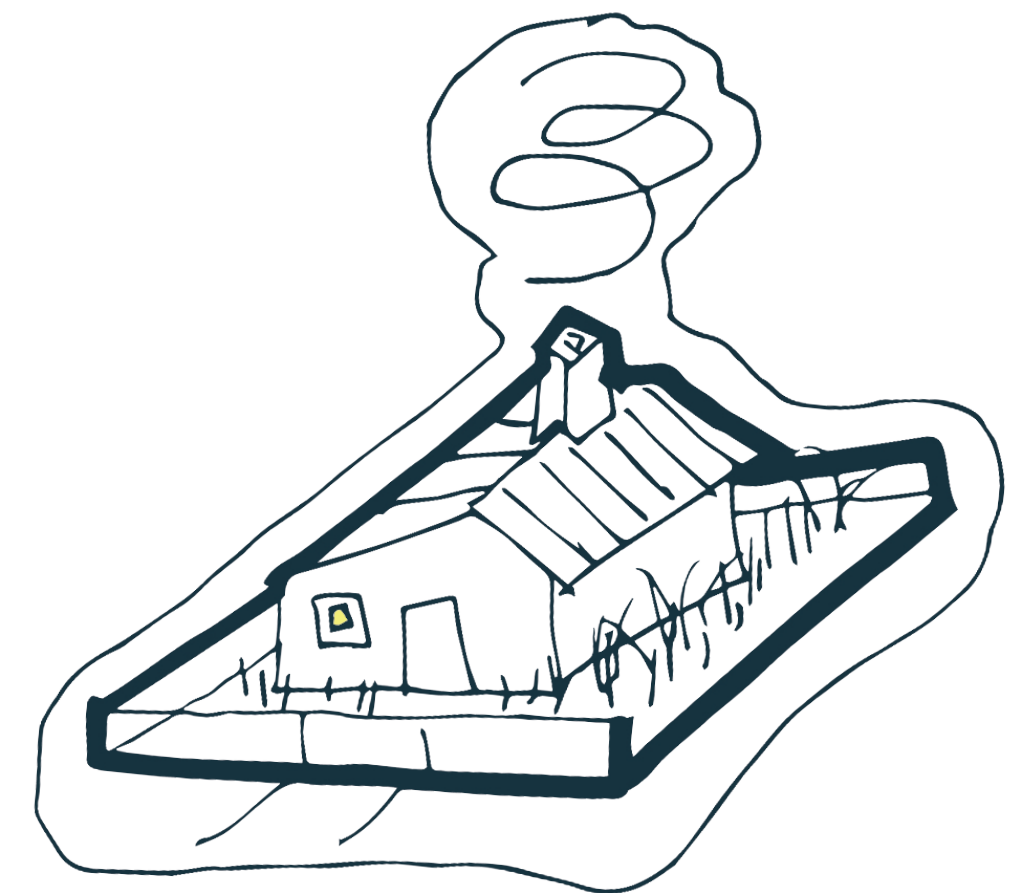


# TOPEKA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CO-HOUSING FACILITY

ABIGAIL HUTCHINSON | ADS 5 | FALL 2021





# PROGRAM

## I: FAMILY LIVING UNITS

- Studio Units (2)
- One Bedroom Units (2)
- Two Bedroom Units (6)
- Guestroom/ Emergency Stay Units (2)

## II: COMMUNAL SPACES

- Community Living Space
- Kid's Space
- Computer Room
- Community Dining Room
- Community Kitchen
- Pantry
- Teen's Space
- Restrooms

## II: ADMINISTRATION + ADVOCACY

- Staff Offices
- Counseling Office
- Nurse's Office
- Security Office

## IV: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Daycare- Open to Public and Residents
- Secondary Program TBD



"Image." Towards a New Model of Ageing Together in the UK: The Analysis of New Ground Cohousing, UKDiss, 10 Dec. 2018, <https://ukdiss.com/examples/new-model-ageing-together-cohousing.php>. Accessed 7 Dec. 2021.



Havran, Jin. "Vindmøllebakken." Gallery of Vindmøllebakken, ArchDaily, 2019, <https://www.archdaily.com/962820/vindmøllebakken-housing-helen-and-hard>. Accessed 7 Dec. 2021.

# COHOUSING

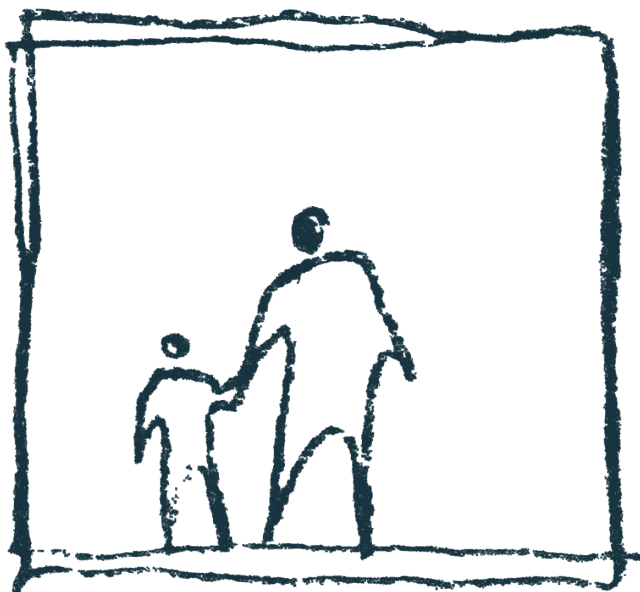
In the cohousing typology, a group of living units are supported by community program that everyone in the facility has access to. Residents have a great deal of **autonomy**, while still being **supported by staffed spaces**. Configurations are usually clustered and share some relationship to the common house.

## Seeking Refuge



No Shelter

## Traditional DV Shelters



Controlled Shelter

## DV Cohousing Model



Supported Shelter

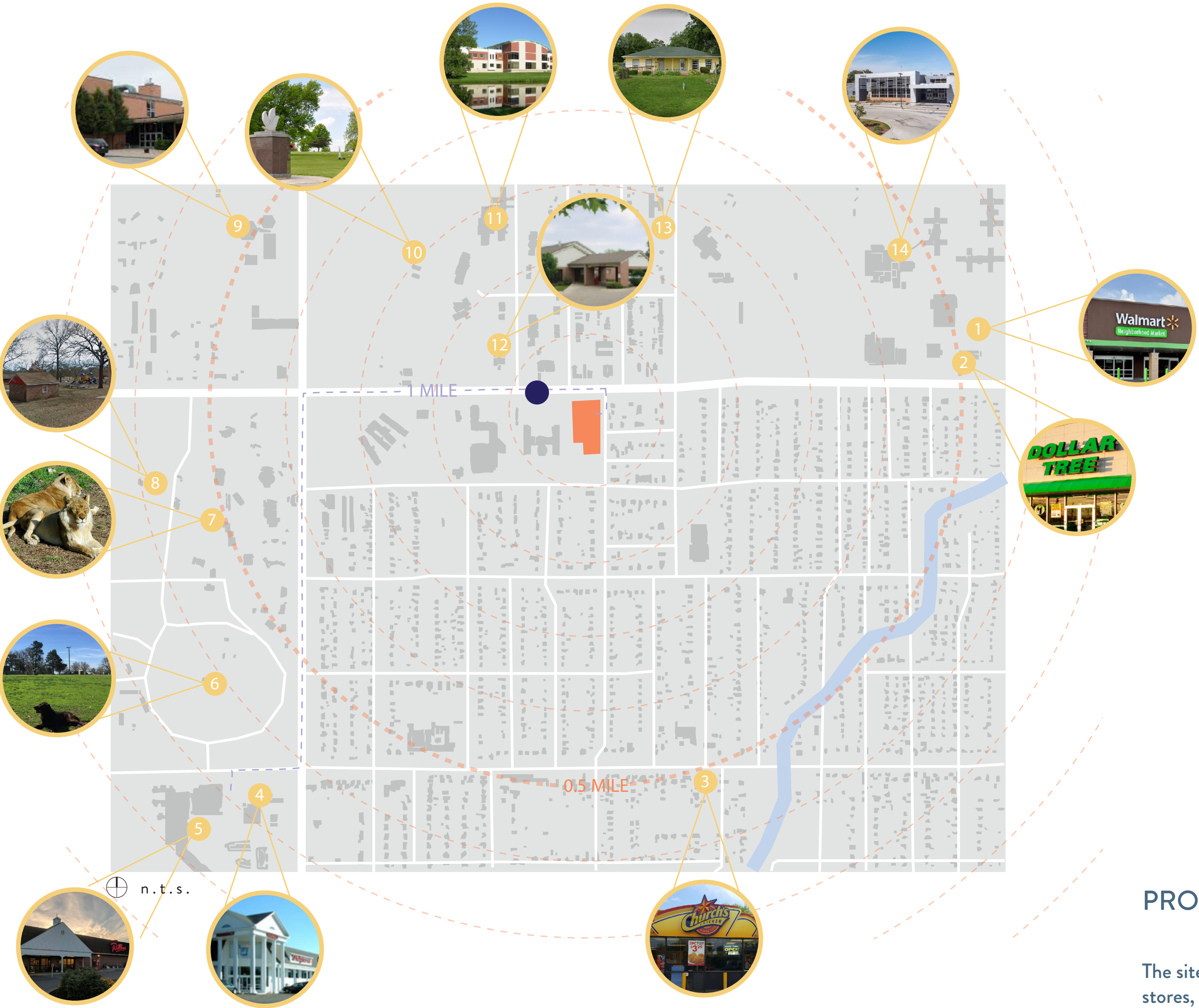
# TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

This project will focus efforts on **supporting rehabilitation** of families traumatized by domestic violence. It supports single-parent families with a mother and one-to-three children and helps them safely transition back into the community.



DIRECTORY

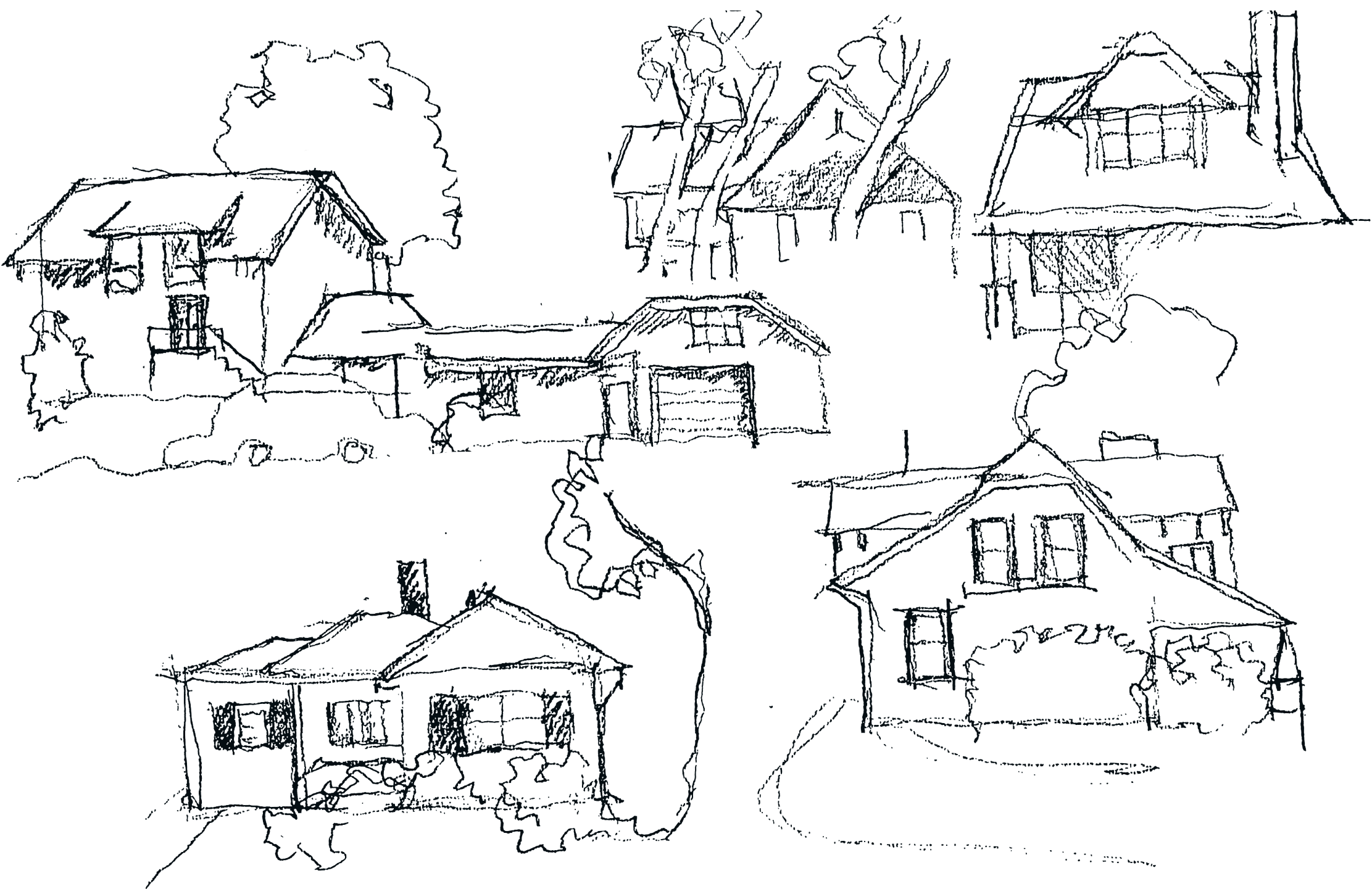
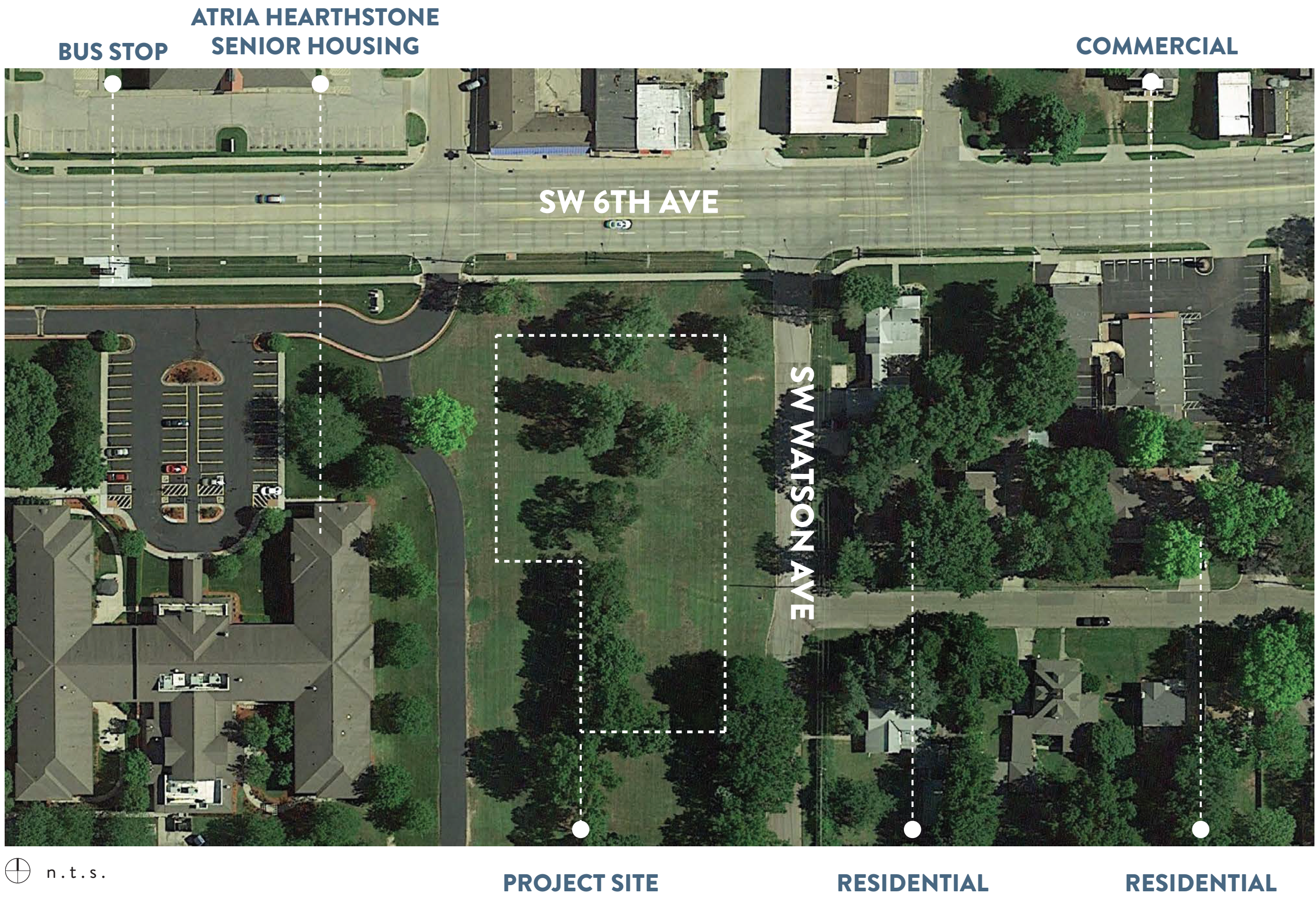
- NEAREST BUS STOP
- 1 WALMART
- 2 DOLLAR TREE
- 3 CHURCH'S CHICKEN
- 4 WALGREENS
- 5 DILLONS
- 6 HILLS PET NUTRITION BARK PARK
- 7 TOPEKA ZOO
- 8 GAGE PARK
- 9 HAYDEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
- 10 MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY
- 11 FAMILY SERVICE & GUIDANCE CENTER
- 12 COTTON O'NEILS DIABETES CENTER
- 13 BRIGHT CIRCLE PRESCHOOLS
- 14 TCALC JOB TRAINING CENTER



PROXIMITY

The site's proximity to amenities like grocery stores, career training centers, and mental health services is limiting. This facility should consider how it can **help residents access** some of these spaces.





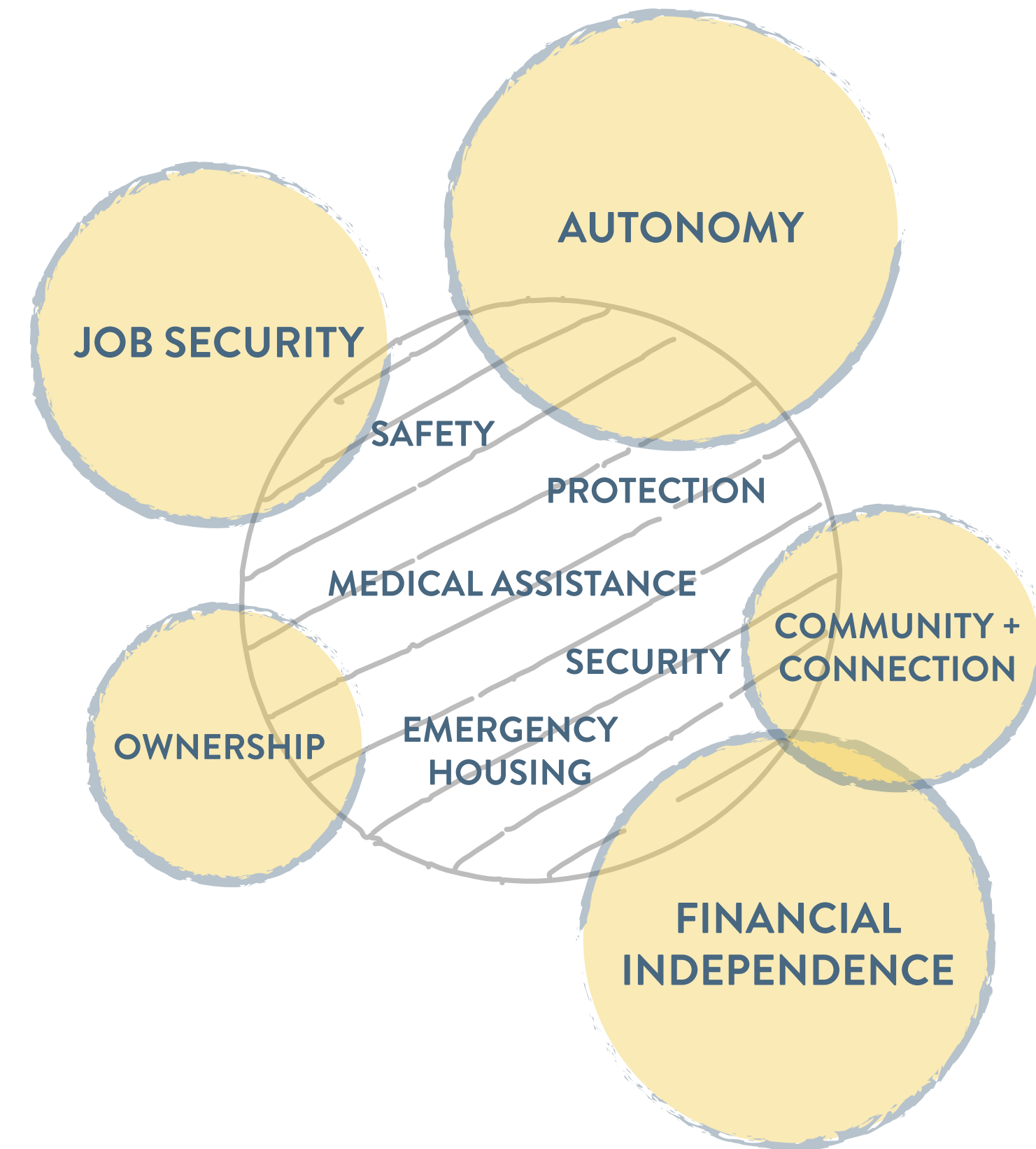
SITE AND CONTEXT

The site is located in southwest Topeka, Kansas and is surrounded by small commercial businesses and residential buildings. The area is quiet and many of the homes in the area are **modest bungalows**.





