

Apache Junction Multi-Generational Recreation Center – Apache Junction, Arizona

Description of Project

2 story, 36,000 s.f. +/- Multi-Generational Recreation Center located in Apache Junction, Arizona. Specifications Consulting to Breckenridge Group, Phoenix, AZ and VCBO, Salt Lake City, UT.



Obstacles Overcome:

This was the first LEED project for the Architect and for the Contractor. Project design goal was to minimize the impact on the environment and not to stand out as an architectural icon but rather to fit into the natural landscape.

"I think our facility captures our community," Apache Junction Facilities Manager Jamie Sullivan says. "When people are in our facility, they can enjoy the beauty of nature inside."

While the facility addresses environmental and aesthetic concerns, it also meets a pressing need in the community. Residents long expressed a desire to have a local gathering place, a spot where seniors and family could gather and enjoy time together.

Their requests became the design team's mission. The combination of a senior/community center was planned to allow for a single-point-of-service opportunity to provide a full spectrum of recreation and community activities for seniors. The design team was directed to clearly identify the two functions of the building—a senior center and a recreation center—and to provide smooth wayfinding to the different functions.

Benefits Provided:

Large windows allow patrons to enjoy local vistas, provide natural daylighting, which reduces the need for electricity, while the colors, forms and materials all were selected to harmonize with the natural desert setting. Sustainable elements that were incorporated into the project include the use of renewable resources and the reclamation of recycled products. Other eco-friendly elements include reduced water usage, both in the landscape and the building, through the use of water-saving components such as low-flow showers and sinks, waterless urinals, and drought-resistant plantings.

Architect: Breckenridge Group, Phoenix, AZ and VCBO, Salt Lake City, UT.

LEED CERTIFICATION ACHIEVED: .LEED-NC v2.1 Certified,