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## NEW PERKINS EASTMAN PODCAST EXPLORES CHANGES FOR DEMENTIA-CARE ENVIRONMENTS

*Twelve-part series, “Shaping Dementia Environments”, features conversations with designers, policy shapers, and operators to examine new thinking and promote advocacy*



Perkins Eastman is launching a new podcast!  
Tune into the show on all major platforms, including Apple Podcasts & Spotify.

**Pittsburgh, PA (April 6, 2021)** The experience of living in dementia-care environments hasn't evolved in 30 years; Jennifer Sodo, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, and Max Winters, RA, two architects with [Perkins Eastman's](#) Senior Living practice area, believe it's time for change. In their new podcast, "[Shaping Dementia Environments](#)," Sodo and Winters examine fresh thinking around this growing issue in an effort to inform and advocate for innovation in the industry.

Interviews with operators, policy shapers, and designers from across disciplines and around the world, including explore dementia care environments from multiple perspectives. Each episode in the 12-part series elaborates on a single pattern of innovation in dementia environments—some focusing on physical spaces, others highlighting care philosophies and procedures.

The podcast was inspired by Sodo and Winters' Perkins Eastman-sponsored fellowship to the Netherlands to visit and study Hogewey, the internationally acclaimed dementia village. Following their journey, Sodo and Winters compiled their research and findings into the white paper "[Missing Main Street](#)," in which they identify 11 patterns that will inform design and operation of future dementia-care environments in the United States. These patterns are organized within three main themes: fullness of self; the design of places and spaces; and the necessity of authentic living. Sodo and Winters argue that these themes illustrate the

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tactics and interventions employed by innovative dementia communities and should be modeled with much greater frequency than exists today.

“We often assume that older adults living with dementia cannot experience home in the same way as everyone else and do not have anything to offer as members of a community,” observes Winters. Sodo adds, “Disruptive operators, advocates, and designers are challenging that notion and call for us to do better at empowering people with cognitive impairment. While there is no one-size-fits-all solution, the conversations we’ve had point to a wide array of viewpoints and strategies that can create opportunities for meaningful change in our society.”

New episodes of “[Shaping Dementia Environments](#)” podcast will be released weekly on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and other platforms. Listen to the first episode, which explores attitudes surrounding risk, [here](#).

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## ABOUT PERKINS EASTMAN

Perkins Eastman is a global design firm founded on the belief that design can have a direct and positive impact on people’s lives. The firm’s award-winning practice draws on its 1,000 professionals networked across 19 offices worldwide. By keeping the user’s needs foremost in the design process, the firm enhances the human experience across the spectrum of the built environment. For more information visit [www.perkinseastman.com](http://www.perkinseastman.com).