PERCEIVED NEEDS<sup>1</sup>



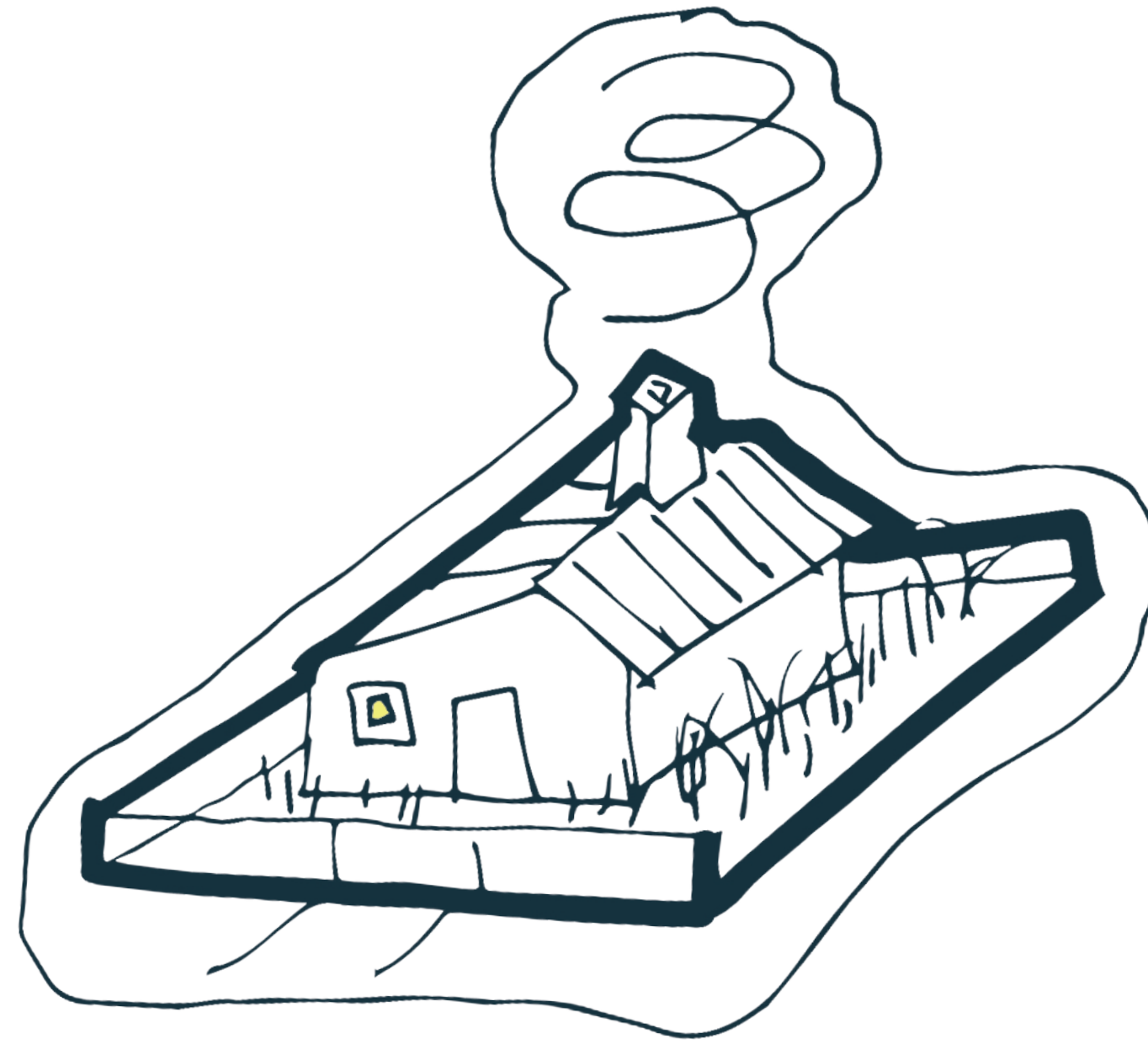
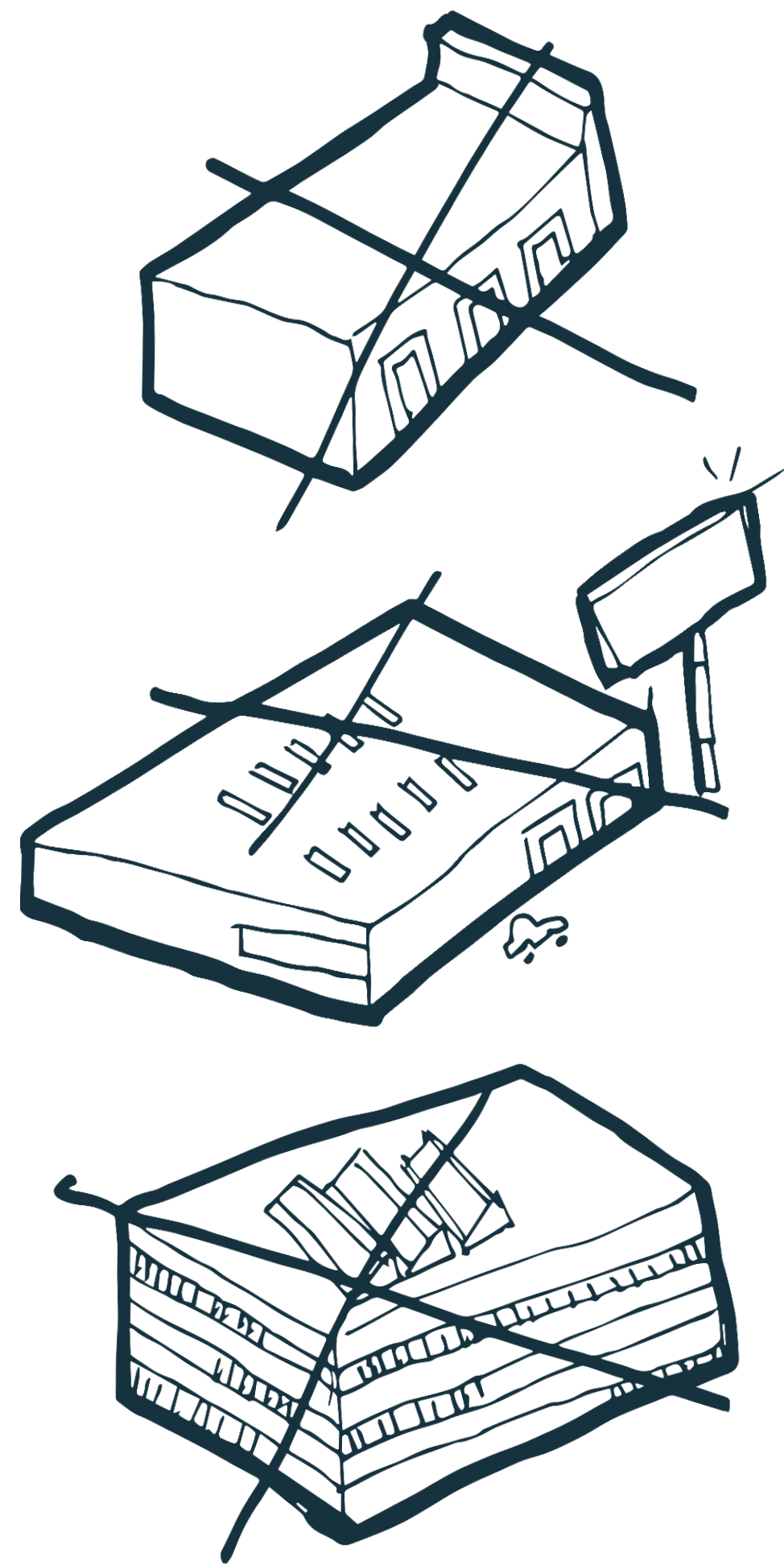
DISCOVERED NEEDS<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Hobart, Margaret. "Building Dignity Design Strategies for Domestic Violence Shelter." Building Dignity, WSCADV, <https://buildingdignity.wscadv.org/communal-space/empower/>.

<sup>2</sup>Joshi, Rutali, "Understanding the Built Environment of Shelter Homes for Survivors of Domestic Violence" (2017). All Theses. 2642.

[https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/all\\_theses/2642](https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/all_theses/2642)





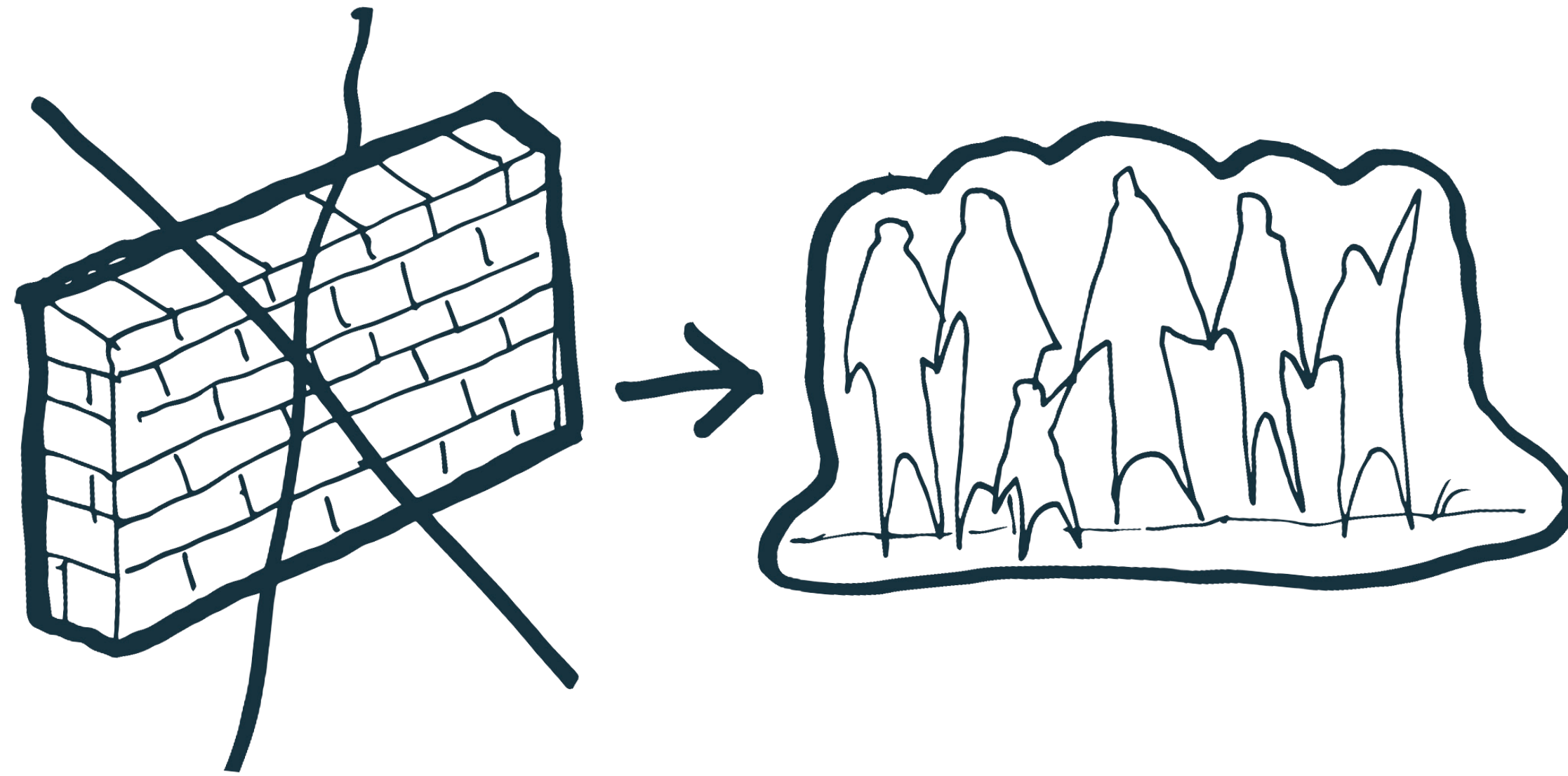
## RETHINKING SHELTER

Shelters can often feel very institutional<sup>1</sup>, with long, disorienting hallways and monotonous finishes that hide wear. It is important to move away from what we know to create something that **resembles home**.

“Everyone should know, we should start making shelters beautiful. Because when it’s beautiful it does something to you... It does something beautiful to see all of this wonderfulness.”

-Resident at YWCA Pierce County





## RETHINKING SHELTER

Through research, it was discovered that one of the best ways to help with rehabilitation was to **give users control over their environment**, Community also becomes important. By fostering connections between residents, community builds and becomes a healthy surveillance.<sup>2</sup>

“Buildings with individual units can include **communal spaces** to allow residents the opportunity to gather as a family unit or to socialize and find support from each other **without sacrificing privacy.**”

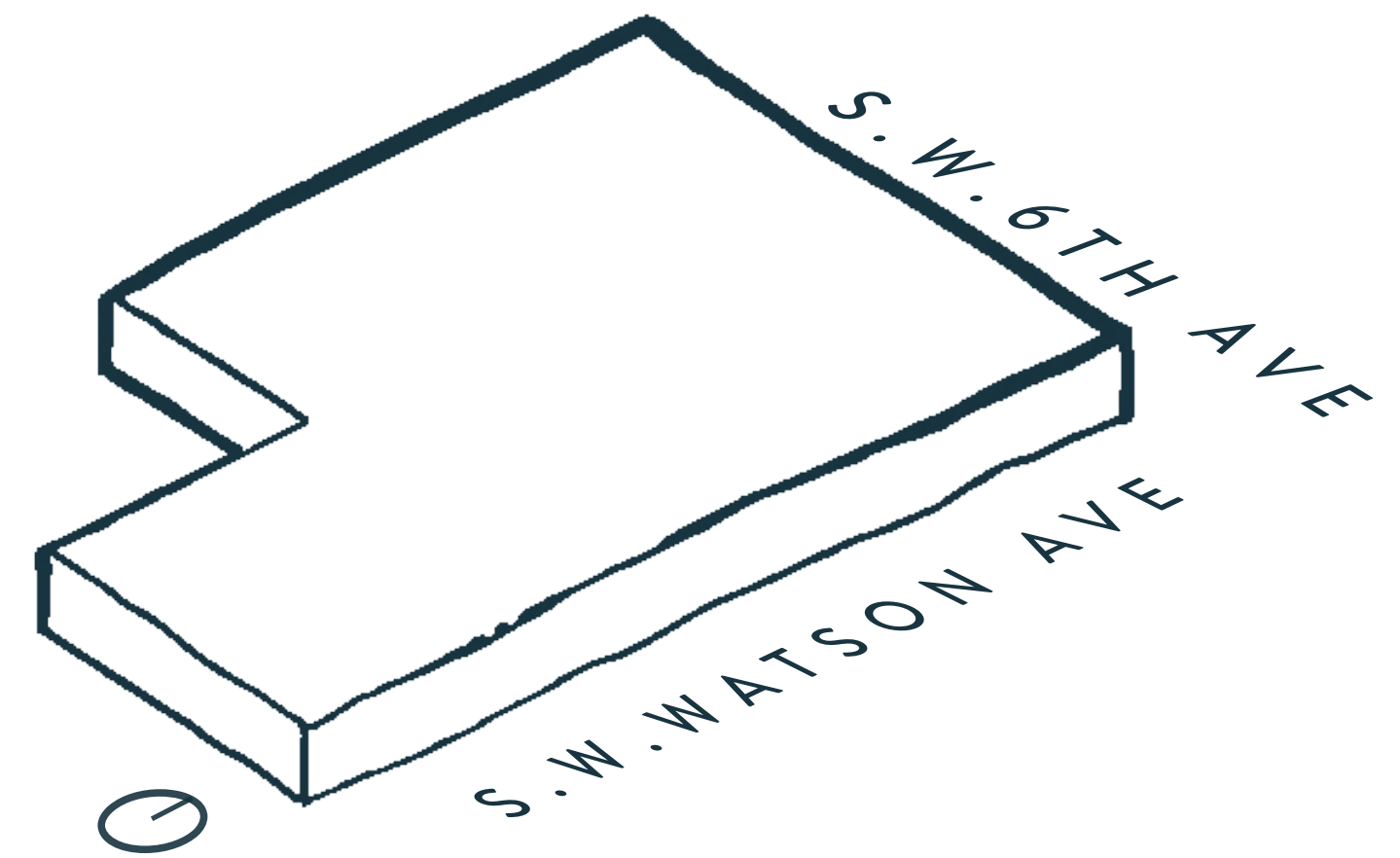
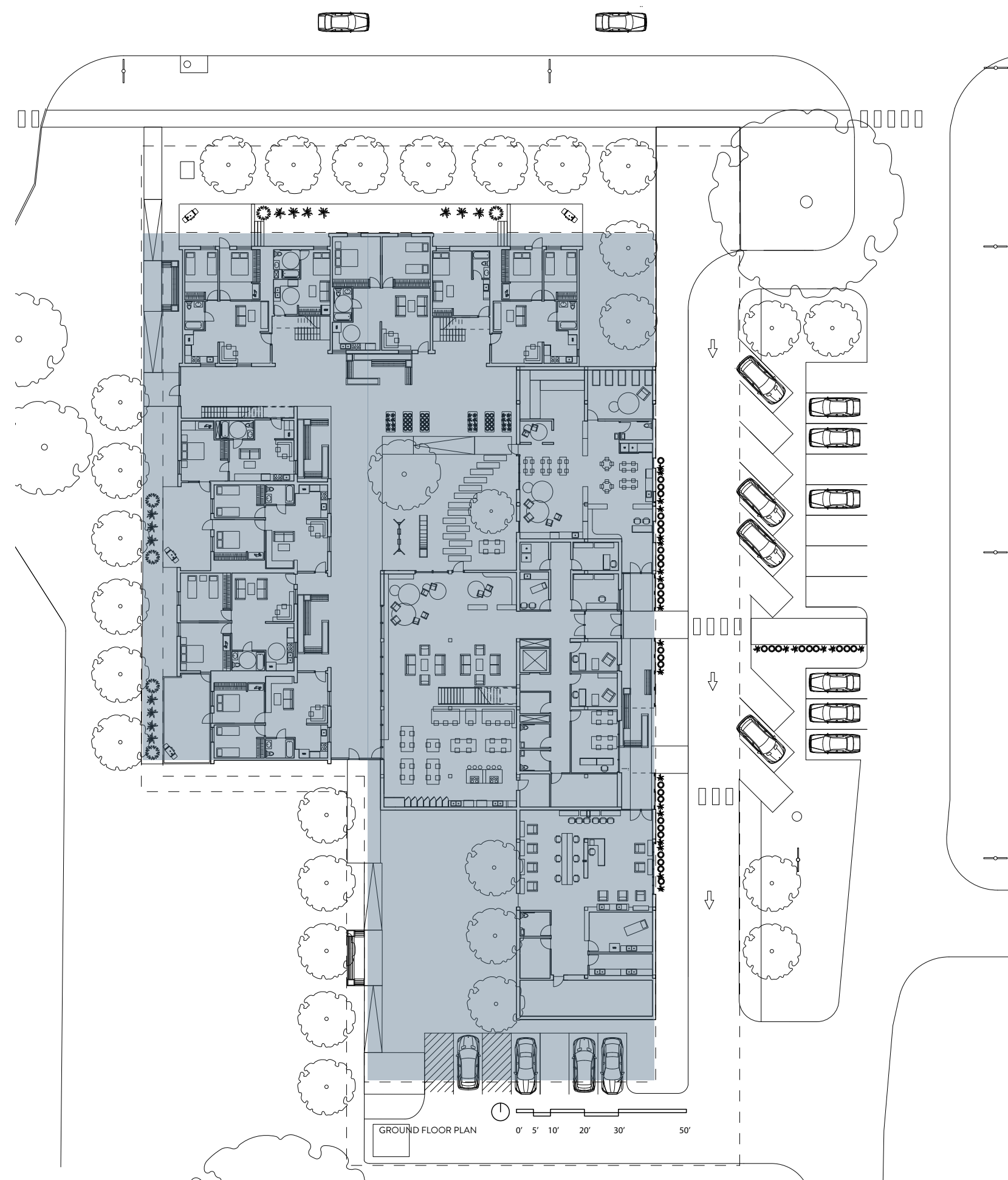
-Building Dignity: Reconnect

<sup>1</sup>Joshi, Rutali, “Understanding the Built Environment of Shelter Homes for Survivors of Domestic Violence” (2017). All Theses. 2642.

