

## Schenectady County Public Service Building

Schenectady, New York



architecture+ provided programming, planning, and design services for this new \$6.5 million, two story, 39,800 square foot office building for Schenectady County located in a historic district of the city. This project was undertaken to consolidate the interrelated staff from the Departments of Domestic Social Services, Adult Probation, Juvenile Justice, and the Child Advocacy Center to increase efficiency while keeping their employees safe and secure. This was completed on the exterior by creating multiple secure entries, exits, and the use of camera surveillance. On the interior, each department was separated through door access control systems with restrictions to protect personnel, files, and data.

The building also houses a large conference facility, fair hearing room, holding areas, drug testing laboratory and a credit union with a vault. It includes over 150 work stations with over 50 private offices for the counselors and supervisors from each department, plus a suite for their legal team.

We worked with the client, Highbridge Development, and their construction management arm during design and construction. This collaboration allowed us to accelerate the schedule by phasing the construction and pre-selecting the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection contractors. In addition, these pre-selected contractors were involved with the building design for both estimating and constructability. The project was completed on budget and on time in just 18 months from the beginning of design to the completion of construction.