



# THE 5 BIG HURDLES

Almost every facility project faces a series of five daunting hurdles.

This guide describes these hurdles and proven strategies for clearing them.

**1. Project Feasibility.** Section 1 of this guide outlines the steps you need to take to determine whether your project is feasible and can move forward. To be successful, you will need to have a strong project concept, demonstrate a need in the local market, have enough organizational capacity to take on a time-consuming and ambitious effort, and be able to build sufficient support inside and outside your organization.

**2. Building a Team.** Successful projects happen because they are supported by the right people – from friends and supporters to architects, lawyers, contractors and fundraisers. *And* because you have learned how to work effectively with them. Section 2 of this guide focuses on the experts and supporters you will need to complete your project, as well as how to select, hire and manage them.

**3. Securing a Site.** Section 3 of this guide walks you through the process of selecting, evaluating and acquiring an appropriate site for your project and

getting the permits and approvals you will need to proceed.

**4. Raising Money.** Probably no barrier seems larger than raising the money you will need to build or improve your facility. Section 4 of this guide tells you how to determine the cost of your project and how to develop a successful fundraising strategy.

**5. Construction.** The construction process is complicated and filled with uncertainties. Section 5 outlines the steps in the construction process, problems you may encounter along the way, and how to resolve them to help you complete your project.

As you face these hurdles, remember that a facility project has many rewards and can be well worth the demands it places on you and your program. Unlike many other efforts you make to enhance your program, facility improvements will last many years and can have a positive impact on children, parents and teachers every single day.