[https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/all\\_theses/2642](https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/all_theses/2642)

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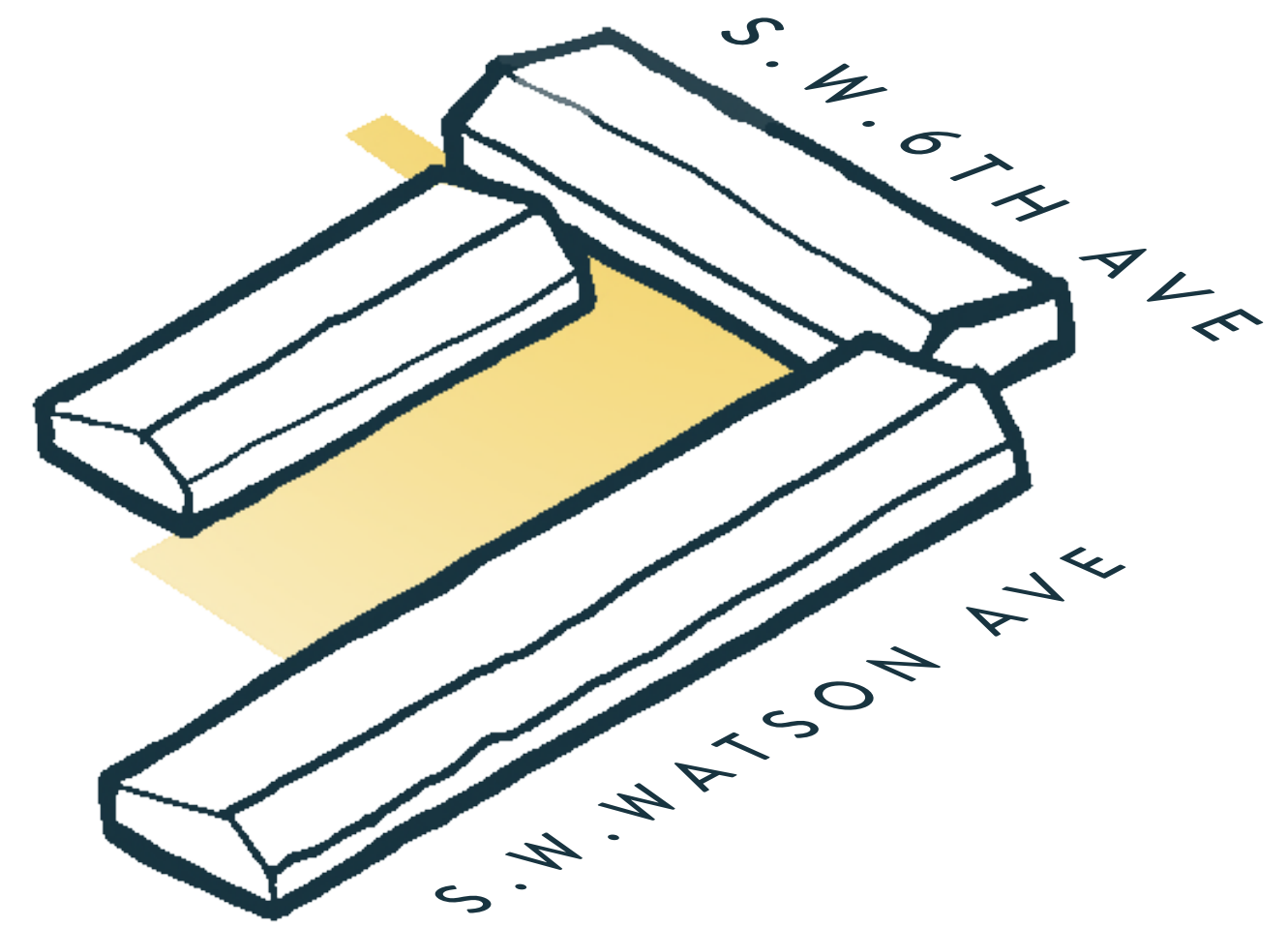
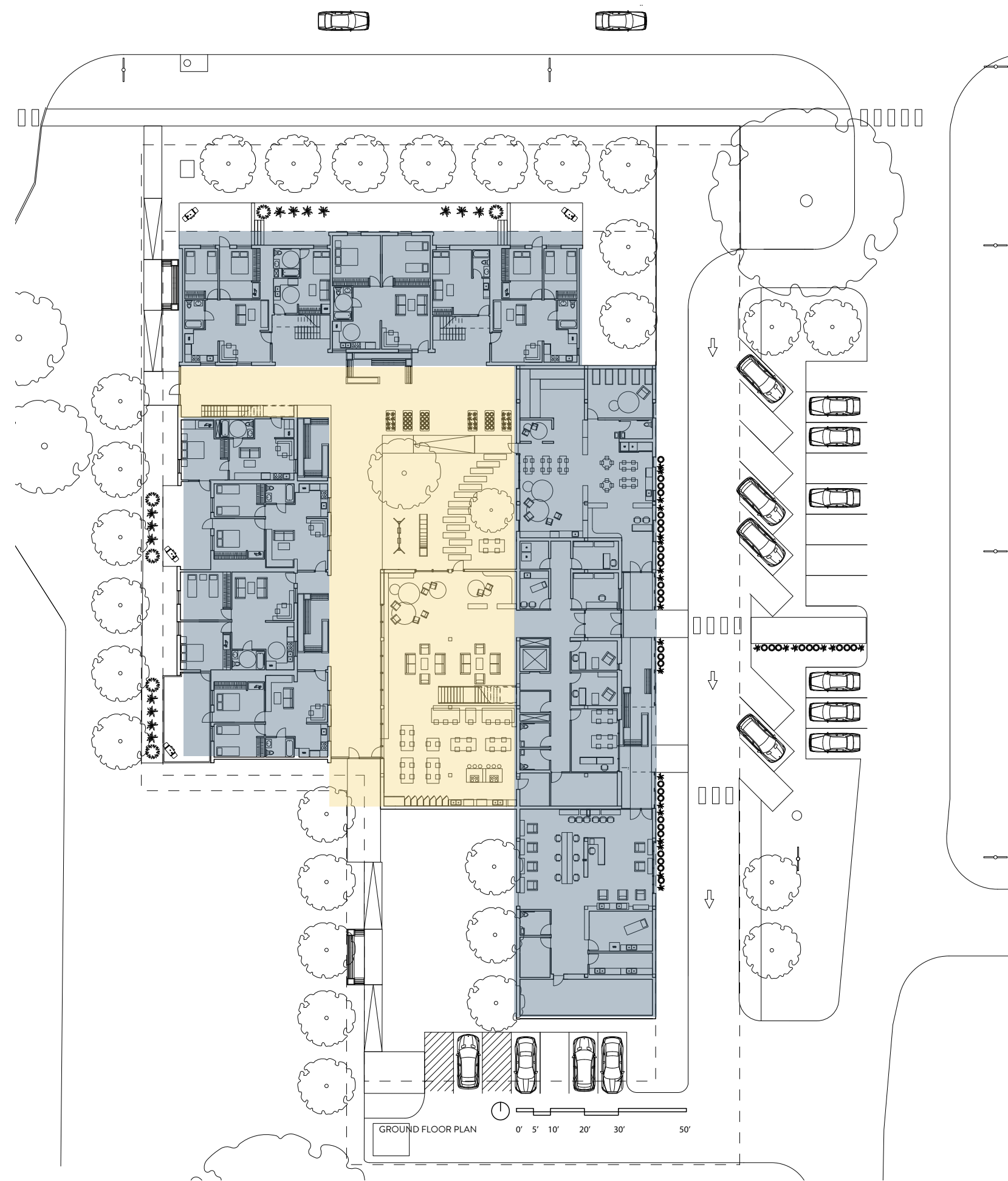




## MASS

Start with the site extruded as mass.  
Protects everything inside the facility and  
exercises control over the entire site. This  
**needs refinement** as it does not emphasize  
autonomy.

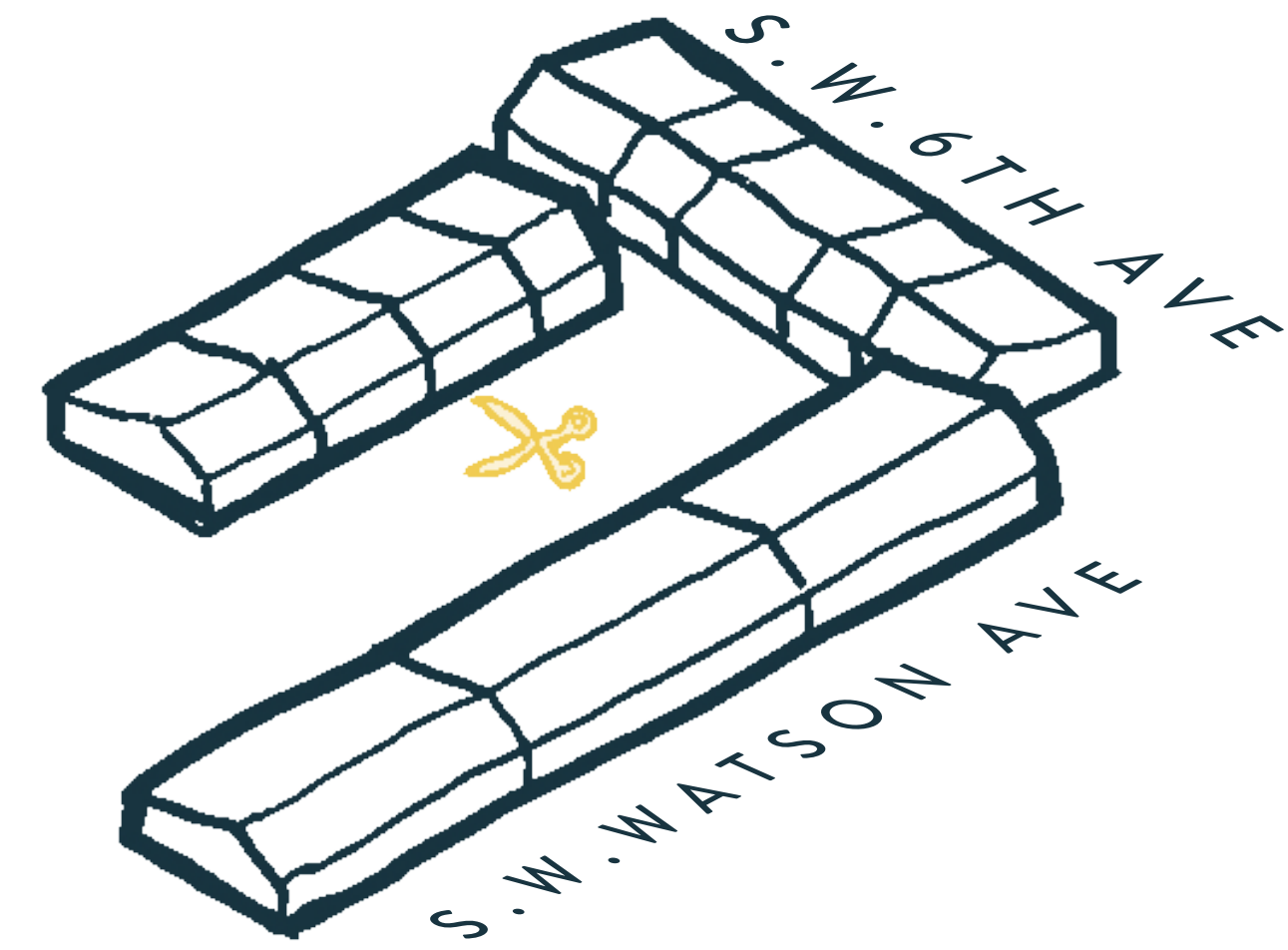




## DIVIDE

Create **autonomy within program blocks**. This also allows residents to live independently of the staffed spaces in the community house.

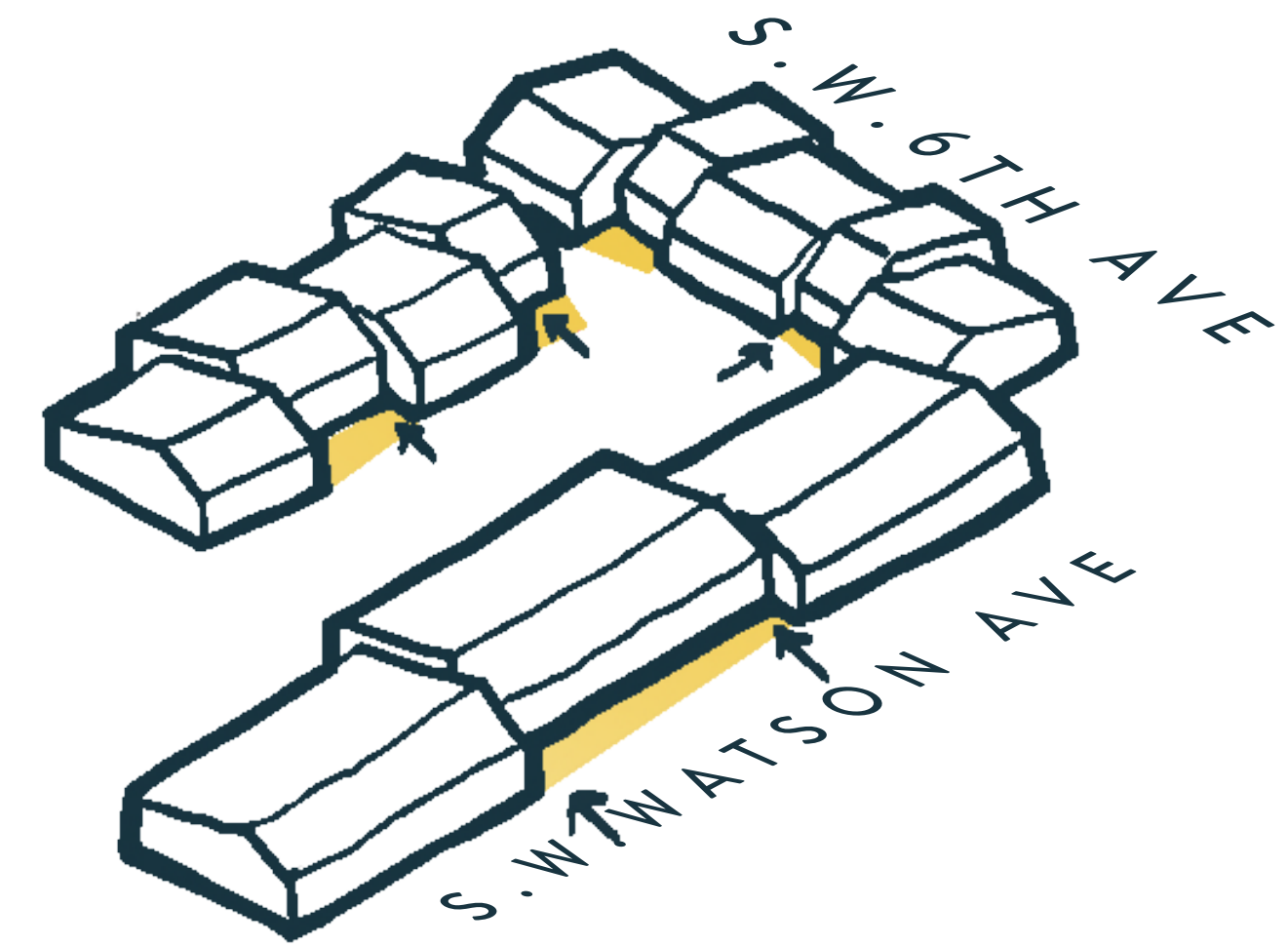
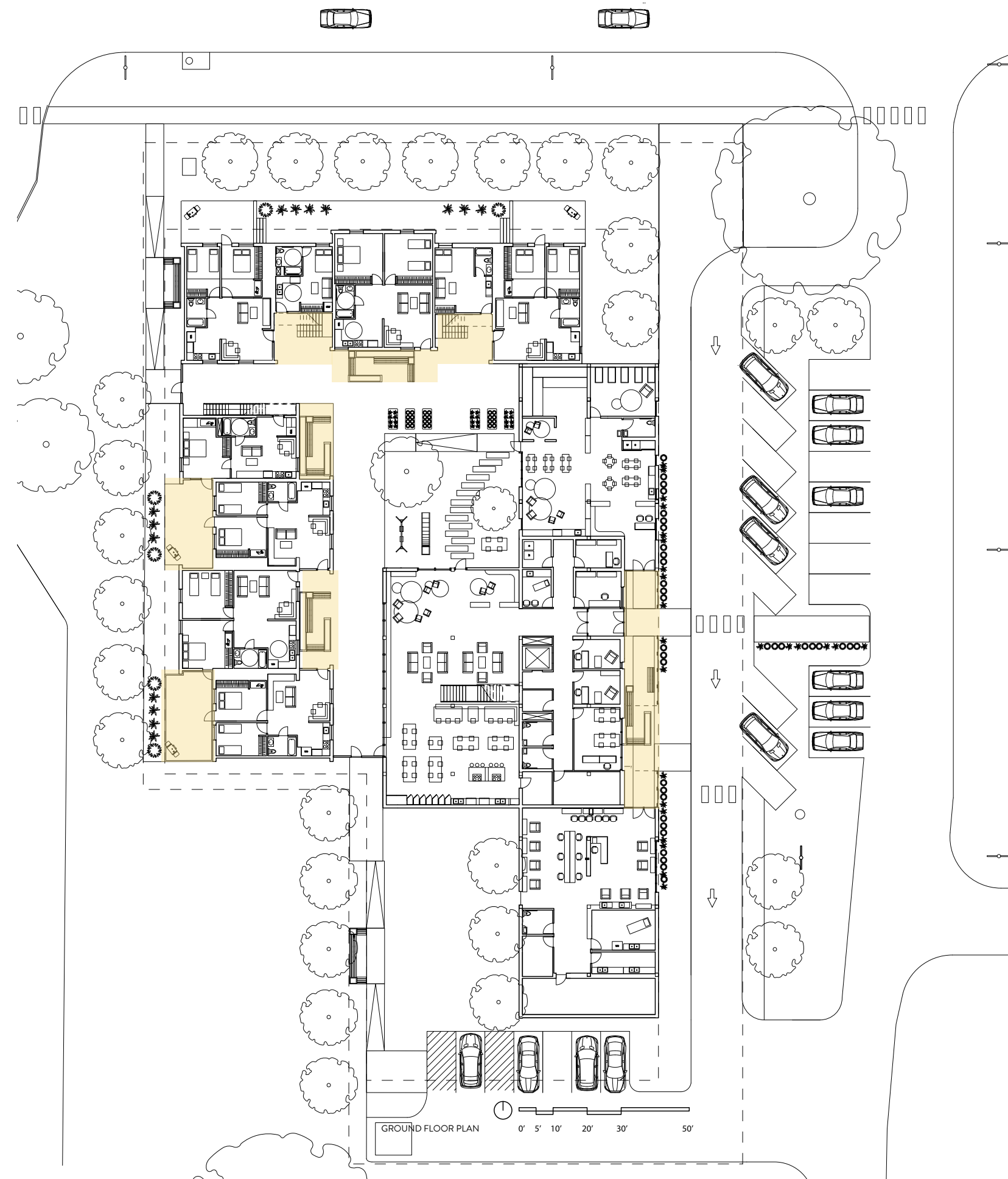




## INDIVIDUALIZE

Create separation between dwelling units for families to **empower residents**, letting them establish a routine; relax and eat together; and strengthen parent-child bonds.<sup>1</sup>

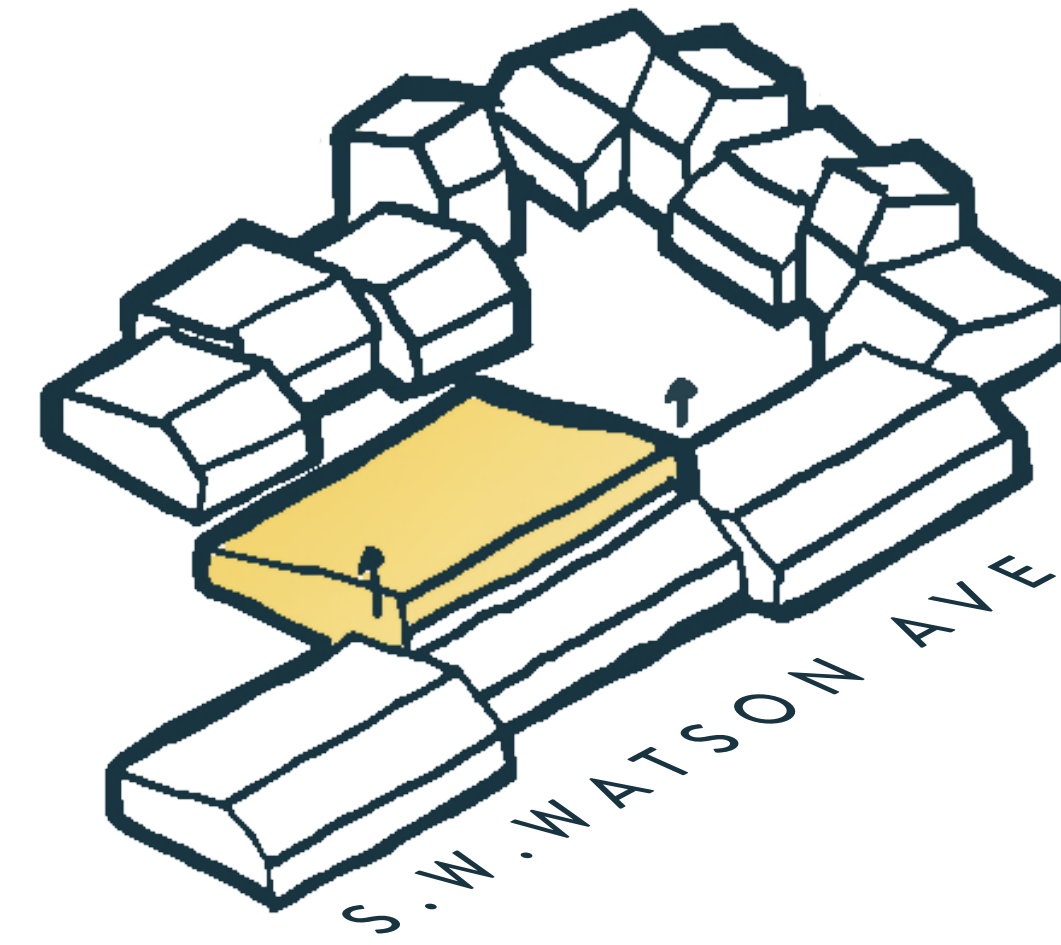
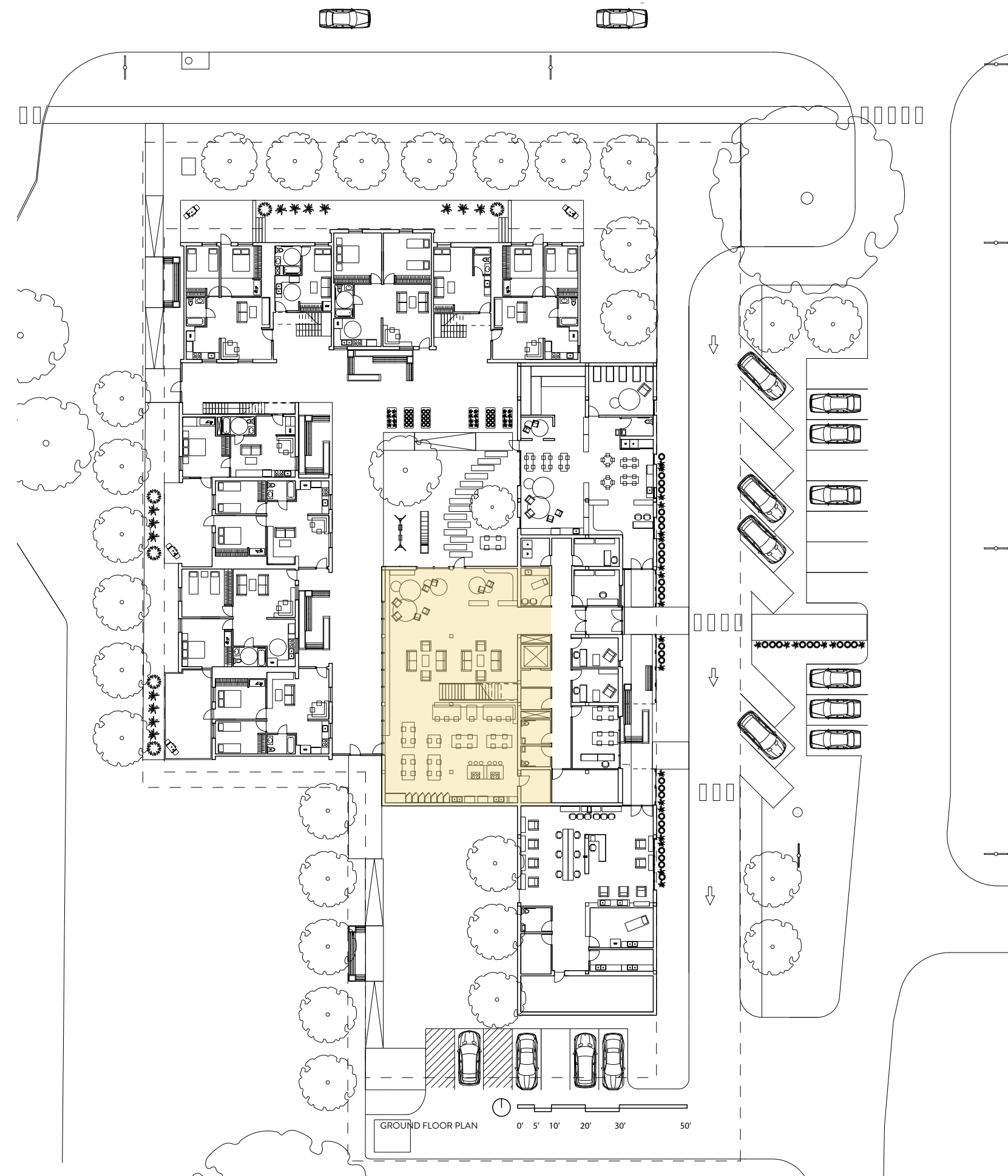




## SHIFT

Spaces are shifted to create moments of interaction upon entry and exit. Shared porch spaces give opportunities for smaller communities to form and provide views to the central yard space.





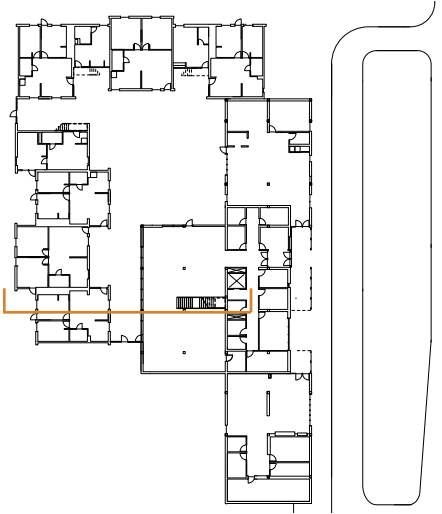
## LIFT

The community house volume pops up to indicate it's importance from the elevation and allow for light and abundance of space.



AUTONOMY OF SPACE

The community house is from each of the residential buildings, creating space for privacy and autonomy. It's form relates to the gable of bungalows, it's size and materiality indicate it's hierarchy. The community house is an open plan, giving staff and residents flexibility for events like kid's birthday parties, workshops, and focus groups. The teens are given **autonomy within the larger space** with a mezzanine dedicated to giving them privacy away from smaller children.



Area of Inquiry





## Entry- Approach

*“Create a welcoming environment.<sup>1</sup>  
Healing is facilitated when people feel acknowledged and welcomed.” - Building Dignity: Empower*

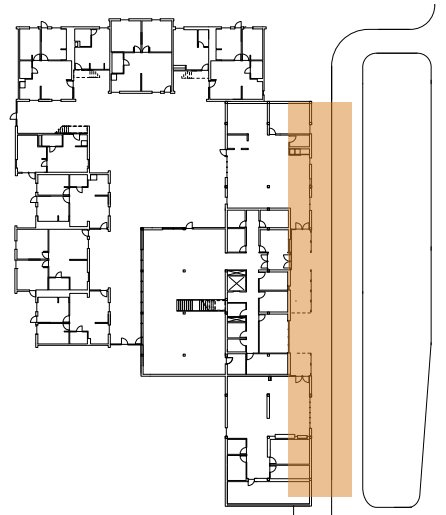


## Front Porch- Pickup Area

Frosted frit pattern glass provides privacy to program facing the street.

The main entrance is oriented on axis through the parking lot to aid in clarity of entrance. Helpful for way finding and trauma victims who have experienced head injuries.<sup>1</sup>

The community house can be seen from the front elevation, helping residents distinguish the entry and invite them into community space.



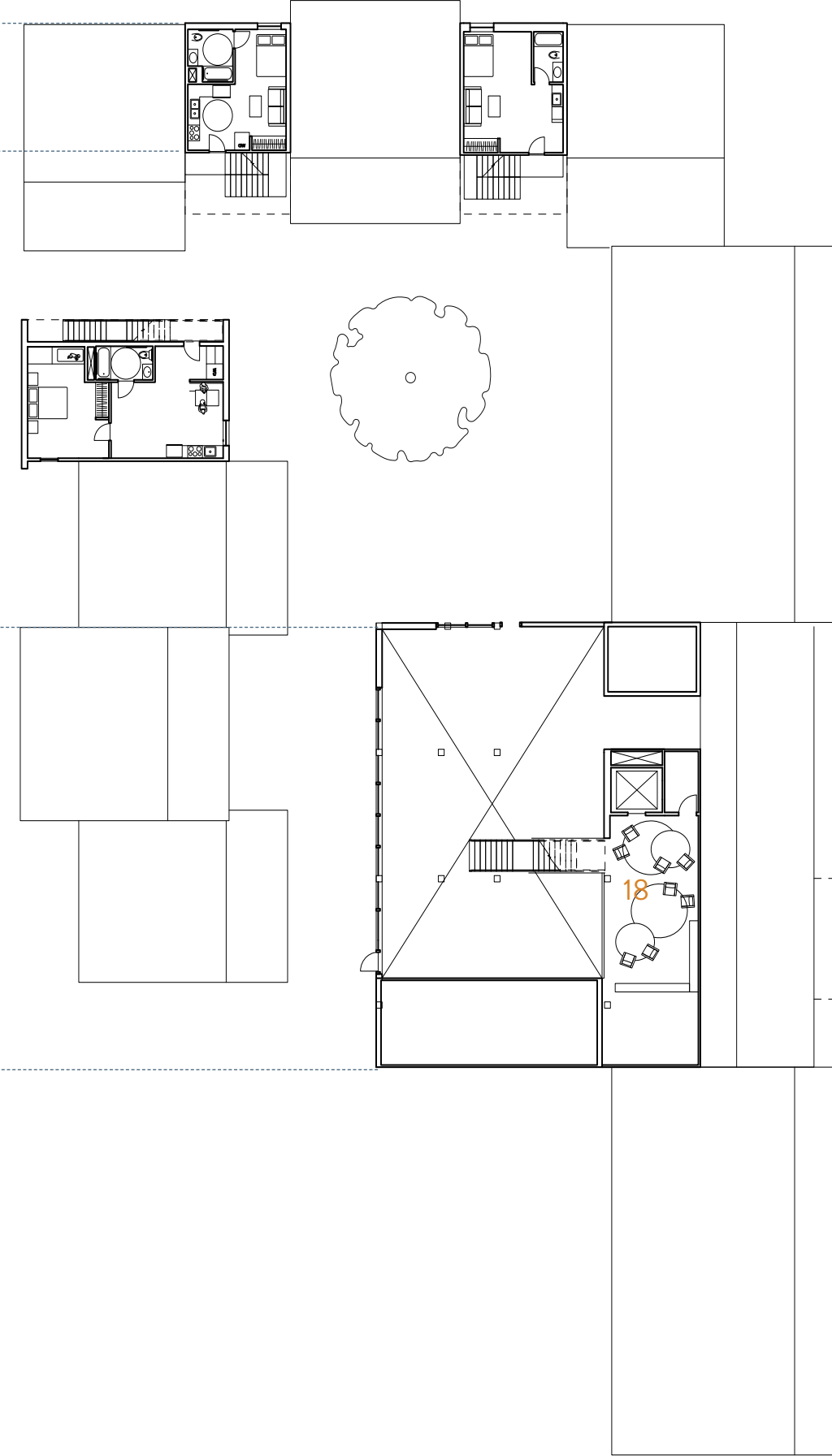
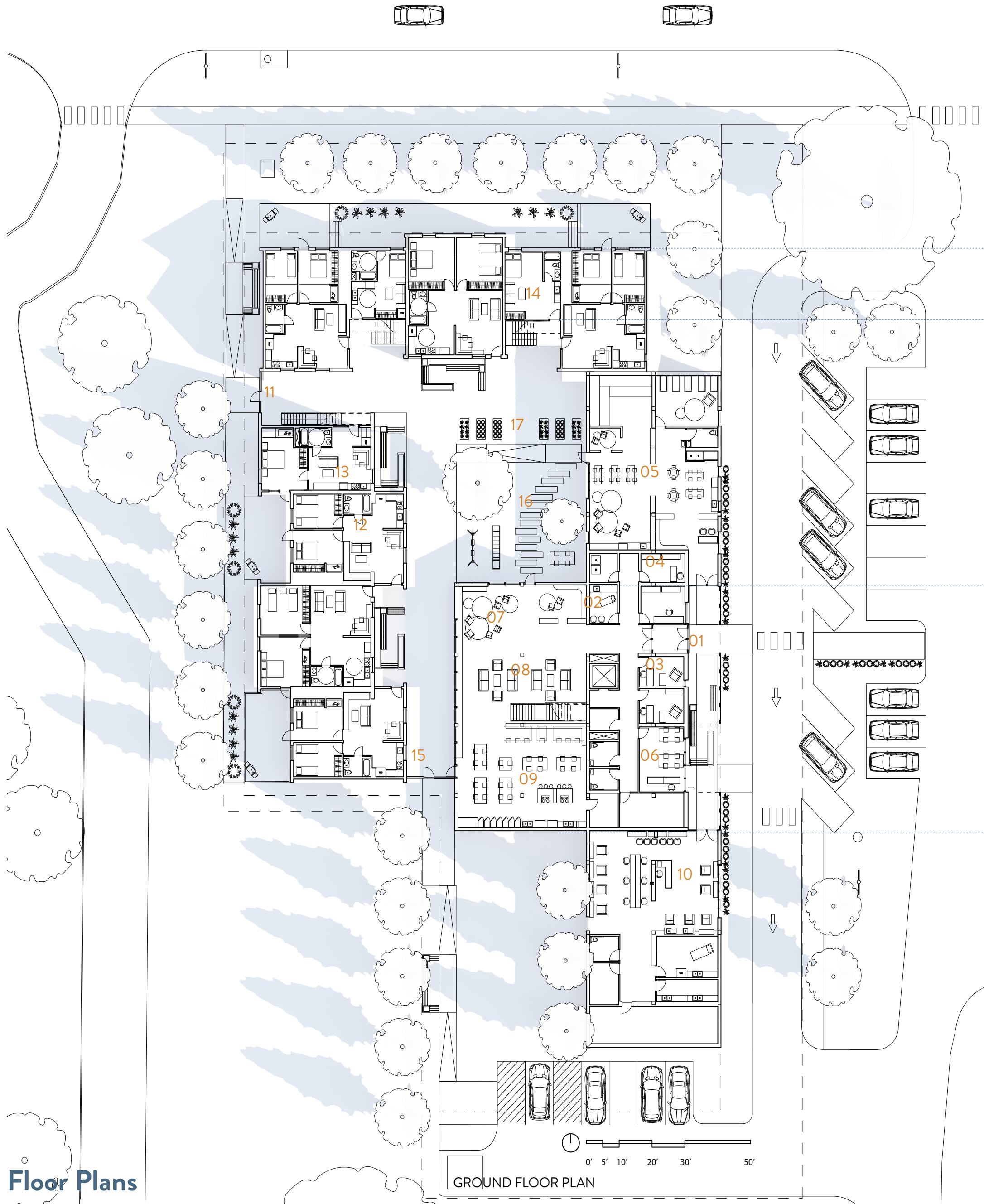
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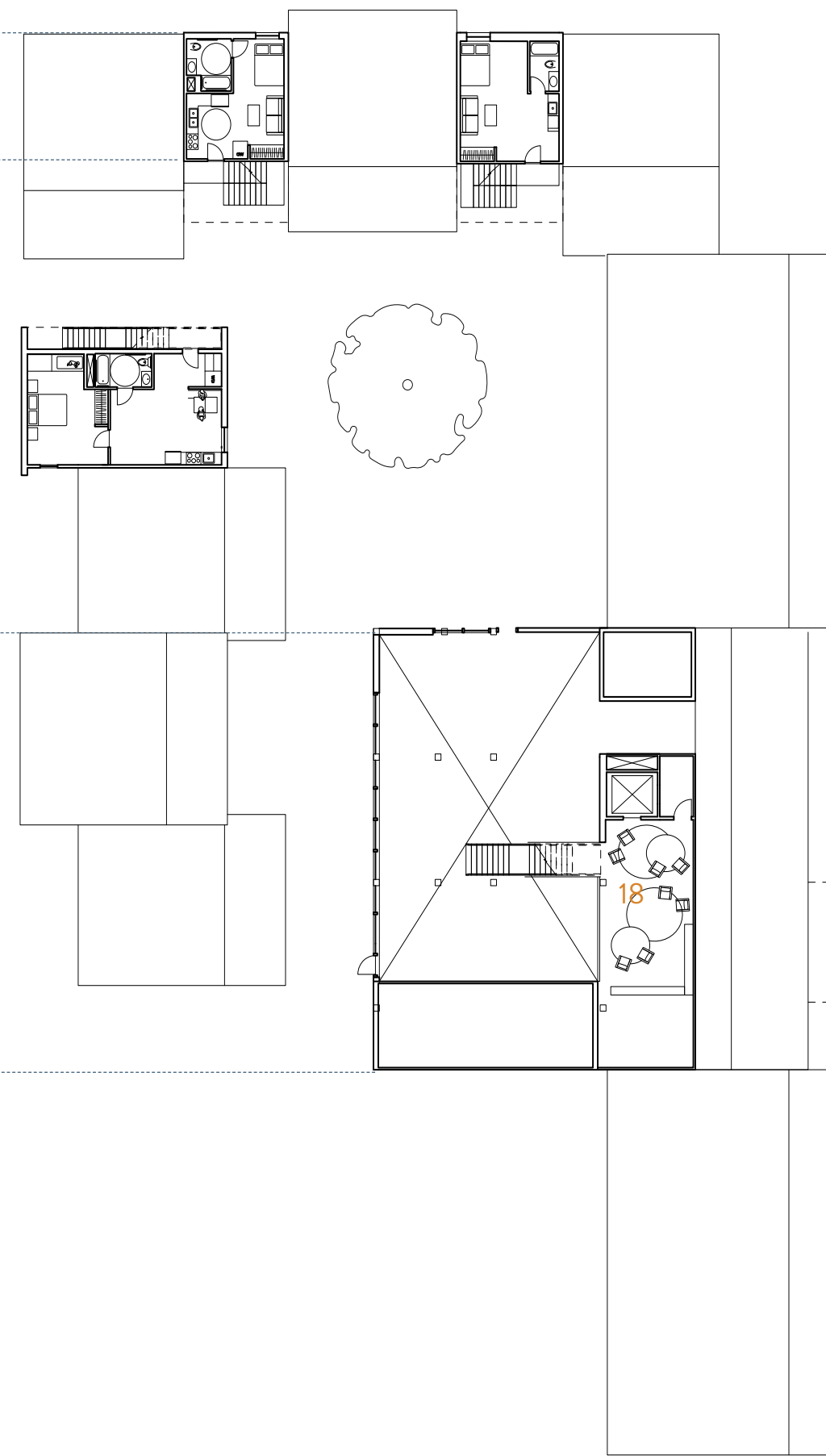
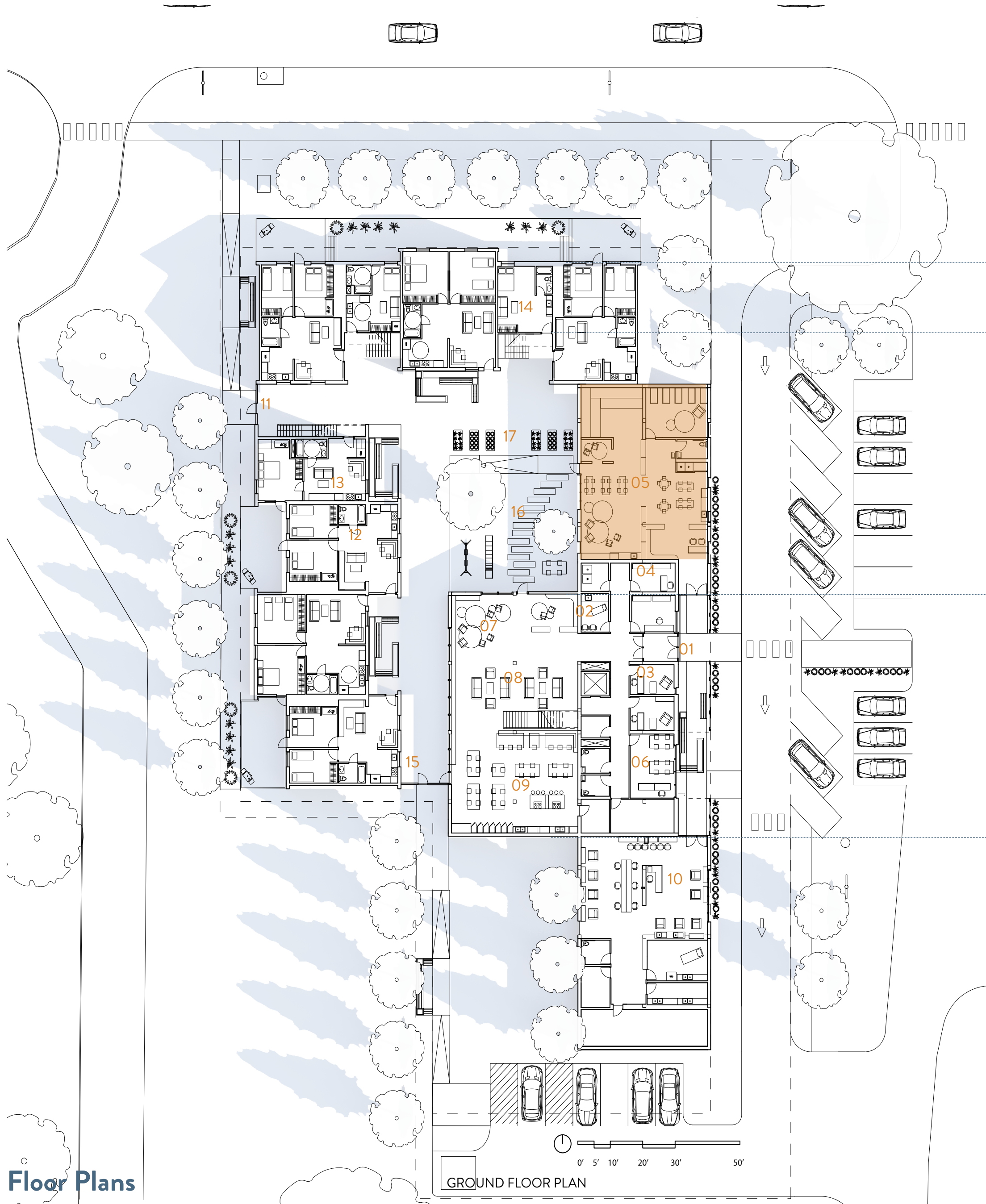
## Elevation

