



INSTITUTE FOR THE
BUILT ENVIRONMENT
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



September 2026



AIA Colorado Honors IBE

IBE was honored last week with AIA Colorado's 2026 Impact Award, recognizing our contributions to Colorado communities and built environment professions. The recognition came as an especially meaningful surprise: IBE was nominated by a jury member for demonstrating "how education, research, and professional practice can work together to create lasting change." The jury highlighted our work to help practitioners approach sustainability, health, equity, resilience, and community

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Congrats to all of this year's [AIA Colorado Design + Honor Award recipients!](#)

Photo courtesy of AIA Colorado: AIA President-Elect James Childs with IBE co-directors Josie Plaut and Brian Dunbar

Lifelong ADU Design Challenge Underway



[Follow the Challenge on Instagram](#)



Since June, IBE has been hosting a design challenge to create affordable Accessory Dwelling Units that support aging in place, multi-generational living, and vibrant neighborhoods. Three interdisciplinary teams of designers, builders, and CSU students are using IBE's Lifelong Homes design criteria to inform concepts for a real ADU. The teams are exploring accessibility, adaptability, health, and connection, while creating ideas that can be adapted for communities in and beyond Colorado. After gathering feedback on preliminary concepts last week, the teams are now refining designs to showcase in a juried event, open to the community, this November. The AARP-funded challenge will help strengthen IBE's [Lifelong Homes & Communities](#) certification programs. [Read more.](#)

Learning Opportunities

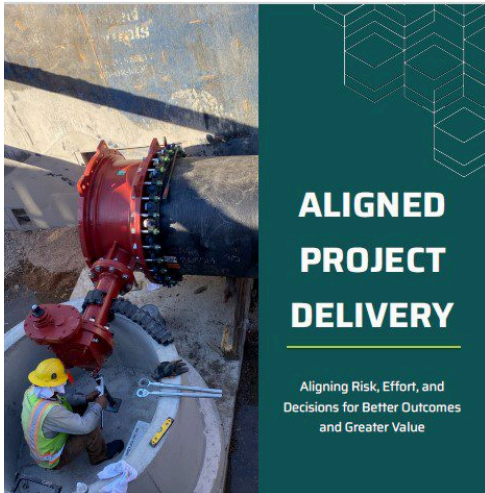
Lifelong Homes OLLI Talk

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Fri, Oct 2, 1-3 pm, CSU campus, \$10-35

Join IBE's Brian Dunbar and certified Aging in Place designer Drew Sorrells for an introductory class on IBE's [Lifelong Homes program](#). Learn through real-world examples how to apply lifelong concepts such as supportive furnishings, healthy materials, circadian lighting, and sleep-friendly environments to make your own home safe, healthy, and accessible for all. [Register](#).

Aligned Project Delivery Webinar



In our next free Alumni & Friends webinar, we'll discuss Aligned Project Delivery (APD), expanding on a [whitepaper](#) that we published this summer. Join us on Fri, Nov 20, from 12–1 pm MT to explore how APD is more than just a contract model and how early collaboration, shared intent, aligned incentives, and team culture can create immediate and lasting value. [Register](#).

Meet IBE's Newest Student

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**Mick Santry**

Master of Business Administration

Invest in Impact

Private donations advance IBE's strategic initiatives in ways our project work cannot: by translating research to practice to guide the entire green building movement forward. [Your gift](#) can support student scholarships and stipends, and special programs such as Lifelong Homes & Communities.

[Make a Gift Today](#)

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