



CATEGORY:
Senior Living Facility

DESIGNER:
Luann Thoma-Holec, ASID

COMPANY:
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The design team remodeled an existing lounge area and a one-bedroom apartment on this six-story independent/assisted living community's second floor, which is designated for providing a higher level of resident care for those with cognitive impairment. The designers provided programming, design layout, reflected ceiling details, millwork design, and construction documents so the general contractor, owner and architect could proceed with the necessary evaluation of the existing structural space. A living room dining area provided a residential atmosphere for all residents. Finishes were residential in appearance yet offered specifications required for a commercial environment that would be susceptible to infection, incontinence, medications and constant maintenance. Furnishings were designed in senior-appropriate dimensions, with moisture barrier backings and specially treated fabrics and upholstery decking to help combat infection and illness. The designer's goal was to provide an environment that offered residents the opportunity for meaningful activities, specialized care for wellness benefits, and an aspect of dignity and respect. Challenges included a low budget, low ceilings, and a small allocation of amenities space.