<sup>1</sup>Hobart, Margaret. “Building Dignity Design Strategies for Domestic Violence Shelter.” Building Dignity, WSCADV, <https://buildingdignity.wscadv.org/communal-space/empower/>.





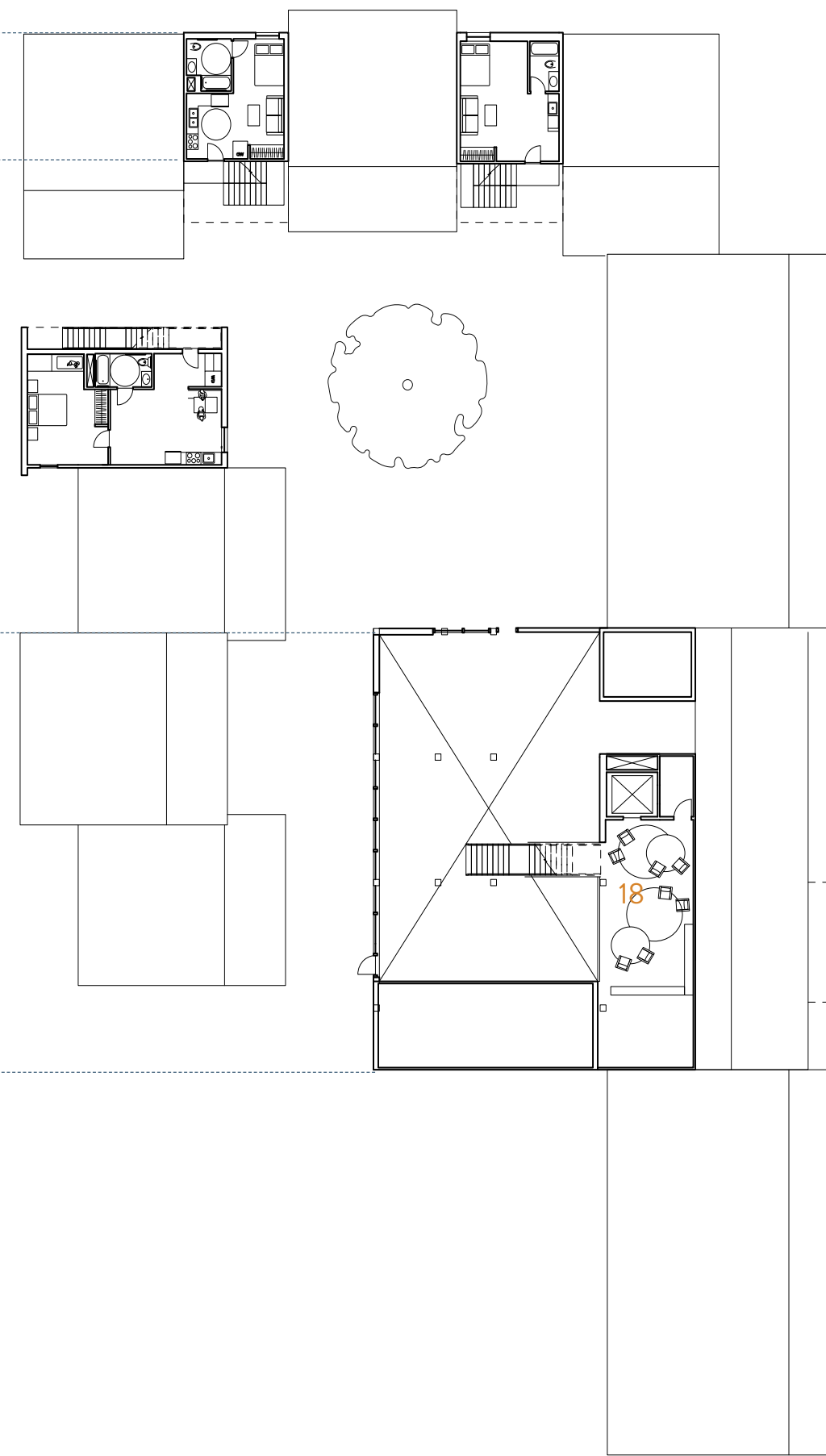
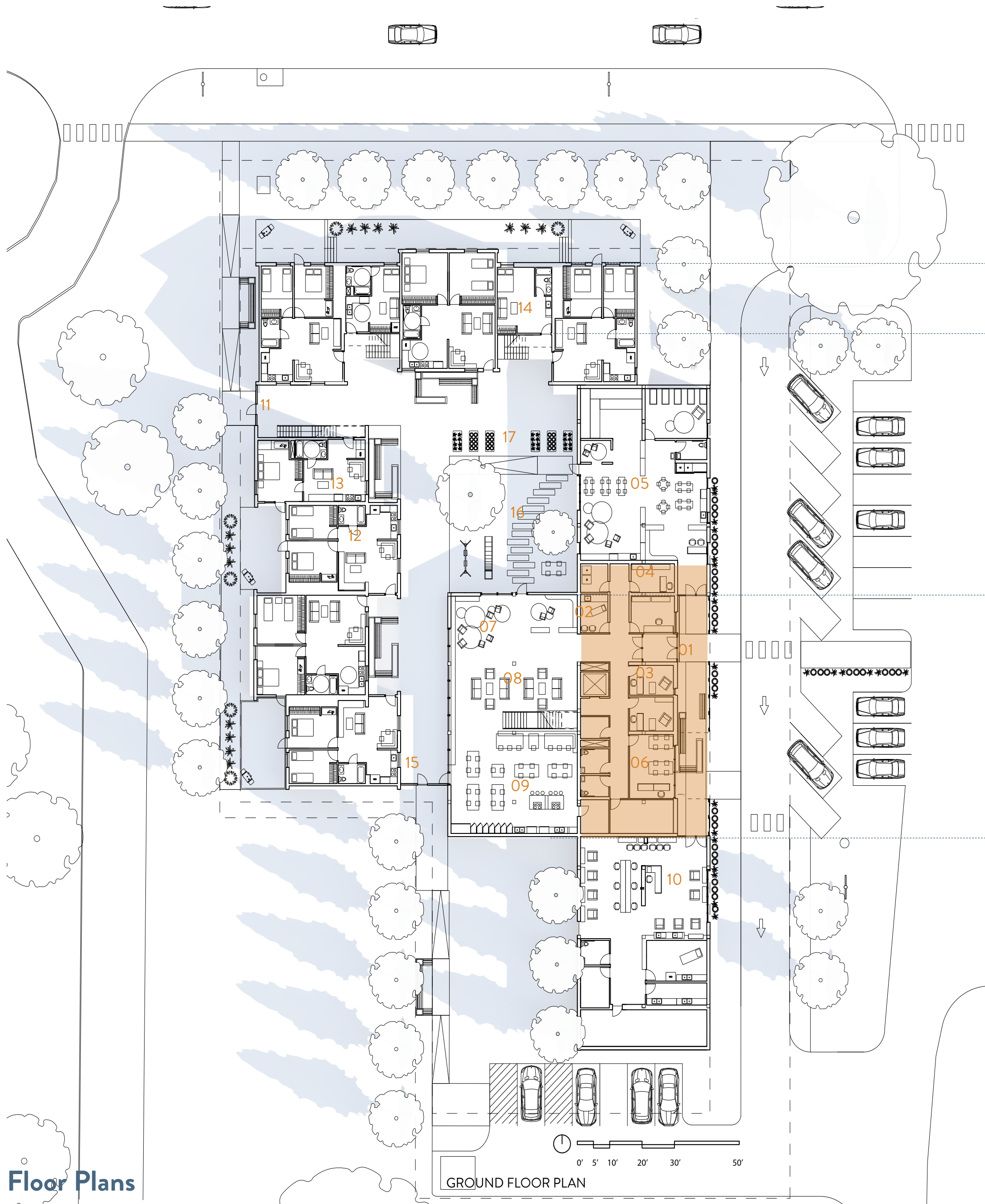




## DAYCARE

Daycare services families that live within the facility and in the community. Entry is kept separate form the rest of the facility for safety.

The layout is flexible but contains a toddler space, messy space, quiet reading space with a raised platform, and an infant room which is closed off from the rest of the facility.

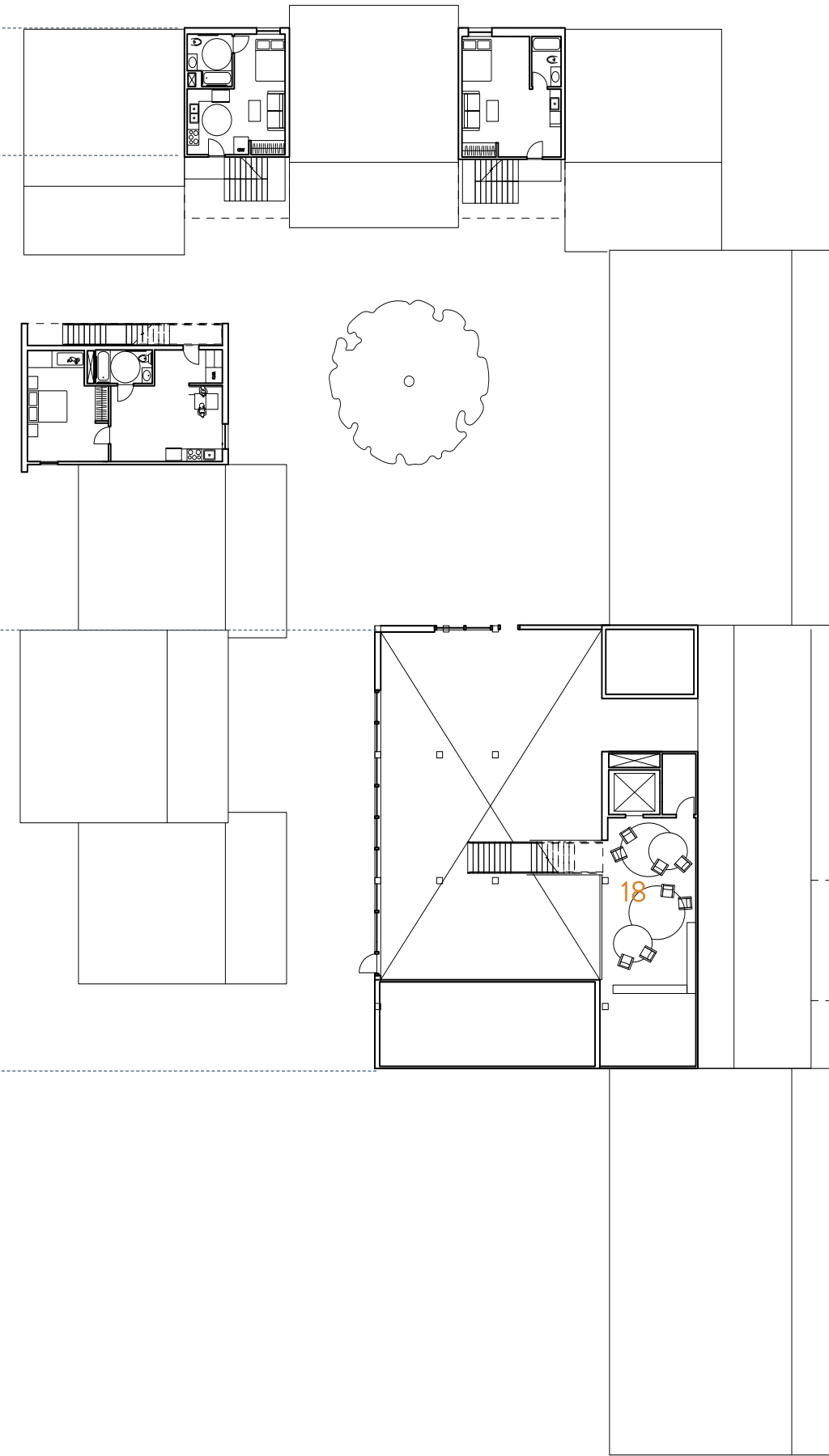
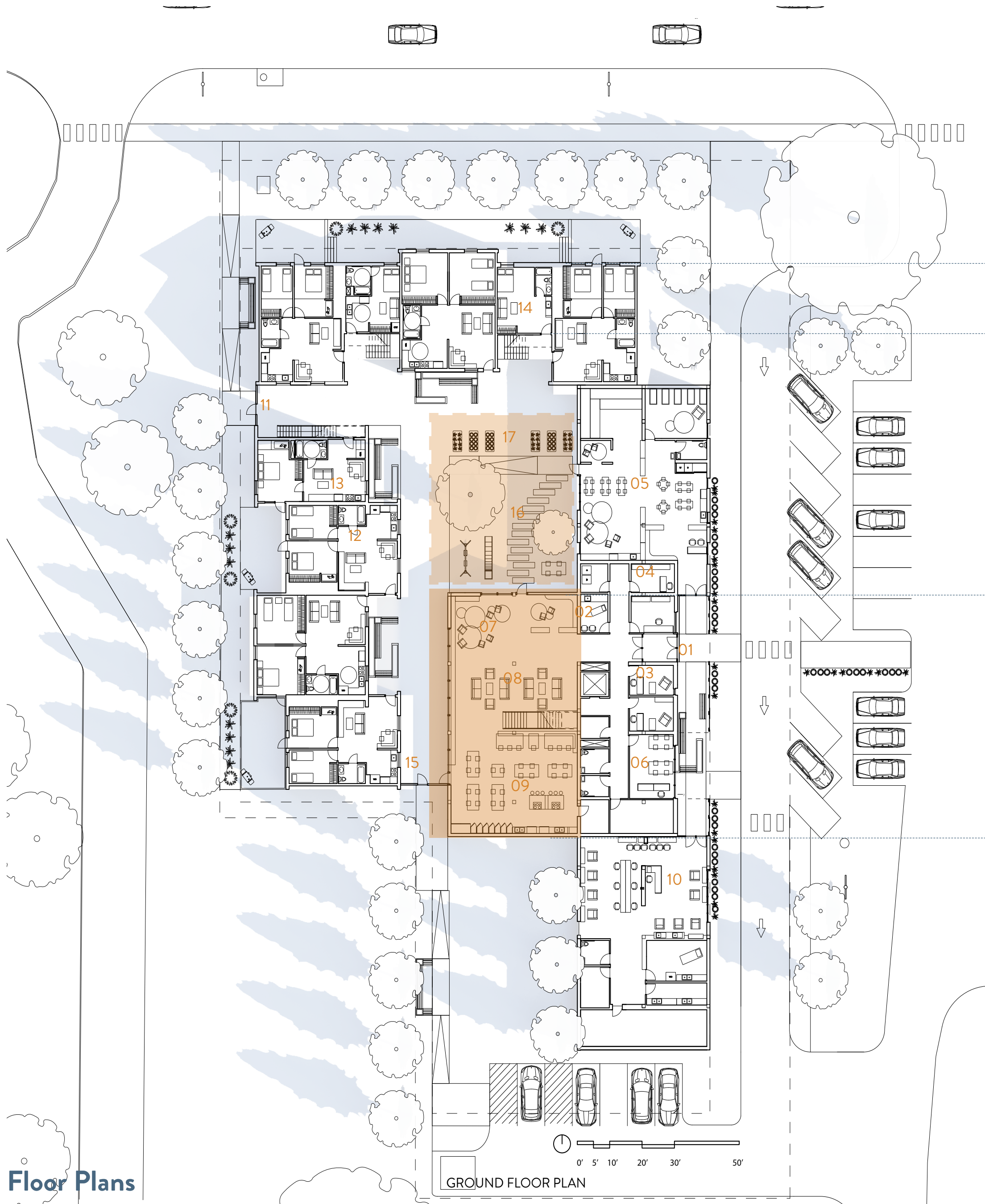


## ADMIN & COMMON SPACES

The entry is protected by a staffed vestibule, in which people check in and out of. The admin spaces consist of:

- Two in-house therapists
- A computer workshop room for job search and training
- In-house nurse and staff laundry
- Commodity storage

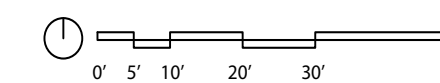
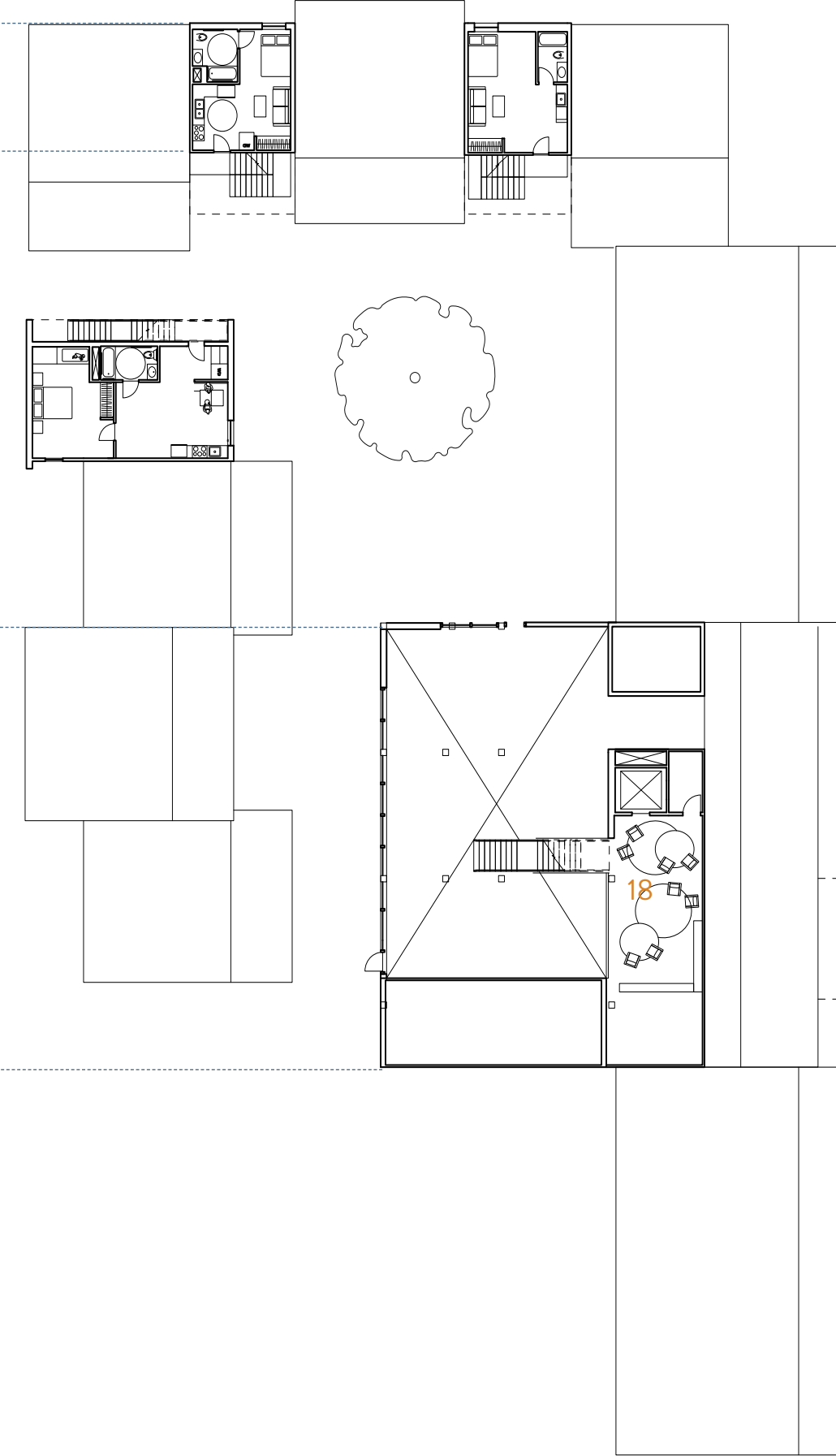
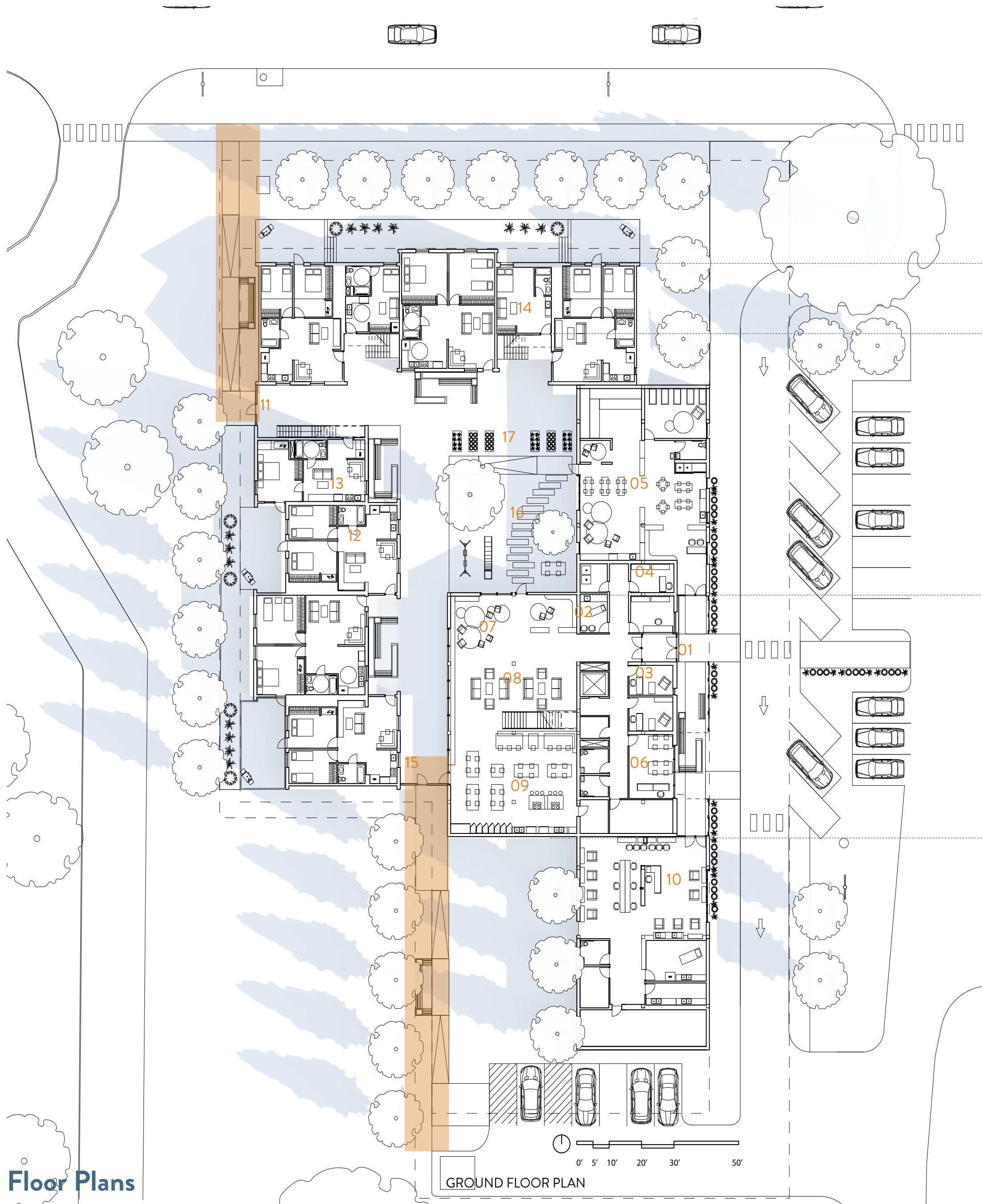




## COMMUNITY HOUSE & COURTYARD

The community house provides the flowing amenities to residents

- A private courtyard with play space for children and **visibility for mothers.**
- Community living and dining room with a **variety of seating choices.**
- A pantry to help **alleviate feelings of scarcity.**



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

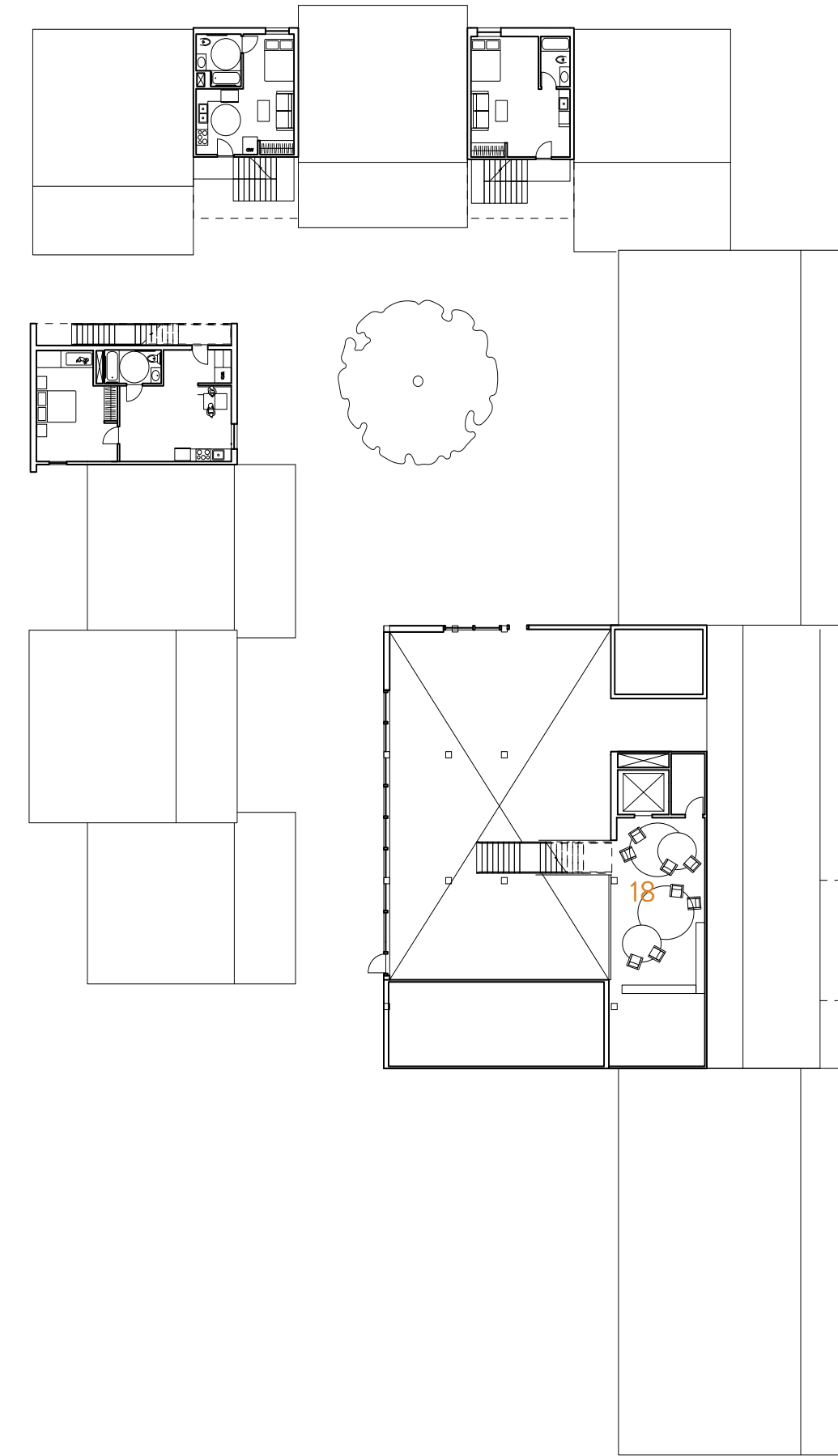
## RESIDENT ENTRY

Two secured gates on either side of the facility allow residents to pass into the premises with an assigned key card. This allows **connection** to public transportation and connection with the nearby community while still maintaining safety.

“We must assess the neighborhood’s ability to support residents’ regaining independence, economic opportunities, and social connections.”

-Building Dignity: Empower





SECOND FLOOR PLAN

## 10 WASHBURN TECH COSMETOLOGY SCHOOL

Residents and community members can learn how to give and receive salon services.

Initiatives like **Chicago Says No More** have already begun successful programs to train hair stylists to have conversations about abuse when they recognize the signs. This program helps with the **destigmatization of domestic abuse** and empower survivors by helping them **gain financial independence**.

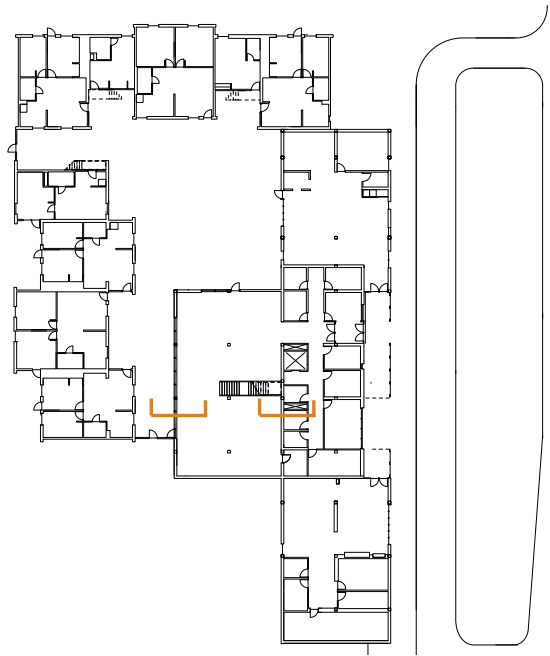
*"I know with being an educator, we have to be able to identify if a client is a victim of domestic violence as well as sexual violence. We look for physical signs as well as social signs."*<sup>1</sup>

*-Stephanie Sputnam, an educator at Tricoci University of Beauty Culture*

<sup>1</sup>Ahmad, Samar. "Illinois Hairstylists Train to Recognize Domestic Violence Signs." Loyola Phoenix, 14 Feb. 2018, <http://loyolaphoenix.com/2018/02/illinois-hairstylists-train-recognize-domestic-violence-signs/>.

<sup>2</sup>Hobart, Margaret. "Building Dignity Design Strategies for Domestic Violence Shelter." Building Dignity, WSCADV, <https://buildingdignity.wscadv.org/communal-space/empower/>.





**WALL (FROM OUTSIDE TO INSIDE)**

STANDING SEAM METAL SIDING  
UNDERCLOAK SLIDER FASTENERS  
EVODRIVE COMPACT SLIDING MOTOR  
PERFORATED COATED ALUMINUM PANELS  
METAL FLASHING  
ALUMINUM WINDOW DOUBLE GLAZED  
5/8" O.S.B. UNDERLAY  
6" POLYSTYRENE RIGID INSULATION  
VAPOR BARRIER  
1"X 2" TIMBER BATTENS  
6"X 21" GLULAM BEAM

**ROOF (FROM OUTSIDE TO INSIDE)**

STANDING SEAM METAL ROOFING  
UNDERCLOAK SLIDER FASTENERS  
5/8" O.S.B. UNDERLAY  
6" POLYSTYRENE RIGID INSULATION  
VAPOR BARRIER  
1/2" PLYWOOD SHEATHING  
1"X 2" TIMBER BATTENS  
5' X 20' 3 PLY CLT PANEL

**FLOOR (FROM INSIDE TO OUTSIDE)**

FINISH WOOD FLOOR OVER INSULATION  
CONCRETE SLAB  
VAPOR BARRIER  
3" RIGID INSULATION  
6" CRUSHED STONE  
4" PERFORATED PIPE FOUNDATION DRAIN

0' 1' 2' 5'



**WALL (FROM OUTSIDE TO INSIDE)**

STANDING SEAM METAL SIDING  
METAL FLASHING  
ALUMINUM WINDOW DOUBLE GLAZED  
6"X 21" GLULAM BEAM  
TIMBER FRAMED 2"X6" SILL  
1/2" PLYWOOD  
1/2" GYPSUM BOARD

**ROOF (FROM OUTSIDE TO INSIDE)**

BEIGE TERRACOTTA TILE SYSTEM  
1"X2" BATTENS  
5/8" O.S.B. UNDERLAY  
METAL FLASHING AT GUTTER  
6" POLYSTYRENE RIGID INSULATION  
VAPOR BARRIER  
1/2" PLYWOOD SHEATHING  
1" X 2" TIMBER BATTENS  
5' X 20' 3 PLY CLT PANEL  
1/2" GYPSUM BOARD AT SOFFIT

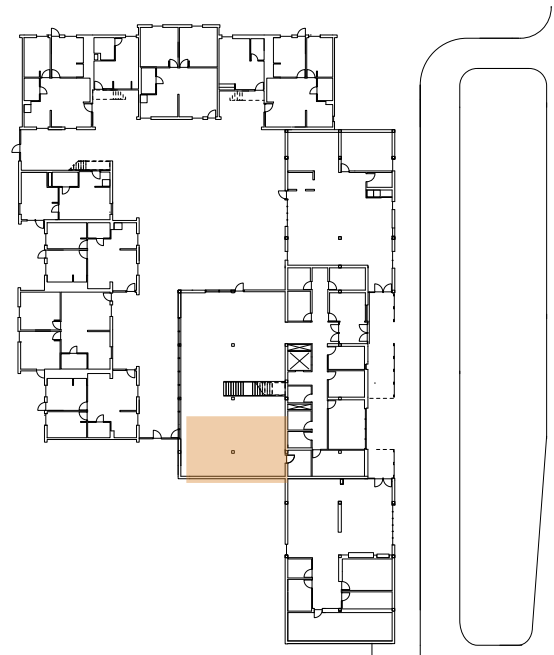
**FLOOR (FROM INSIDE TO OUTSIDE)**

FINISH WOOD FLOOR OVER INSULATION  
CONCRETE SLAB  
VAPOR BARRIER  
3" RIGID INSULATION  
6" CRUSHED STONE

0' 1' 2' 5'

