UNIVERSAL DESIGN
Founded in 1995, KGD Architecture is an award-winning design firm specializing in architecture, planning and interiors based in Rosslyn, VA. Our portfolio highlights our expertise in affordable, multifamily housing, masterplans for mixed-use developments and corporate campuses to new building designs and interior renovations in both the public and private sectors.
UNIVERSAL DESIGN: WHAT IS IT?

ADA DEFINITION
Accessible design is a design process in which the needs of people with disabilities are specifically considered. Accessibility sometimes refers to the characteristic that products, services, and facilities can be independently used by people with a variety of disabilities. Accessibility as a design concern has a long history, but public awareness about accessibility increased with the passage of legislation such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which mandated that public facilities and services be fully accessible to people with disabilities.

DESIGN DEFINITION
Universal design is a broader concept that is defined by The Center for Universal Design at North Carolina State University as

“The design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.”
PROCESS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN

1. IDENTIFY THE APPLICATION
2. DEFINE THE UNIVERSE
3. INVOLVE CONSUMERS/END USERS
4. ADOPT GUIDELINES OR STANDARDS
PROCESS OF
UNIVERSAL DESIGN

5. APPLY SAID GUIDELINES OR STANDARDS
6. PLAN FOR ACCOMODATION REQUESTS
7. TRAIN + SUPPORT
8. EVALUATE
UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- EQUITABLE USE
- FLEXIBILITY IN USE
- SIMPLE + INTUITIVE
- PERCEPTIBLE INFORMATION
UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES

TOLERANCE FOR ERROR

LOW PHYSICAL EFFORT

SPACE + SIZE FOR APPROACH + USE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS FOR UNIVERSAL DESIGN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BODY FIT</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WELLNESS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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Accommodating a wide range of body sizes and abilities
COMFORT
Keeping demands within desirable limits of body function + perception
AWARENESS
Ensuring that critical information for use is easily perceived
UNDERSTANDING

Making methods and operation of use intuitive, clear, and unambiguous
WELLNESS
Promote positive health outcomes for the residents through design
SOCIAL INTEGRATION
Treating all groups with dignity and respect
PERSONALIZATION
Incorporating opportunity for choice and the expression of individual preferences
CULTURAL APPROPRIATENESS
Respecting and reinforcing cultural values and the social and environmental context of any design
APPLICATIONS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN