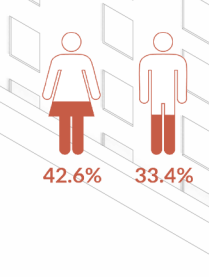
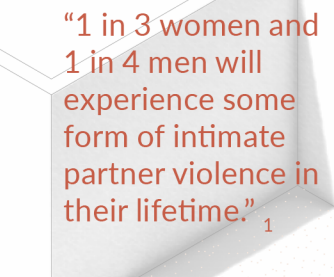
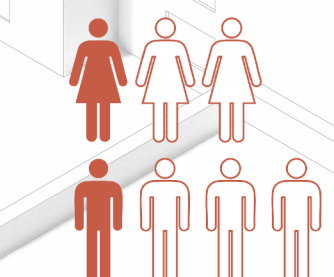


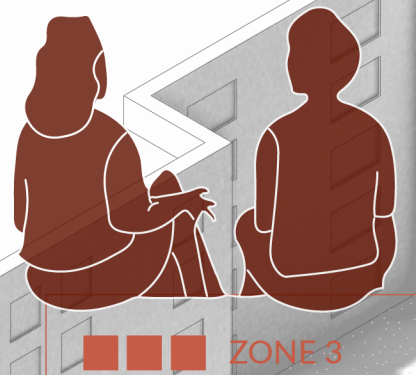
# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRANSITIONAL CENTER

Domestic violence continues to be a growing issue around the world. While shelters and support facilities exist, many lack the necessary resources to help survivors transition to safe, independent lives. These spaces often fail to accommodate families and do not provide dedicated services for children. In response to this gap, I am designing a domestic violence transitional center specifically for mothers and their children. A safe haven where they can find retreat, support, and most importantly, healing. This center will offer a nurturing environment where families can begin to mend from trauma, rediscover hope, and rebuild their futures together, surrounded by compassion, safety, and the tools they need to thrive.



## SEEKING RETREAT TO HEAL REACHING OUT FOR HELP

Once a family discovers the center, even if they aren't ready or certain about moving in, they're welcomed to attend classes, build new skills, and connect with others in similar situations. These workshops are designed to foster a sense of belonging and support, allowing everyone to gain some level of autonomy. The goal is to break the harmful stigma surrounding seeking help for domestic violence and create a space for healing, empowerment, and connection at the heart of the experience.



## SEEKING RETREAT TO HEAL FULL SAFETY AND SECURITY

The living building internalizes its program to allow for privacy and a way to build a sense of community. The residents will have their own unit with the resources, and necessary amenities to transition back to a life of independence from their abuser.

## PRIVATE SURVIVOR UNITS LIVING

Single family housing zoned R-4 to the north. The residential height used as an entry for a more gradual entry for the residents.

An existing 2' older block wall surrounds the site providing additional security to the surrounding sites.

Charter School zoned as CSS. These one-story buildings have a single building courtyard between are buildings limiting the views and noise onto the site.

## SEEKING RETREAT TO HEAL DISCOVERY OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

According to the National Center for Domestic Violence, 88% estimated that nearly 73% of domestic violence clients go unreported. While there are many reasons for this, one significant factor is that survivors often don't know where to turn for help. By incorporating a public-facing program within the center, individuals are given a safe, accessible space to seek support. If their situation escalates, they'll already know where to find retreat and resources.

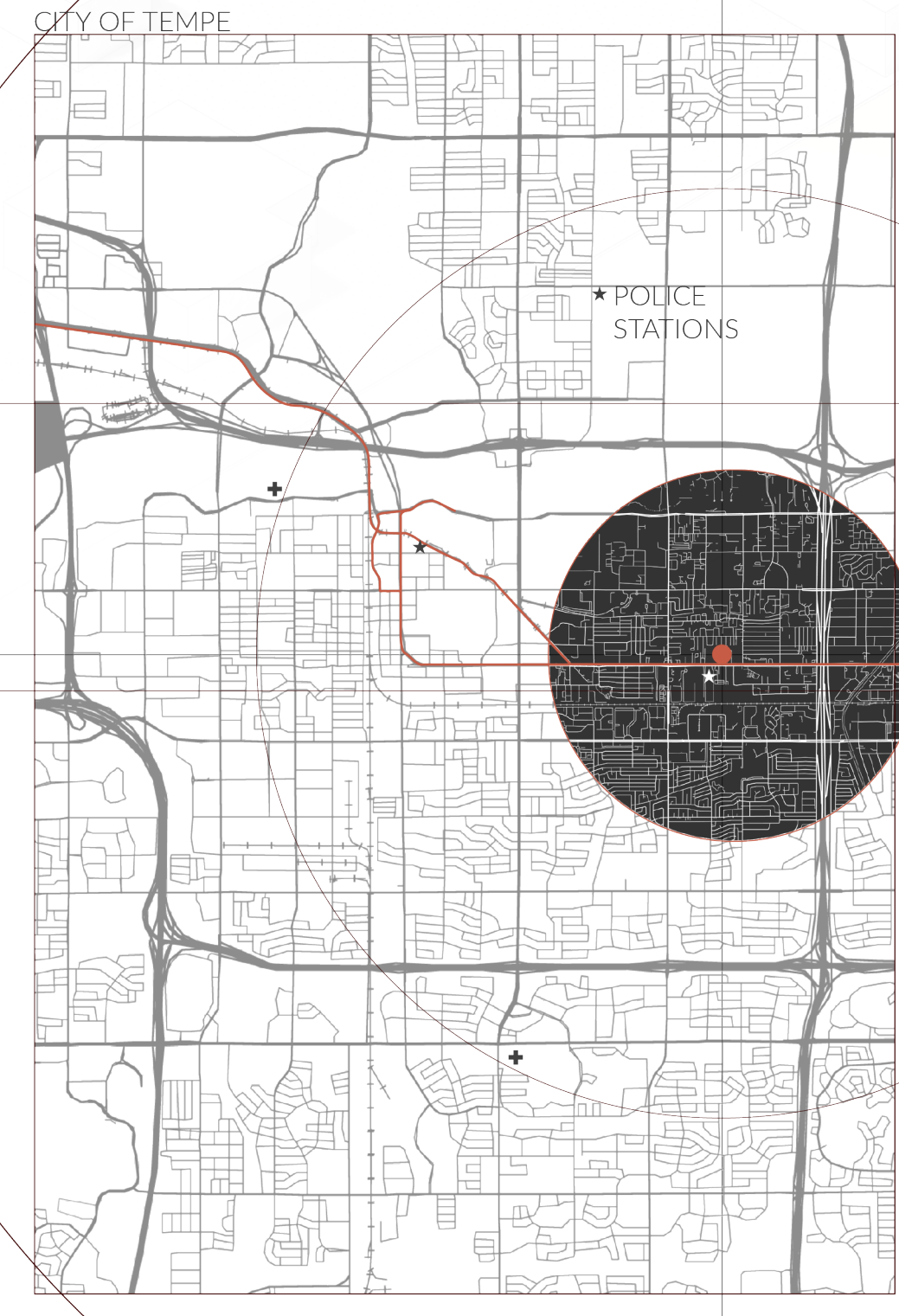
## ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP PUBLIC

## ADMIN + DAYCARE SUPPORT

## GOAL: 100X COMMUNITY SCALE

### SERVE AND ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY

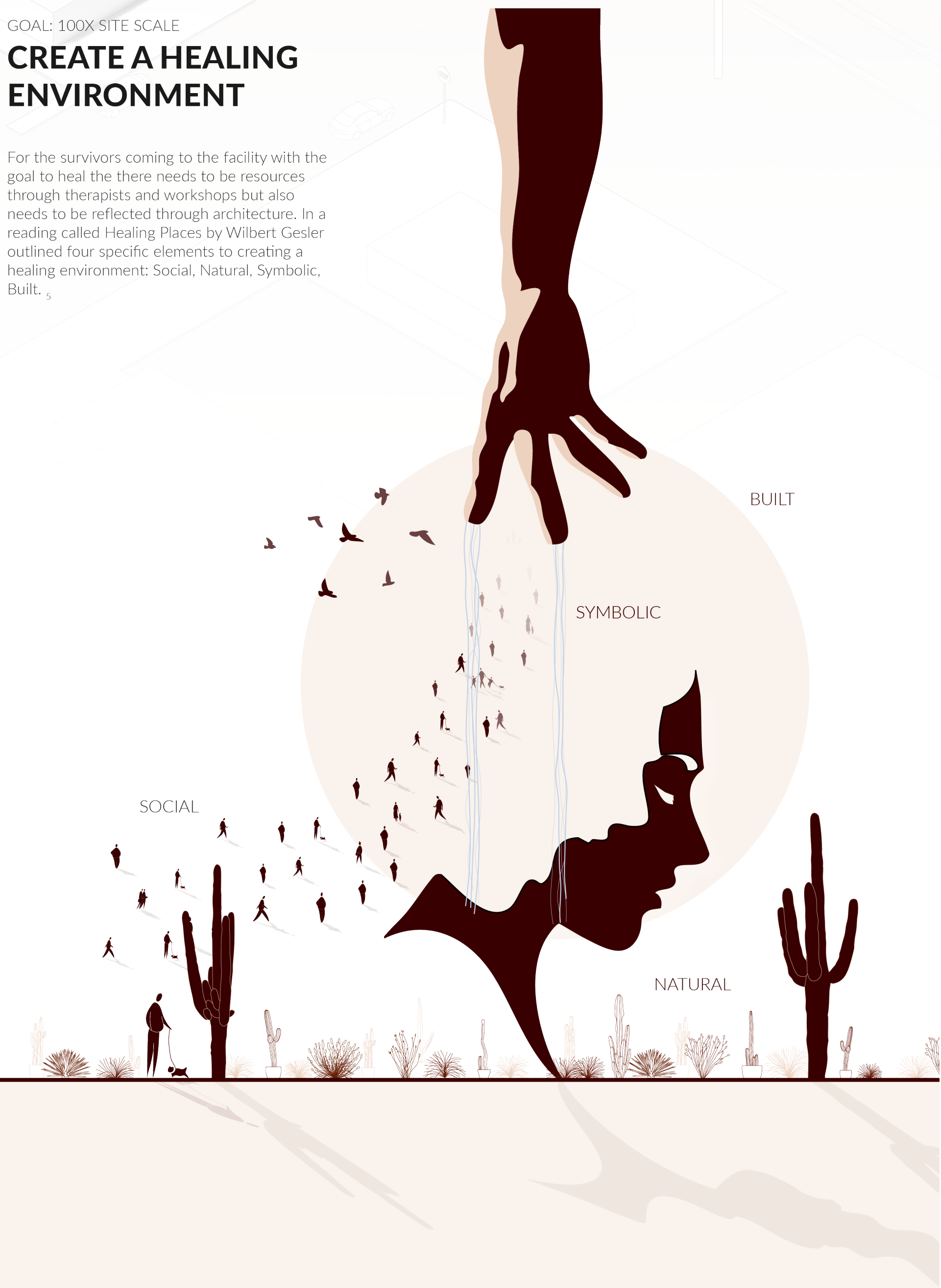
The goal of this center is to impact as many people that are suffering from domestic violence. Located near downtown Tempe, Arizona there are about 750,000 people within a 20-minute radius with proximity to public transportation, police station, hospitals, and lots of food and shops.



## GOAL: 100X SITE SCALE

### CREATE A HEALING ENVIRONMENT

For the survivors coming to the facility with the goal to heal there needs to be resources through therapists and workshops but also needs to be reflected through architecture. In a reading called Healing Places by Wilbert Gesler outlined four specific elements to creating a healing environment: Social, Natural, Symbolic, Built.



#### Social

Building social connections is an essential part of the healing process. Within the center, multiple programmatic spaces are designed to foster these interactions, including communal areas shared by residents and a dedicated workshop space for collaborative activities.

#### Natural

A connection to nature has been shown to provide meaningful benefits for individuals. Throughout the facility, the design emphasizes small, intentional moments of interaction with vegetation, thoughtfully integrated through the site's various level changes.

#### Symbolic

A symbolic healing element is a feature that conveys the idea of healing through its meaning and presence. Within the center, water features serve this role, fostering a calming, restorative environment for visitors and residents.

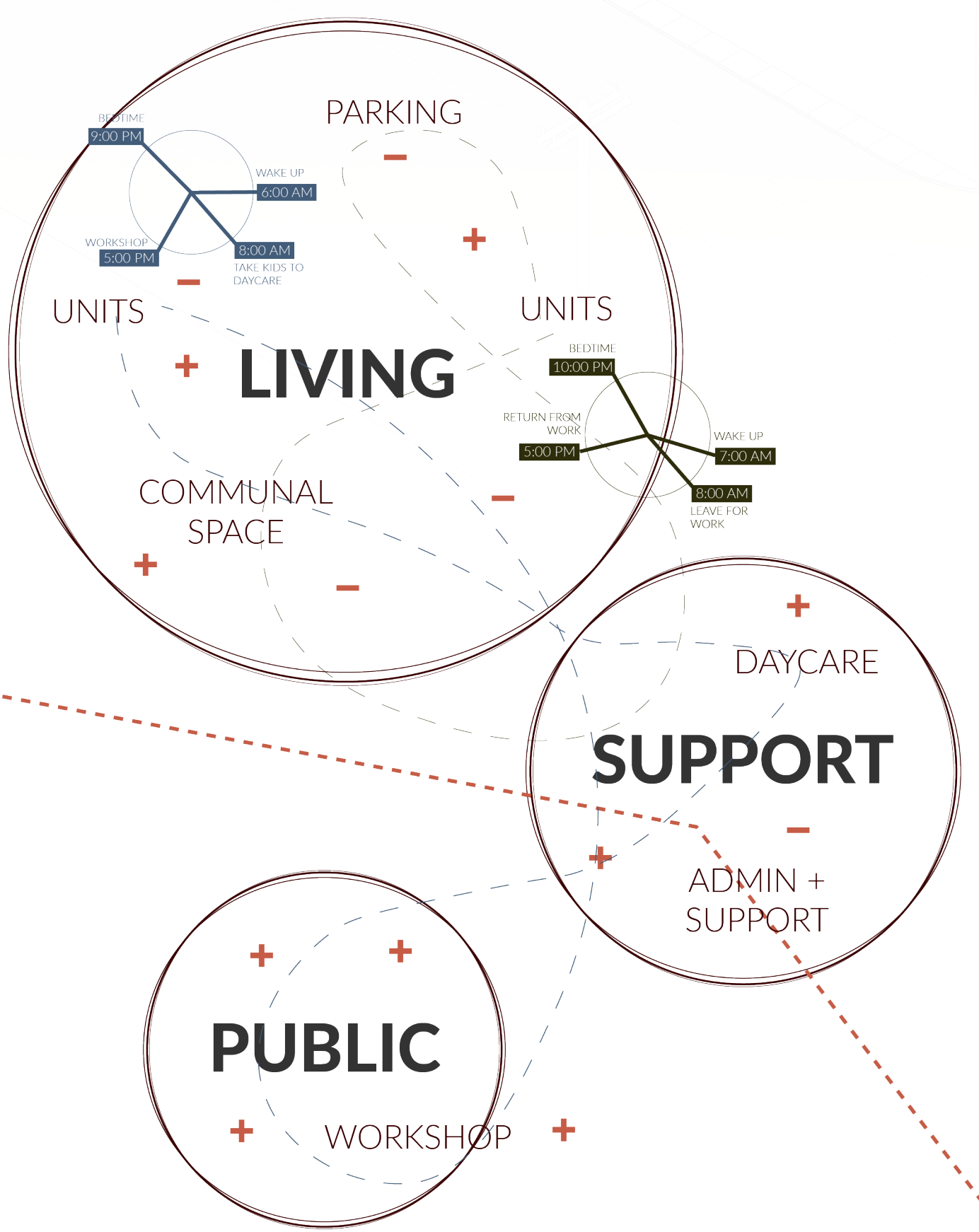
#### Built

To promote healing the built environment needs to have soft edges and warm tones. For the center the circular shape evokes this idea of healing.

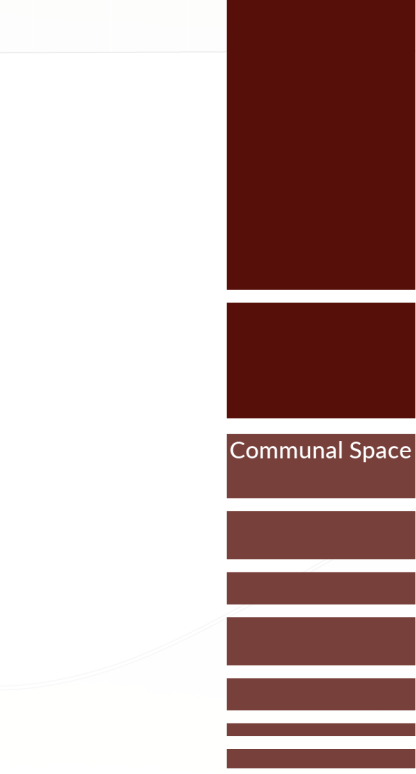
## GOAL: 10X BUILDING SCALE

### CREATE A RETREAT

An individual coming to this facility has encountered some traumatic experience needing them to retreat to a safe place. The goal for this center is to provide a safe but encouraging space to heal. Through the use of separation of programmatic elements the user starts to find pockets of space that make them feel the most safe.



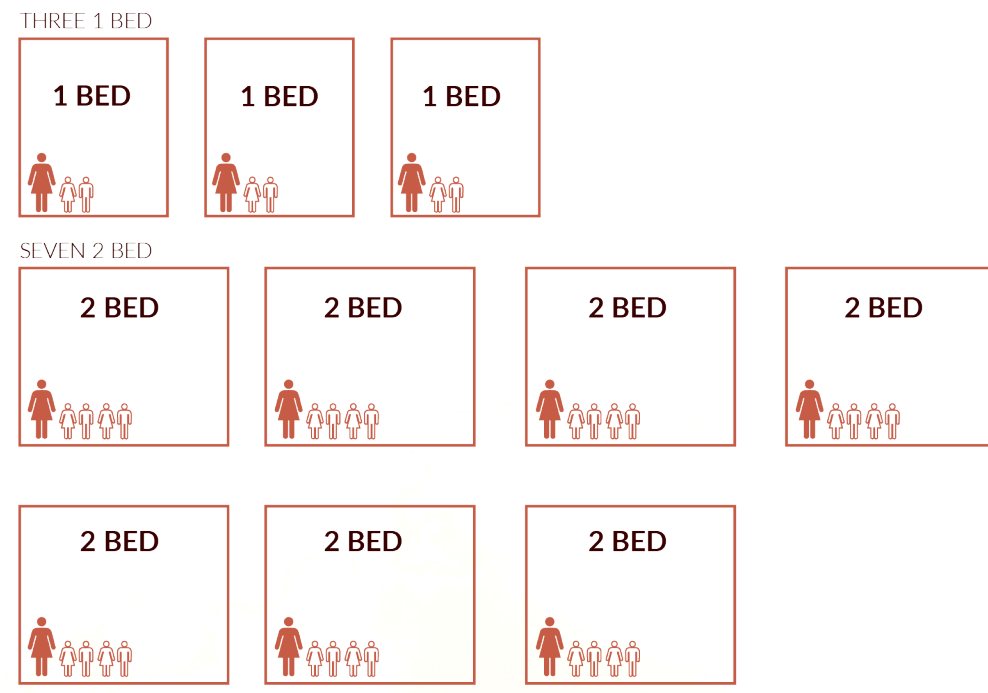
#### LIVING



#### SUPPORT



#### PUBLIC



Specifically the facility is for mothers with 1-4 children up to the age of 18 years old. There will be a total of 10 units, 3 one-bedroom and 7 two-bedroom units. Each family can stay up for up to 6 months.

"Traditional shelters frequently lack the resources to accommodate families and funding for programs to support children is limited."

Margaret Hobart (Domestic Violence Issue Expert)

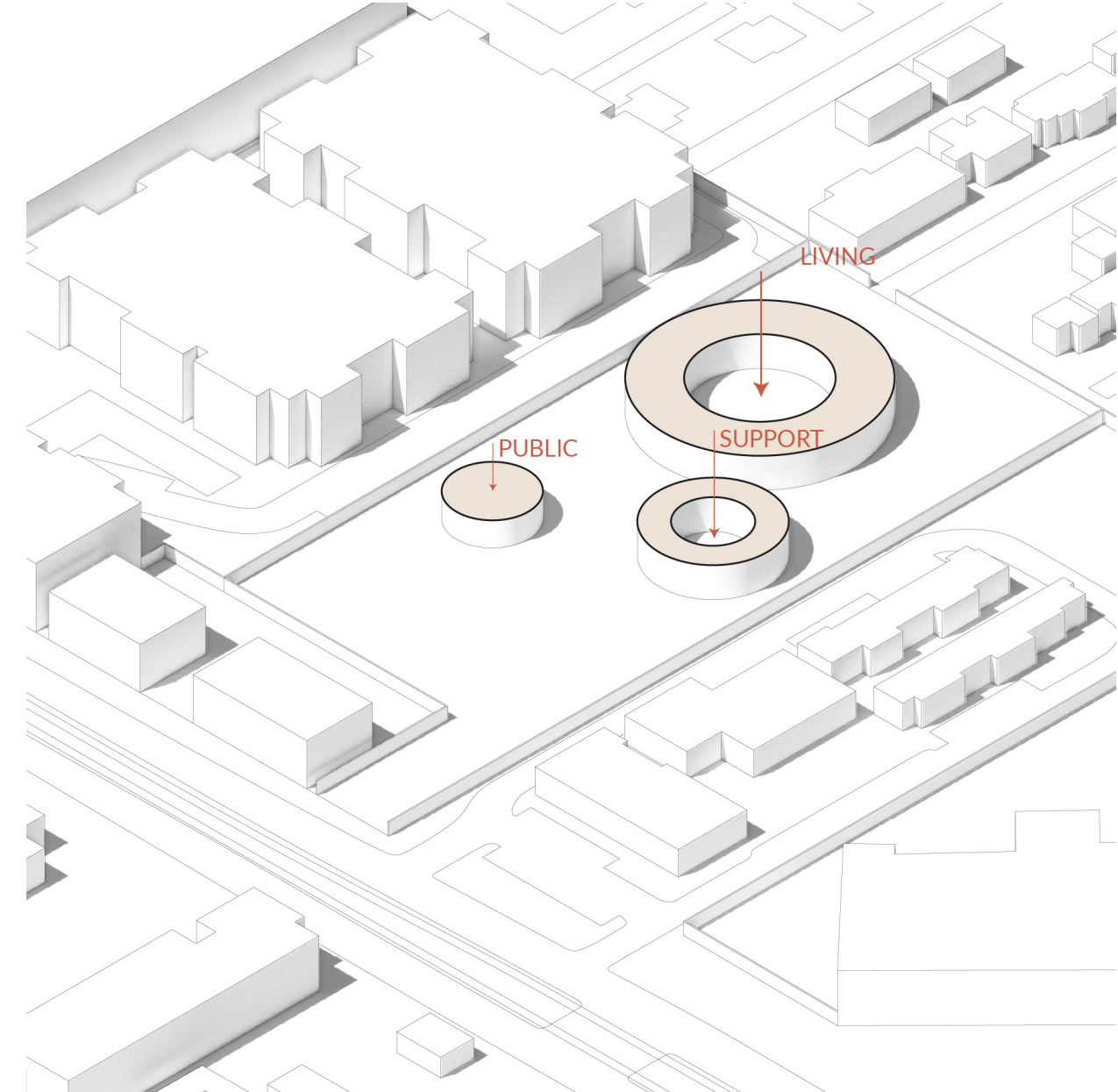
The current site has no existing plants or vegetation so the goal would be to bring back the natural desert environment.

Walking paths surround the site allowing for individuals to get out and take a walk through vegetation while staying safe on the site.

Main entry for residents come through the triple height space overlooking the terraced green space.

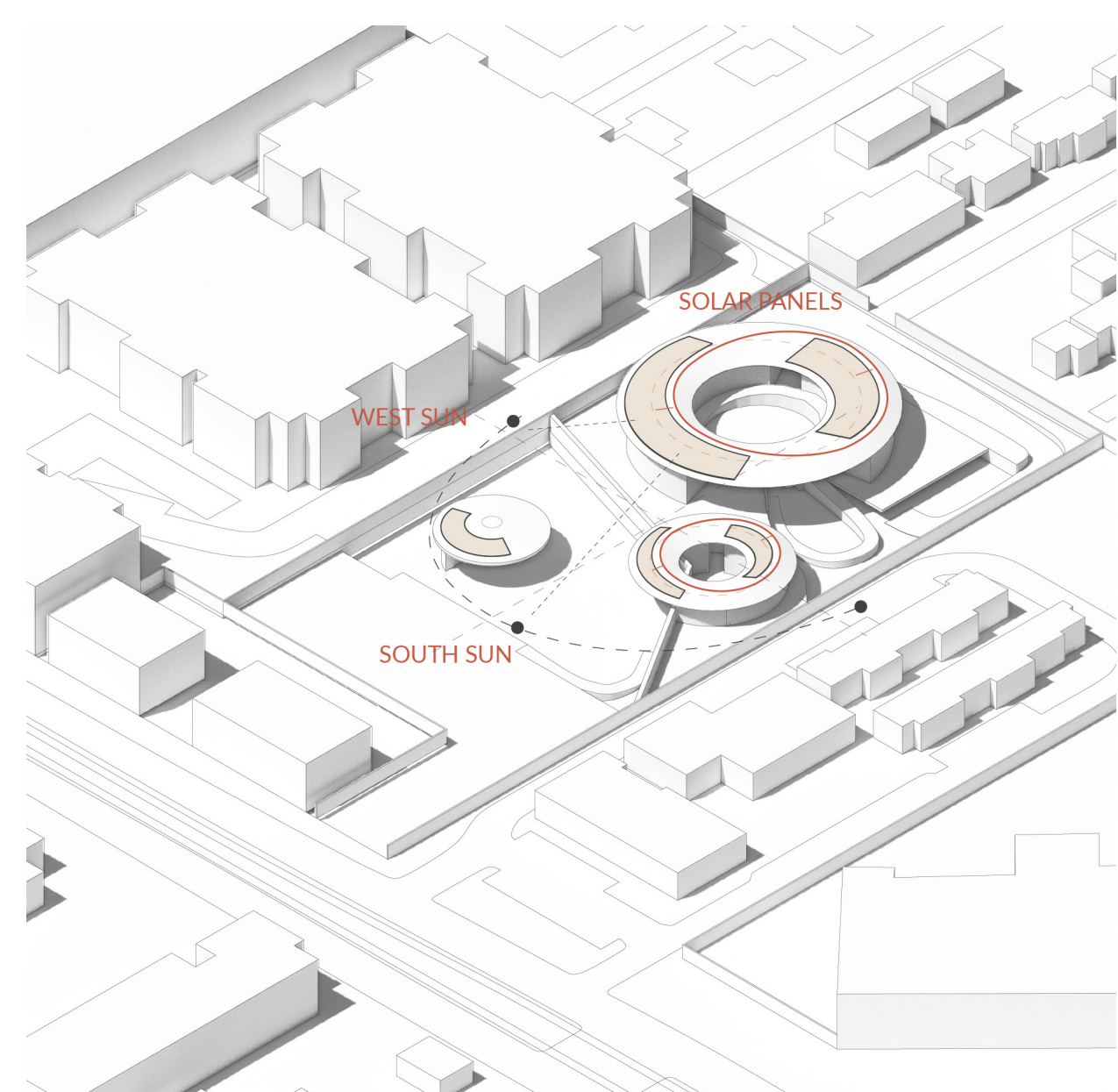






