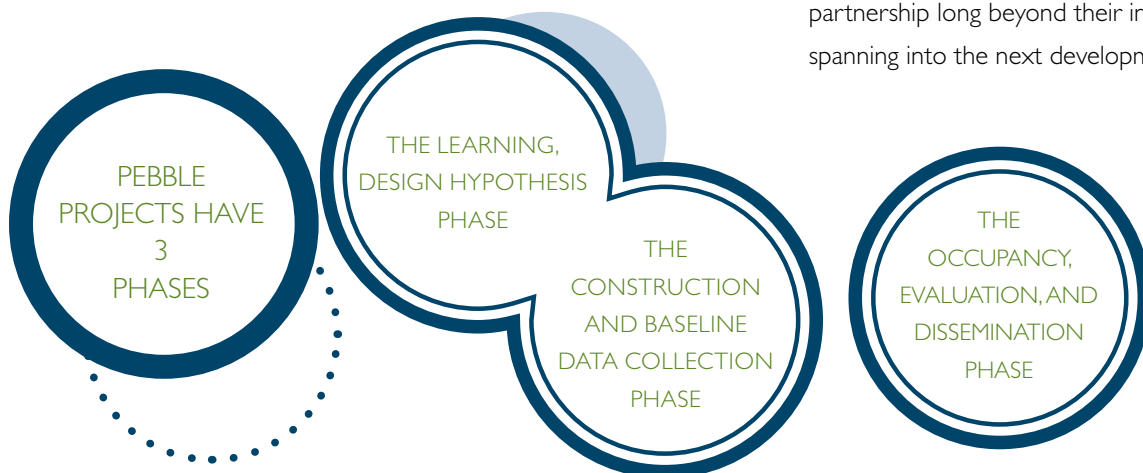
Organizations that choose to join the Pebble Project have an innate desire to gain an understanding of how to apply verifiable methodologies to plan, design, and construct new healthcare spaces. All must want to prove and document the impact of what a new or improved space has on a variety of outcomes. As a result, those who join Pebble conduct and publish pre-to-post occupancy research. Pebble Partners have progressive corporate cultures that seek to create optimal healing environments while proving to be economically sustainable.

When do Organizations Join?

Typically those who join the Pebble Project are early in the design and development of a new building or remodel project. In most cases, the architectural design firm has already been selected and the project team is in place. However, healthcare organizations may become a Pebble Partner at any stage within the "Facility Life Cycle Management and Performance Model!"*



Types of Pebble projects include new and existing hospitals, individual units and long-term care facilities. Those who join commit to being a Partner for a minimum of three years. Many organizations conduct multiple research projects, sometimes staying in the partnership long beyond their initial project and spanning into the next development.



*The United States Army Health Facility Planning Agency

A Pebble organization is willing to push the envelope and not fall prey to the inhibitions of current thinking in healthcare delivery; to ask questions differently about the cultural shifts and technology needed to improve outcomes; and then to use design elements to support those behaviors.





collaborate

Access to Experts, Information, & Resources

Access to Pebble Project resources are available to organizations located anywhere in the world. The Center for Health Design views each Partner as a significant transformer and engages each on its own merit. The Center provides each Pebble Partner the necessary guidance to successfully learn, apply, analyze, and document the effect its new facility design has created on its organizational behavior.

Twice a year, we convene a three-day meeting for Pebble Project participants. Experts present the latest research and ideas about evidence-based design, and other information relevant to innovative building design and operations. These “think-tank” sessions allow for learning and sharing in a relaxed, yet focused, format that promotes networking and community.

The Center for Health Design’s staff of researchers, marketing professionals, and industry experts attend these meetings, as well as our Board of Directors – a who’s who of healthcare and design thinkers and leaders. The entire Center for Health Design community is available for individual consultation as needed.

All Pebble Partners enjoy continuous access to a virtual community where they can routinely interact and tap into each others experiences. This includes full access to the entirety of The Center’s online resources.

Additional learning is available via our online webinars, live national conferences, and custom on-site programs.

Part of a Unique Community

By joining the Pebble Project, you become part of a unique community of like-minded healthcare executives, clinicians, design professionals, product manufacturers, and industry experts who believe in and support the nonprofit Center for Health Design’s mission and vision.

Recognition

The Center for Health Design is actively engaged in promoting the Pebble Project to the healthcare and design community, as well as to the general public. Since it began in 2000, articles mentioning the Pebble Project have appeared in publications such as *Modern Healthcare*, *Hospitals & Health Networks*, *Health Facilities Management*, *Healthcare Design*, *Healthcare Financial Management*, *Frontiers of Health Services Management*, *Modern Physician*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The New York Times*.

Pebble Partners are frequently recognized and asked to speak at national and international industry conferences. They contribute to our co-sponsored magazine, *Healthcare Design* and are referenced by the academic leaders of The Center for Health Design Board as well as other industry leaders. Through The Center’s marketing efforts each Pebble has an opportunity to enfranchise their entire organization, gain industry visibility and grow local recognition, as well as increase philanthropy and market share.



THE PEBBLE PROJECT

JOIN AN EXCITING
COMMUNITY OF
DISCOVERY, CREATIVITY,
AND INNOVATION.



EVIDENCE-BASED DESIGN

Evidence-based design is the conscientious, explicit, and judicious use of current best evidence from research and practice in making critical decisions about the design of each individual and unique project.

Key components:

1. Meaningful collaboration between healthcare organization and design professionals
2. Recognizing and responding to the unique context of each project
3. Using best available credible evidence from a variety of sources
4. Using critical thinking to interpret the implications of the research on design decisions
5. Honoring a sacred trust to protect public safety and health

“All building design is suited to an evidence-based model. Healthcare, however, offers unusually high stakes and addresses major issues of safety and improved clinical outcomes.”

— D. Kirk Hamilton, FAIA, FACHA

www.healthdesign.org

The Center for Health Design is a leading nonprofit research, education, and advocacy organization of forward-thinking healthcare, elder care, design, and construction professionals who are leading the quest to improve the quality of healthcare facilities and create new environments for healthy aging.

Mission

The Center for Health Design's mission is to transform healthcare settings into healing environments that improve outcomes through the creative use of evidence-based design.

Vision

The Center for Health Design envisions a future where healing environments are recognized as a vital part of therapeutic treatment; and where the design of healthcare settings contributes to health and does not add to the burden of stress.

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Improving the quality of healthcare