



## **2024 Women in CRE: Sarah Bigos, Montroy DeMarco Architecture**

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What recent project, transaction, or accomplishment are you most proud of?

My most interesting recent assignments were two vastly different workplace design projects: the new 40,000 s/f headquarters of Publicis Health Groupe in Philadelphia, PA and the final location of five borough offices for the non-profit Legal Services of New York. Each organization employs approximately 200 personnel at each location and tackled the return-to-office goals, something we see of many organizations. While creating high-end offices for leading global companies is very enjoyable, designing community service facilities that support those in need is very fulfilling and highlights the positive role architecture plays in society.

What are the most important factors young women should consider when choosing a firm to build their career with?

When choosing an employer, you should evaluate fit, culture and strengths. A firm's portfolio and values should reflect your design preferences and moral compass. A match will make your work more fulfilling and lead to further education, collaborations and success opportunities. Culture-wise, young architects will only be as successful as the relationships and knowledge they garner along their career paths. While fully remote workplaces are tempting, there is no equivalent to a boots-on-the-ground experience and in-person team collaboration. Be honest and comfortable with the talent you can provide to a firm. Everyone is different and all levels of design and technical skills can be highly valuable to a team.

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