Title: Unfolding a healthy experience of healthcare facility through design of Junior Interior Design Studio Project

Sanford Health is a health system anchored in the Dakotas. The Sioux Falls, SD, campus is renovating the LDRP unit. The proposed design should reflect Sanford's values of relentless pursuit of perfection, passion, advancement and family.

To manifest these values, research on healing and healthcare theories were conducted. The Hannover Principles, evolving at the World's Fair EXPO 2000, insist on the rights of humanity and nature to co-exist in a healthy and sustainable condition. They inform the framework, based on the enduring elements of Earth, Air, Fire, Water, and Spirit. These five elements become a didactic tool to create a healing environment for the LDRP unit.

Element earth established a balance between materials, context, and meaningful interaction among staff, patients and families. Low VOC emitting materials, which promote good air quality, were integrated. The passion (element fire) of Sanford staff was embodied at touch-points- the welcome desk, nurses' station and nourishment areas. The element water inspired a soothing palette. The element of spirit ensured that design would be seen as a part of the solution, never the whole.

Thus, the five elements of nature project an accessible, secure, engaging and sustainable facility for diverse pregnant women and families.