Orientation & Wayfinding
- Orientation and wayfinding are important as they allow for certainty. Signage creates structure (Baumers & Heylighen, 2010).
- Difficulties in processing visual stimuli might become overwhelming and therefore, environments need to display a great sense of clarity, space, and order (Kinnaer, Baumers, & Heylighen, 2015).
- Memorable edges such as curved or half-walls create clear circulation that help with orientation (Kinnaer, Baumers, & Heylighen, 2015).
- Some sort of grip may be needed when there is a risk of “losing track of their body” (Kinnaer, Baumers, & Heylighen, 2015).

Safety & Certainty
- Physical space gives a sense of certainty unlike the transient information and the concepts of life that are not directly perceptible. Physical space seems to inspire more confidence than people. It is a safety point (Baumers & Heylighen, 2010).
- An escape space is a safe place where one can retreat from demanding situations. This offers a sense of control and safety (Kinnaer, Baumers, & Heylighen, 2015).
- When the other senses fail to give an accurate representation of reality, the way things feel become very important (Grandin, 1995).
- The material environment should be predictable, consistent, comprehensible, and controllable (Kinnaer, Baumers, & Heylighen, 2015).

Color
- To address sensory challenges, a neutral and consistent environment is advised (Kinnaer, Baumers, & Heylighen, 2015).
- Color coding can create zones or districts (Kinnaer, Baumers, & Heylighen, 2015).
- Areas where learning, resting, and sleeping should be well-organized and orderly, with minimal distraction and muted, warm colors (Palmer, 2014).

This space provides a foundation of skills necessary for users with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other cognitive disabilities to succeed on their own and in their career. Sum and Substance provides the parts to create a better whole. Here, learning and inspiration are key to success. With that, the space allows for areas to escape when tasks or events become too demanding as well as visual cues to provide certainty and reassurance. Rooms are numbered with a key for a breakdown of each space. Every space has a purpose that together, gives meaning to the entire facility and its goals.
GOALS

• Use signage as a way of wayfinding. Each room or area has a number.
• Use curved walls in order to create memorable markers or safe spaces.
• Create areas for personal space.
• Use simple materials and colors that are not distracting or overstimulating.
• Accessibility for everyone.

UNIVERSAL DESIGN

• Mock Apartment bathroom is a wet room allowing a zero threshold shower.
• Multipurpose grab bars.
• 5’–6’ turning diameter.
• Under counter storage in kitchen that can be reached by everyone.
• Adjustable height work tables in kitchen.
• Clear knee space under all sinks.

- built-in ironing board
- built-in washer & dryer
- wet room allows for zero threshold shower
- pet care station

- bench seating for outside views
- bean bag area in its own nook for privacy
- cove seating allows for personal space
- sorting stations
- folding wall allows for one large room
- built-in reception seating

- sorting stations