

Innovative Model of Living at VHRC – Merges Beauty & Technology

*Vinson Hall Retirement Community, in McLean, VA
Offers a glimpse into the future of retirement living with a unique apartment*

Apartment 238 at Vinson Hall Retirement Community (VHRC) has been transformed into an “Innovative Model of Living,” an apartment that looks and behaves more like an upscale hotel room than your typical retirement unit.

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The Innovative Model of Living (IML) is a collaborative effort between VHRC and design expert Moira Leite of M. Quinn Designs, Inc. The IML comes as a direct response to a clear message from VHRC residents that they want a living environment that allows them to age in place. VHRC is committed to being a leader in providing innovative senior living through partnerships and application of technology. This is a wonderful example of how a team of residents, staff, contractors, suppliers and a top-notch designer created a beautiful living space which promotes independence and enhances quality of life.



The IML apartment incorporates “universal design” concepts – from the bathroom to the closet and bed nook to the kitchen. Also at the IML, AFrame Digital, Inc. will be piloting its unique wireless healthcare monitoring products and services. It reports the residents’ whereabouts, can detect a fall and can monitor physiological vital signs such as temperature, heart rate and blood oxygen levels. AFrame has won awards from the National Institute on Aging & the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) for its innovative technology.

More Facts about the Innovative Model of Living

- All features of the IML are designed to be as cost effective as possible. Almost nothing is custom made; rather its components are available through retail channels that anyone can access.
- The space features nine different colors of lighting – both fluorescent and incandescent - each one specially chosen for its location and its ability to illuminate areas that might be difficult for people with vision impairments to discern.
- The IML features a “channeling kitchen,” that enables a resident to move food – such as a heavy pot – to all areas without having to lift it.
- Colors were chosen to ensure that transitions from one part of the unit to another were easily distinguished by someone with visual impairment.
- Window shades and select lighting can be controlled with remote devices
- A Murphy Bed that raises out of the way to provide more space

Ms. Leite, who also donated accessories, lighting design and art work to the project, partnered with several major national vendors who supplied products and concepts that compliment her **Beautiful Accessibility** design. They include: **Area Access**, lift chairs; **Cox Communications** for digital cable television, internet and digital telephone services; **Dominion Electric**, recessed and track lighting; **General Electric**, Lamps and appliances; **Frame Factory** for custom framing; **Jack Risque Custom Cabinetry** for the bath valance, ‘kitchen window’ & window bookcase unit; **Kathleen Stark Fine Arts**, artwork; **Kayla’s House**, wood flooring; **Kitchen & Bath**, kitchen cabinets and countertop; **Lowe’s**, range and microwave; **Luminous Environments**, lighting and electrical hardware; **Lydia Cutter Photography** for Photographic services; **Mac’s Construction**, remote control blinds and the closet system; **More Space Company**, a Murphy bed and wall system; **New American Painting**,

painting throughout the space; **Nolan Bath**, bathroom accessories and fixtures; **Pack-N-Move** for moving and set up services; **Sherwin-Williams**, paint and wall coverings; and **Thermo Soft International**, radiant flooring material;

Vinson Hall
retirement community
www.vinsonhall.org

For a personal tour, please contact Heather Reich
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