



safety

dignity

comfort



**AIAS Freedom  
by Design™**

## Mentoring positions needed for a successful FBD Team:

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While Freedom by Design empowers students to complete all aspects of a project, there is a considerable learning curve to overcome. FBD Projects can be as small as changing doorknobs in a home or widening a doorway to as complicated as a full bathroom or kitchen remodel. With different size projects, come different aspects of the job that the students might need help with. From experienced contractors and architects to health care workers, legal advising or business professionals and accountants. FBD projects are at its essence a small version of a complete architectural experience for the students. With that comes roles for all the same people that develop and produce architecture every day.

**Design Professionals** - When students are unable to take on the responsibilities of an entire project, there is a need for design professionals to participate on project teams. Working in a mentoring role, design professionals can work with the students and the project recipients to develop the program of the project, design solutions, and guide in the production of drawings required to obtain a building permit.

**Construction Professionals** - Students are often unable to take on all the responsibilities of building an entire project, and there is a need for guidance by construction professionals on project teams. Working in a mentoring role, construction professionals can work closely with the students to create cost-effective solutions while also educating the next generation of designers on aspects of site conditions, common building practices, and site safety.

**Health Care Professionals** – As many FBD projects focus on the best and most creative design for the recipient, a true understanding of their needs is essential. Health care professionals can offer that knowledge that all too often students are unaware of and recipients may not be comfortable discussing. Working with the students, health care professionals can point out certain aspects related to the specific disability that may need special attention, potential areas where the design needs to plan for future loss of function, and how to effectively design a solution that empowers, not enables the recipient.

**Legal Assistance** – While the AIAS purchases liability insurance for all of the FBD teams, certain sized projects may require certain contracts and legal advising. Working as an observer, attorneys may offer to develop legal forms to protect the volunteers, recipients, and landlords.

**Financial Advising** – As FBD grows so too does the probability for donations to teams. As students managing the finances of a project can seem daunting. Offering to provide training in generally accepted procedures of finance and budgeting can go a long way to making a project successful.

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If you or someone you know may be interested in volunteering time with a local Freedom by Design Program, please contact:

**Matthew Fochs**  
**AIAS Director of Chapter Development**  
**T: 202.626.7497**  
**E: [freedom@aias.org](mailto:freedom@aias.org)**