Area of Inquiry- Wall Sections





## DINING DETAILS

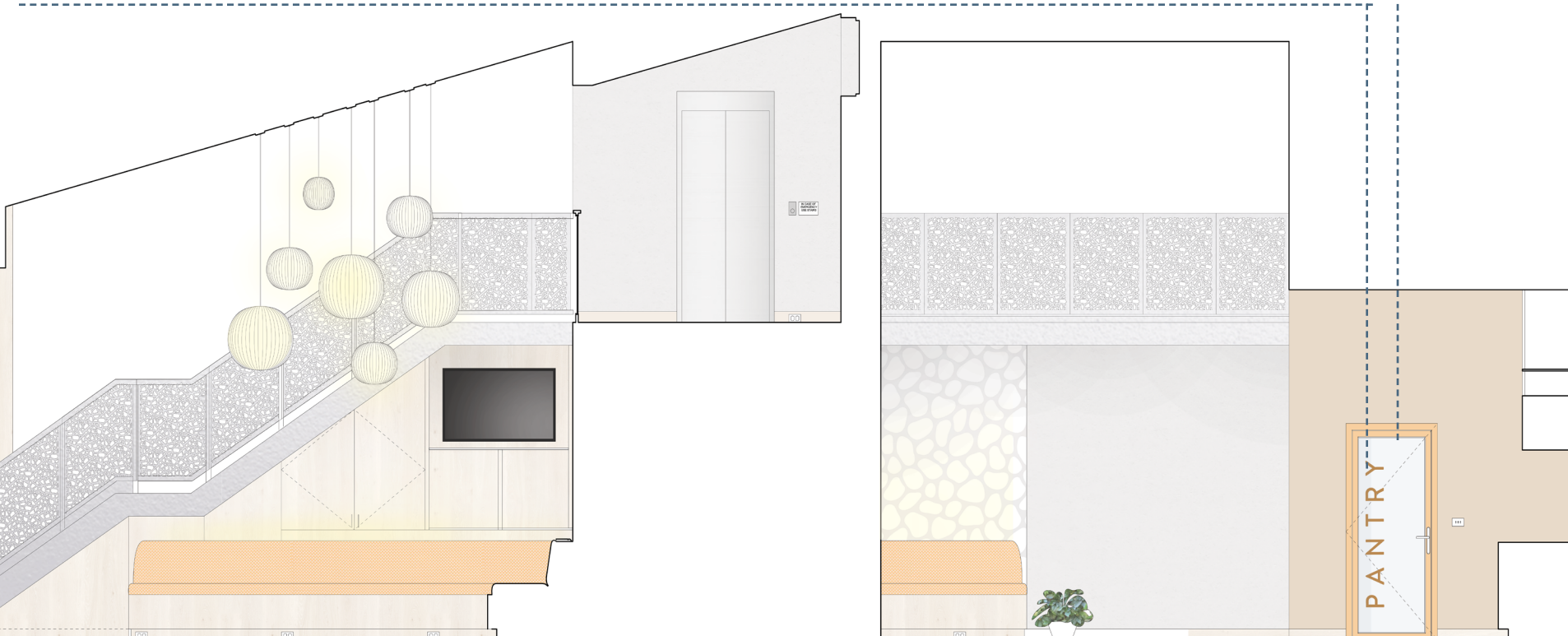
Mounted TV invites families to spend more time in community space and can be folded away flush for easy storage.

PVC wall coverings in high traffic areas and around areas where food is common. They add patterns which aid with wayfinding. They're durable and easily cleaned.



Community pantry helps alleviate feelings of scarcity.

Graphic design lets residents know that this pantry is accessible to them. This helps with wayfinding and comfort.





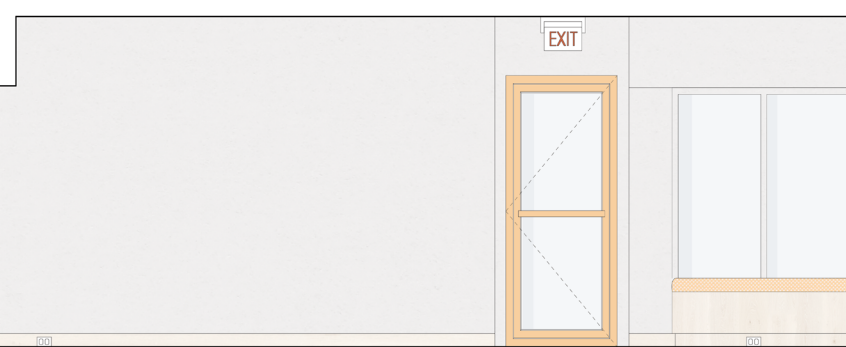
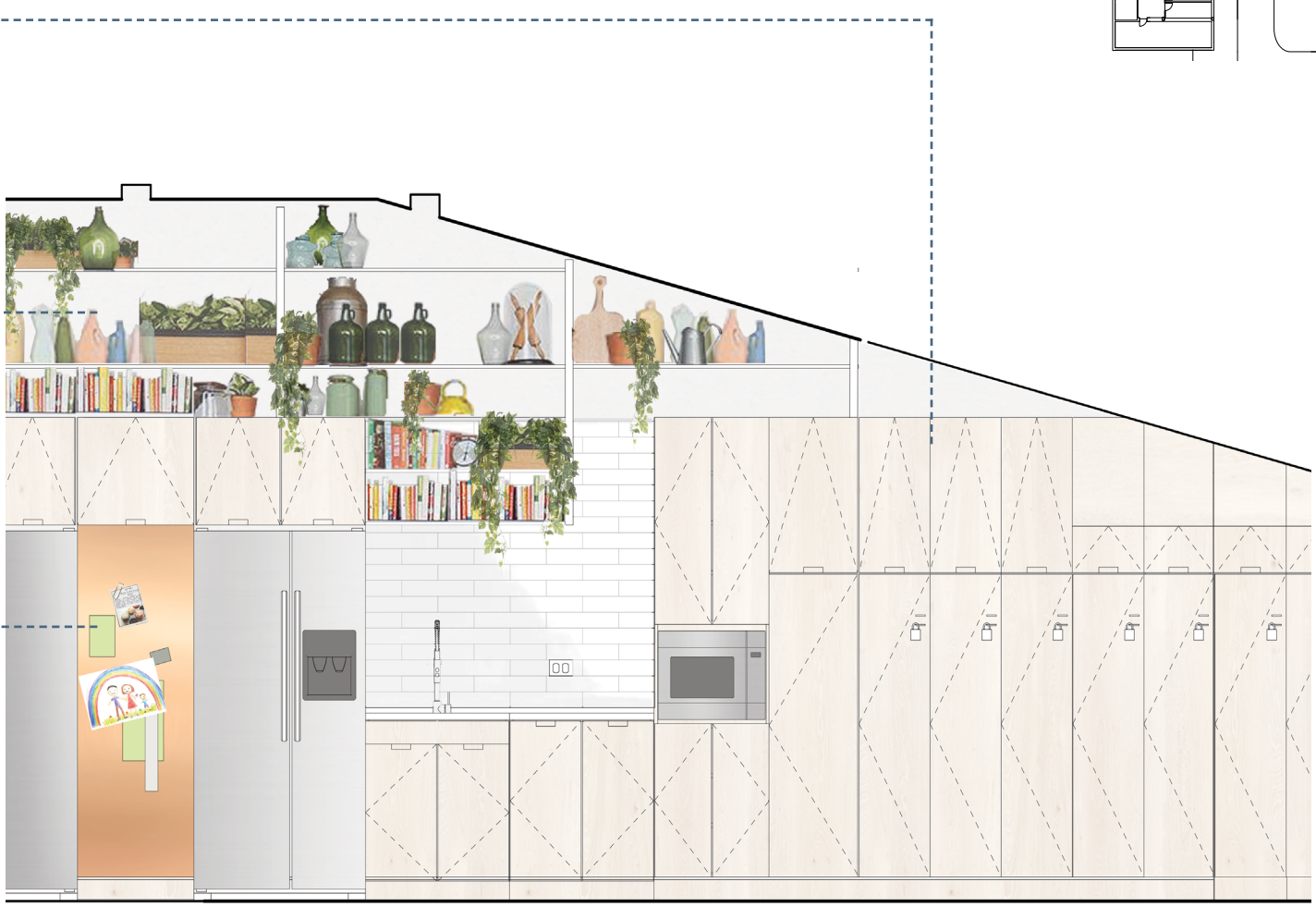
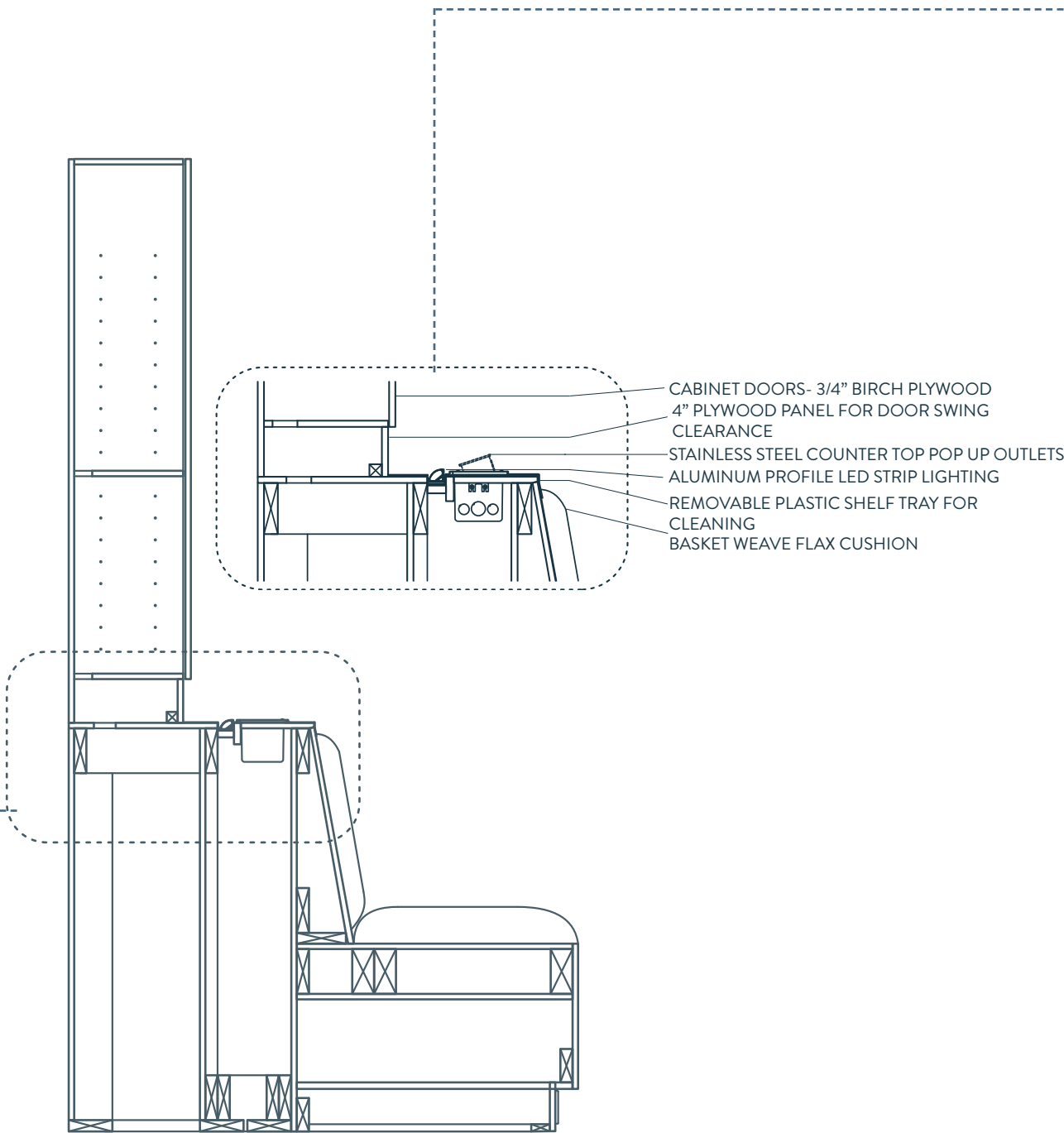
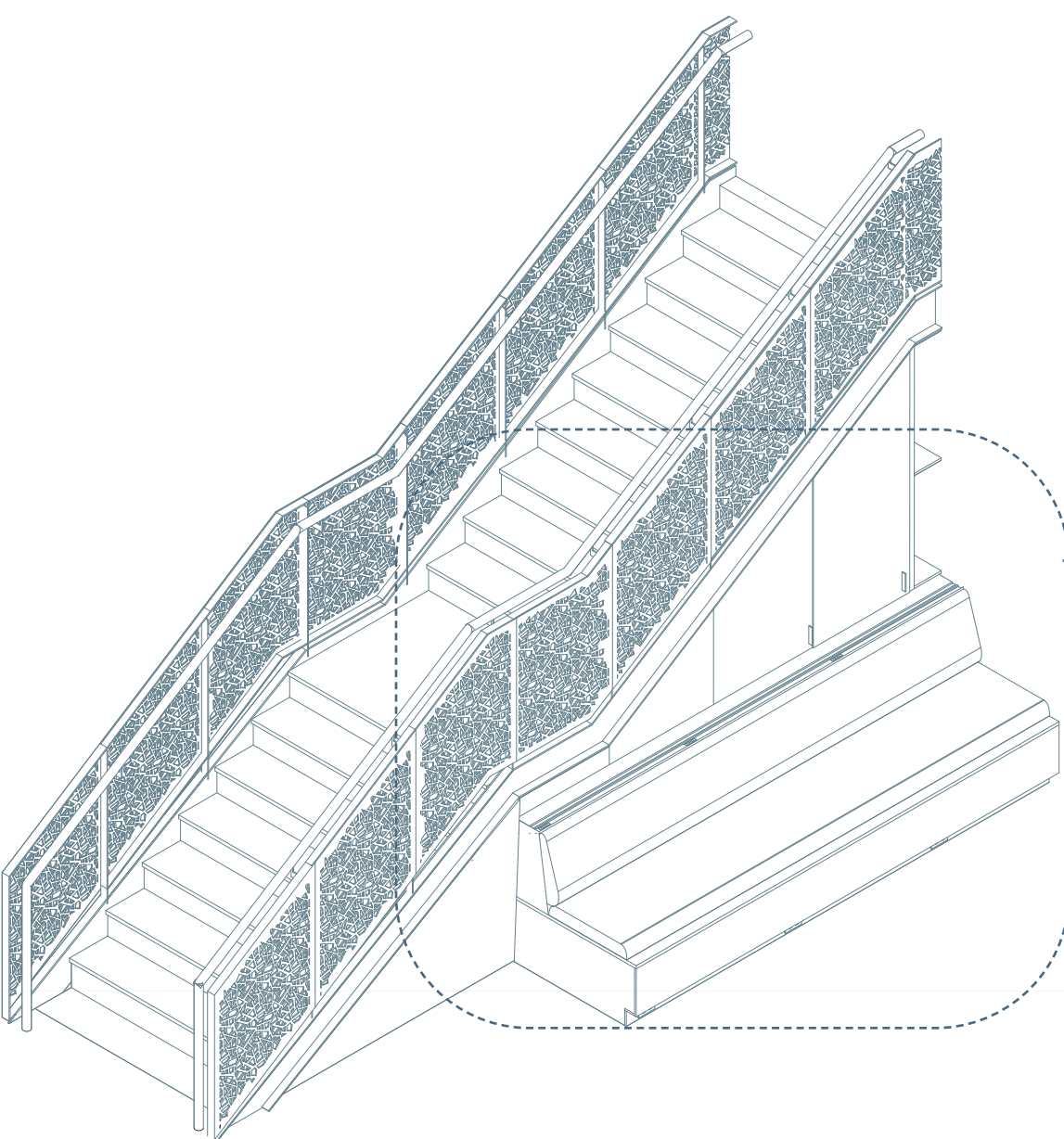
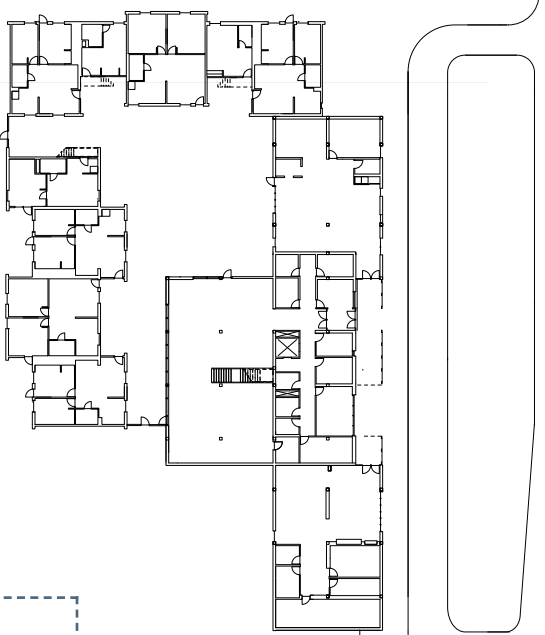
DINING DETAILS

Banquette seating provides a variety of seating options in the dining space. Lighting helps with wayfinding and an integrated shelf provides outlets, inviting people to **spend more time in community space**.

Individual lockable storage alleviates conflict and allows **autonomy and control** over access to food.

High shelving allows staff and residents space to **customize** the space seasonally and display objects out of reach from small children.

Metal panel between fridges allows residents to display recipes and artwork to **customize** their space.



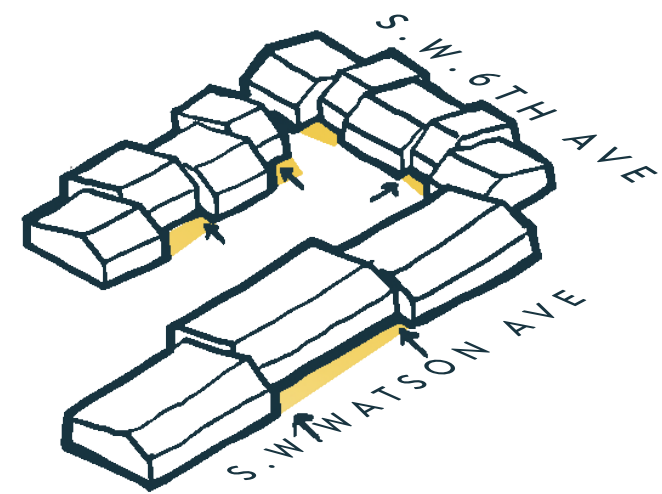
Community Kitchen + Dining- Details





## PORCHES & PATIOS

Offer opportunities for smaller communities to form serve as **visual landmarks** for locating units.



