

Richard T. Castro Human Services Center

Denver, CO

Owner: City and County of Denver Area: 275,000 sf

Award: ADID, Colorado Chapter, Interior Design Award, Honorable Mention



This city government building was designed to meet the needs of its approximately 1,100 employees and the community.



Architects created a site master plan and designed a four-and-a-half story government building to meet the needs of its employees and the community. One side of the building curves around an open courtyard, a communal open space. Amenities included a 3,500 square foot Childcare Center with an outdoor play area, a community room, a cafeteria with an outdoor deck, a client café, a Family Visitation Center, offices and a computer center. The design goal was to create an environment that welcomed employees and the public, a human services center with a non-institutional feel. Interior designers for this large structure selected bright colors, bold patterns and large murals. The hallways showcase community artwork. Building features included modern workstations, wide hallways, large waiting areas and the use of natural lighting. All of the building's design components served to create a professional, warm and supportive atmosphere for its users.

* This project was undertaken when Tom Obermeier was CEO of OZ Architecture.

