IPRO 340

Design of a "Green" Community Health Center of the Future

Objective

Access Community Health Network provides medical services for the underinsured and uninsured public in the Chicago-land area. Three ACCESS facilities, Booker, Brandon, & Hawthorne, were investigated to see what can be done to improve the patient experience.

Basic Organization and Tasks

In order to best engage the task at hand, we put significant thought into defining the scope of our project. We then split into three subgroups, each one responsible for a specific ACCESS site. Each subgroup provided a renovated floor plan as, proposed aesthetic improvements well as a phasing plan with an overall cost analysis for total construction costs.

Accomplishments

Referencing research and prototypes created in the previous semesters, this semester's IPRO 340 was able to create a plan for renovation to be implemented at the three ACCESS facilities looked into.

Critical Barriers and Obstacles

By mid-semester, many group members were tardy to class and were designated tasks that would not be completed in time. In addition, we experienced a difficulty in scheduling site visits that would allow us to witness firsthand the various issues present at each of the three ACCESS facilities. Often there would be situations in which people would be using different programs to create or modify the same project, this would eventually end in compilation or translation conflicts between programs.

Conclusion

IRPO 340 made significant progress expanding on the work of previous semesters. Using the prototype floor plans that were provided by the previous semester, we successfully implemented their underlying principles into the new proposed floor plans and other miscellaneous improvements for each of the three ACCESS facilities, and also provided an estimated cost for this renovation to occur.

Next Steps

By using the work that we accomplished this semester, future IPRO 340 teams could provide renovation plans for other ACCESS facilities. They can also look into new communities where ACCESS sites could be built and provide a new prototype clinic that embodies the important design principles we have laid out for them.

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