## SMALL OUTDOOR WINDOW BOXES

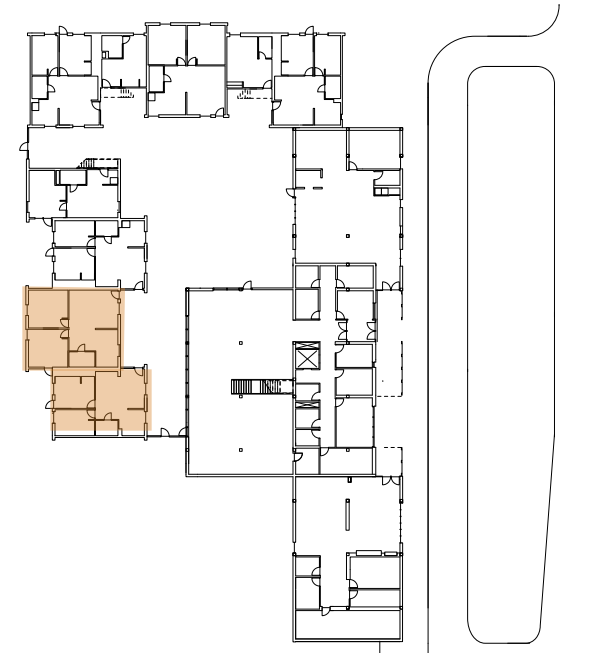
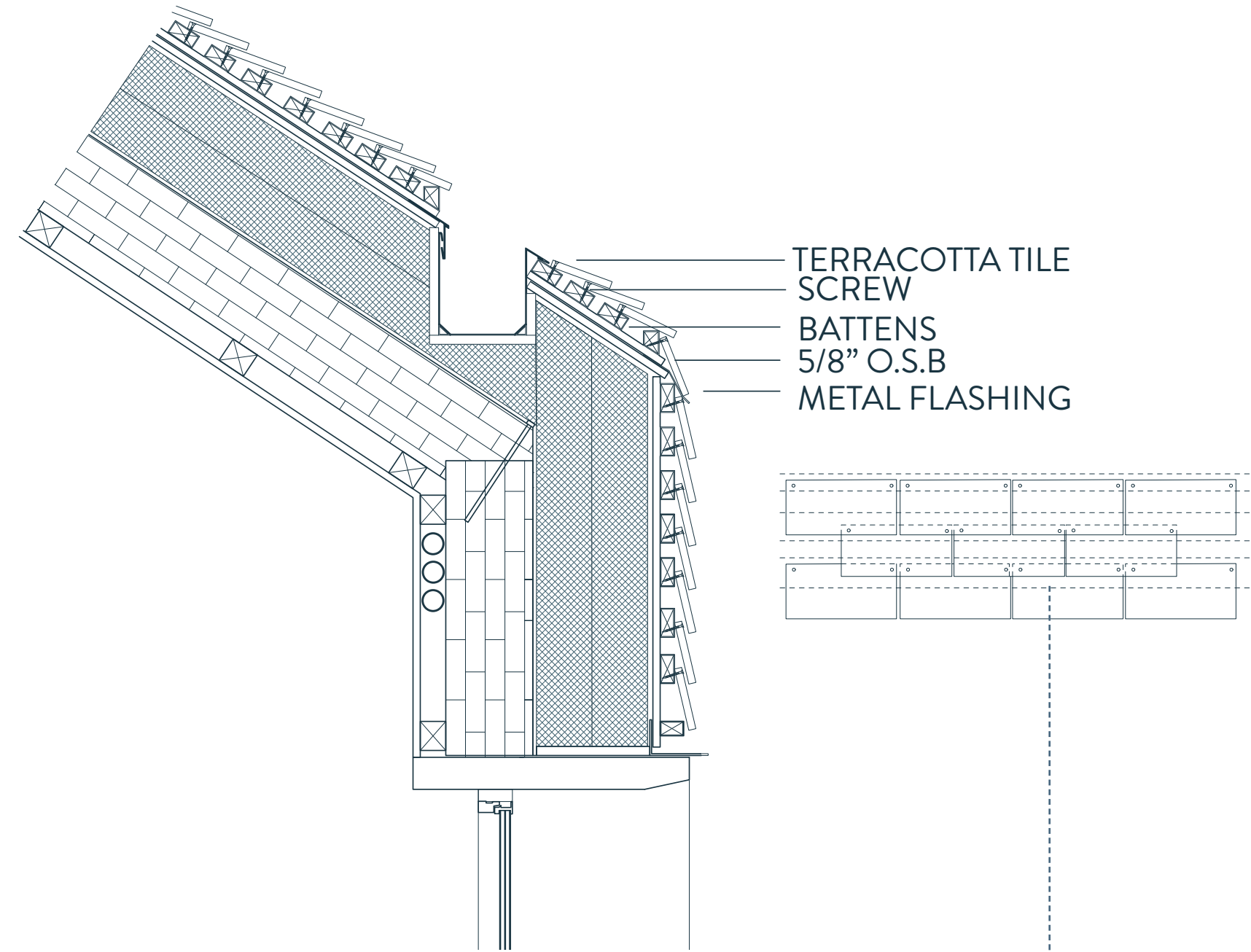
Small planters can be **interactive and therapeutic** can be beneficial in long-term care facilities where residents can help take care of them.

## POSITIVE DISTRACTIONS

Thoughtful use of color, art, and geometric pattern allows for positive distractions in spaces and make spaces feel **uplifting, familiar, and friendly.**

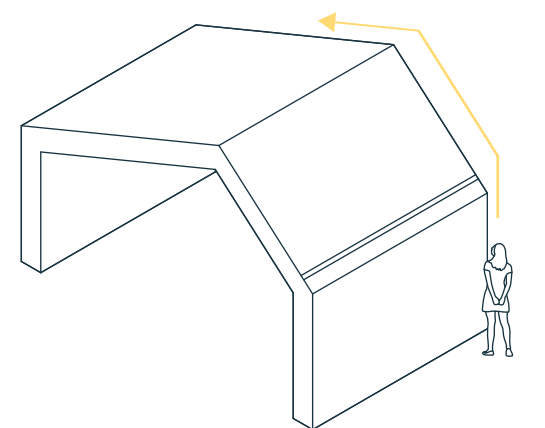
## AMPLE STORAGE

Residents are given a variety of storage options to safely unpack and stow their belongings in.

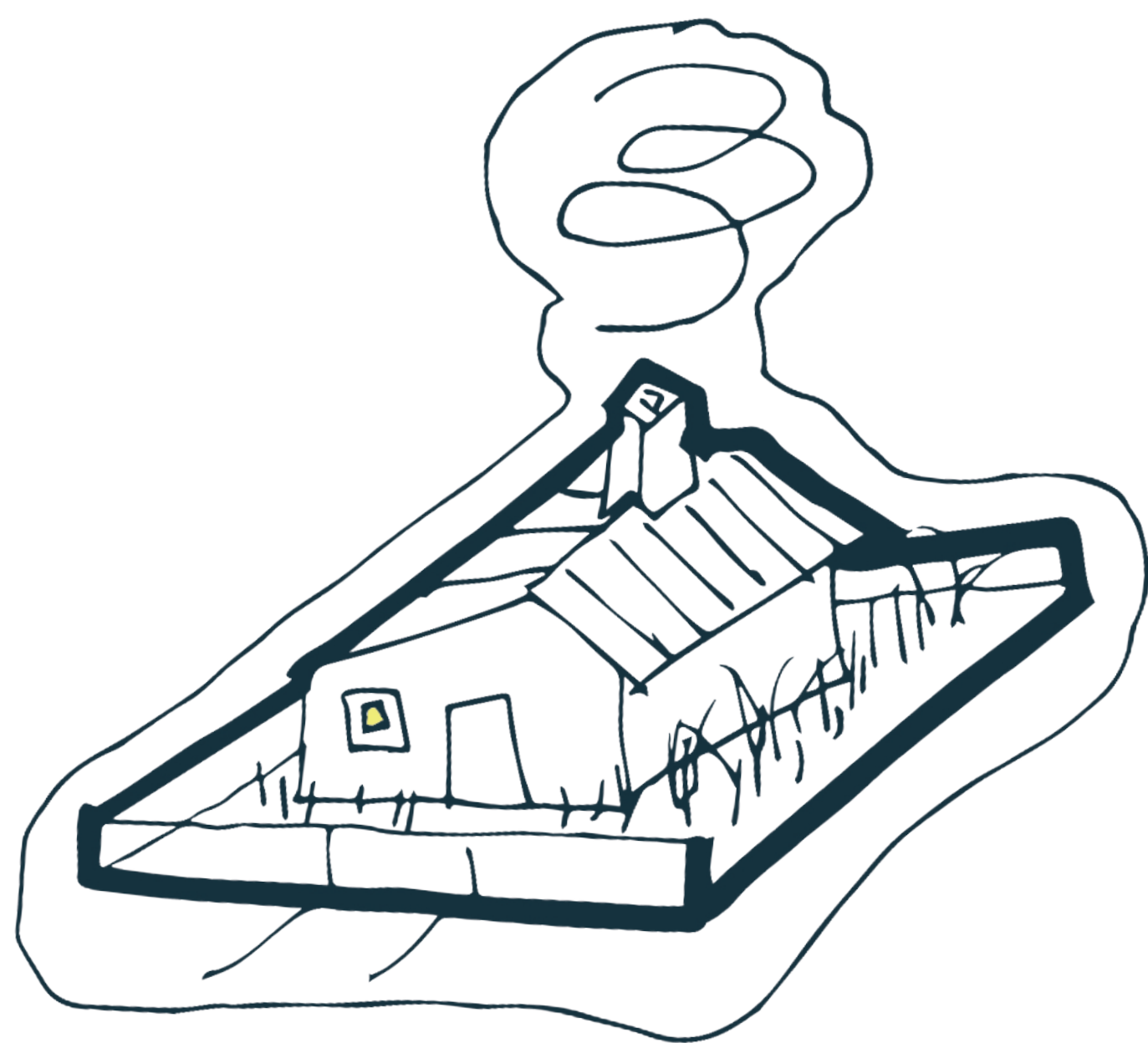


## MATERIALITY WRAP + HIDDEN GUTTER

A limestone-colored tile forms a "**protective wrap**" around the outside of the residences. That wrap is broken strategically and it's presence is preserved in moments like this gutter detail above.







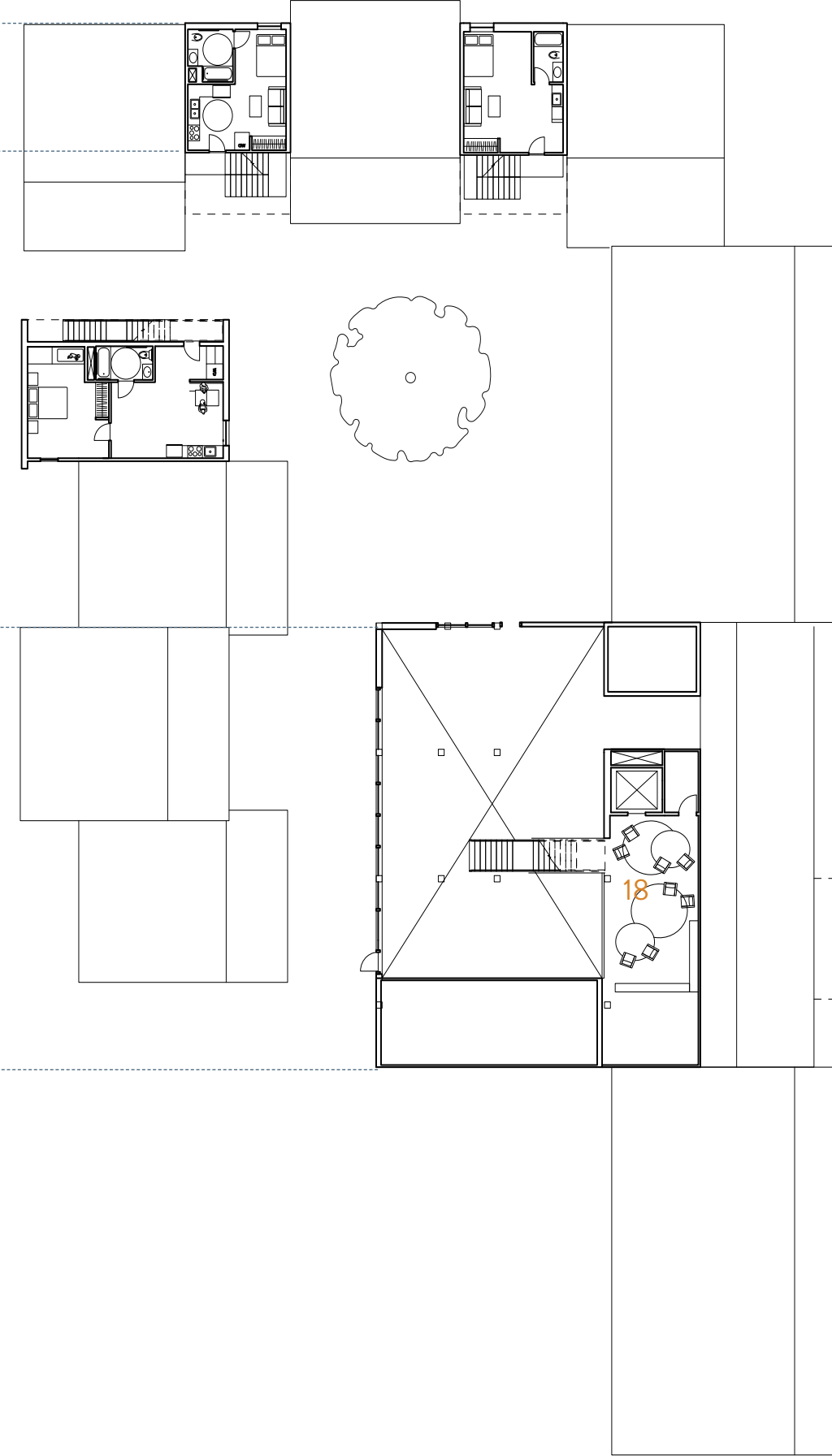
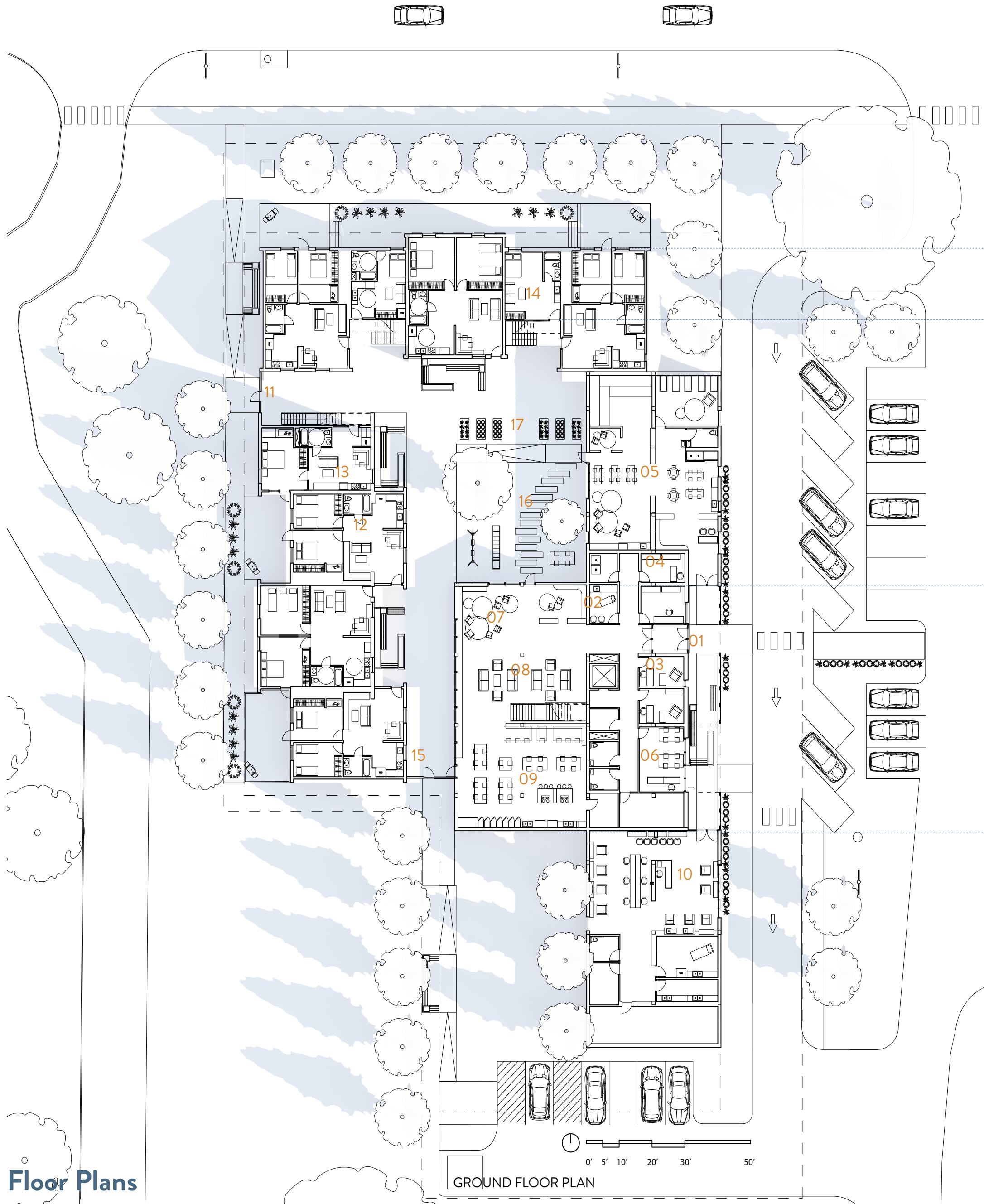
If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic abuse, all the  
National Domestic Violence hot line at:

1-800-799-7233 (SAFE)

Visit [ncadv.org/get-help](https://ncadv.org/get-help)







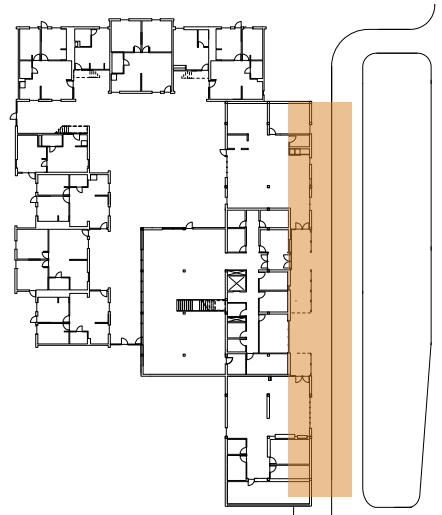




Entry: Approach



Front Porch: Pickup Area



Frosted frit pattern glass provides privacy to program facing the street.

The main entrance is oriented on axis through the parking lot to aid in clarity of entrance. Helpful for way finding and trauma victims who have experienced head injuries.<sup>1</sup>

The community house can be seen from the front elevation, helping residents distinguish the entry and invite them into community space.



Elevation

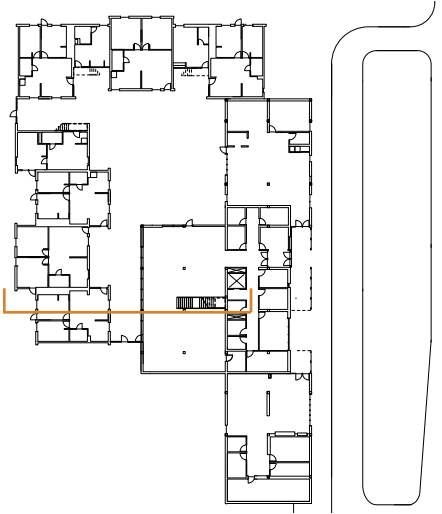
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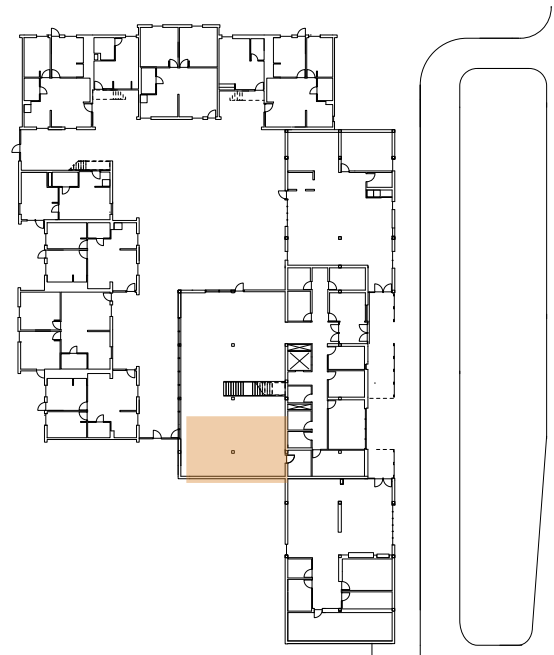
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Area of Inquiry





## DINING DETAILS

Mounted TV invites families to spend more time in community space and can be folded away flush for easy storage.

PVC wall coverings in high traffic areas and around areas where food is common. They add patterns which aid with wayfinding. They're durable and easily cleaned.



Community pantry helps alleviate feelings of scarcity.

Graphic design lets residents know that this pantry is accessible to them. This helps with wayfinding and comfort.

