



Dena'ina Wellness Center Facts

DESIGN

Interior design incorporates historical materials, including generous use of 100-year-old wood reclaimed from the Wards Cove Cannery on the south bank of the Kenai River

Yaghanen – the good land – is mimicked by the use of colors and textures found in the Kenaitze region, starting with the ocean shore in the Gathering Space, into the forest in exam rooms, and then to the mountains on the second floor dental area

Agates inset in the flooring bordering the Gathering Space were collected by tribal members and honor the cultural significance given to the beautiful stones

Tile work on some of the interior walls is influenced by traditional Dena'ina beadwork designs

Dena'ina names are used for all areas of the building; for example, the Endoscopy and Treatment room is also named Bihnil'ihl t'uh – One Looks Inside Place

Exterior design elements are drawn from traditional Dena'ina fish drying racks; stone is from Hope

BY THE NUMBERS

52,000 square foot building on 4+ acres

15 exam rooms

4 treatment rooms

4 consultation rooms

13 talking rooms

10 dental operatories

6 classrooms

1 demonstration kitchen

ENVIRONMENTAL

Building has been built to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification; highlights include:

- a light harvesting system that controls lighting as needed based on natural conditions
- site water runoff is collected and used to water low maintenance native vegetation that was gathered locally
- building runoff is collected in a tank below the facility for use in toilets
- exterior lighting is designed to minimize light pollution