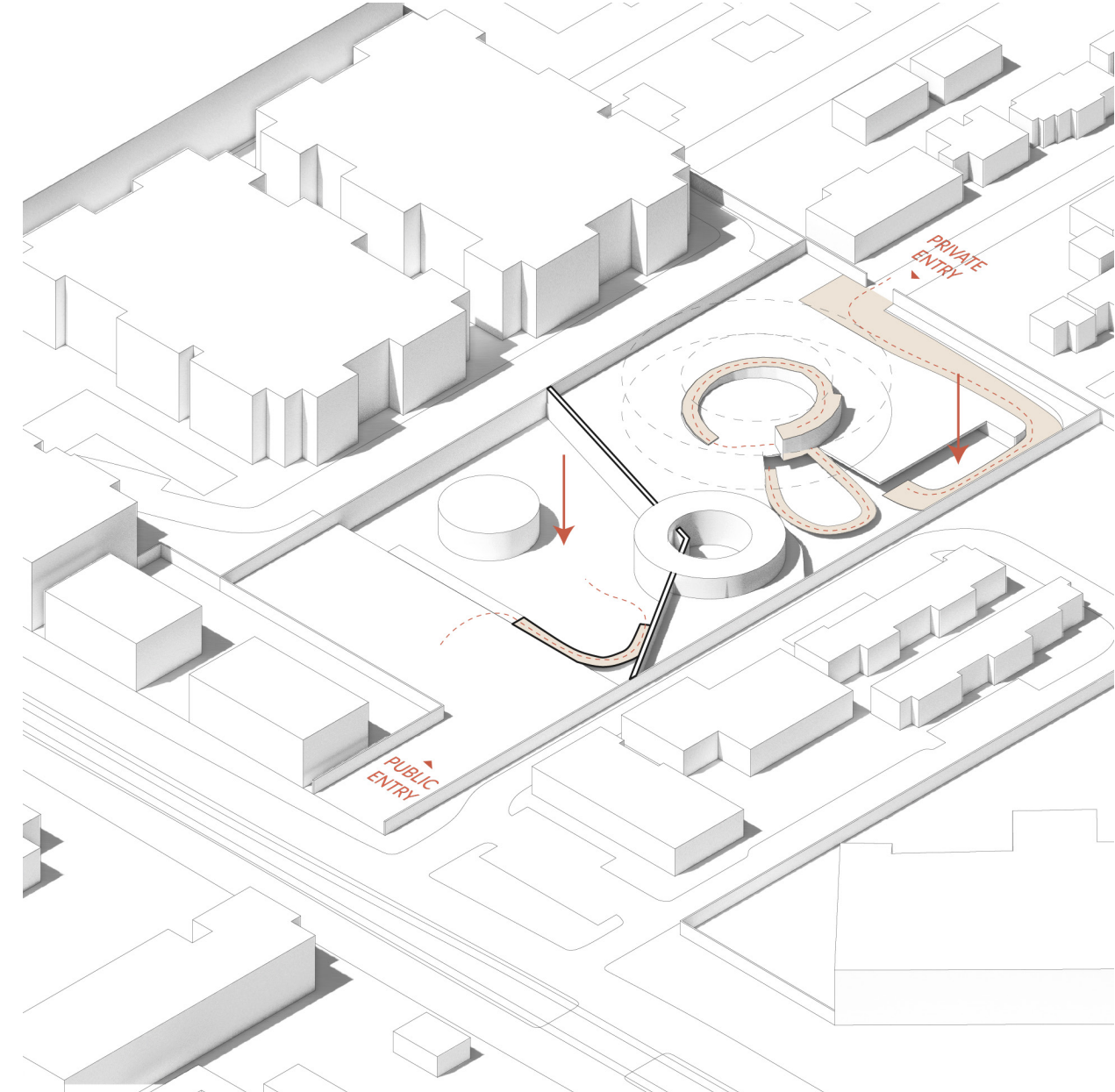
## STEP 1 PLACE

Place three buildings based on the separation of the program while following code and other regulations. Why? Separating the program into separate circle buildings promotes a level of community building and interaction other layouts can not.



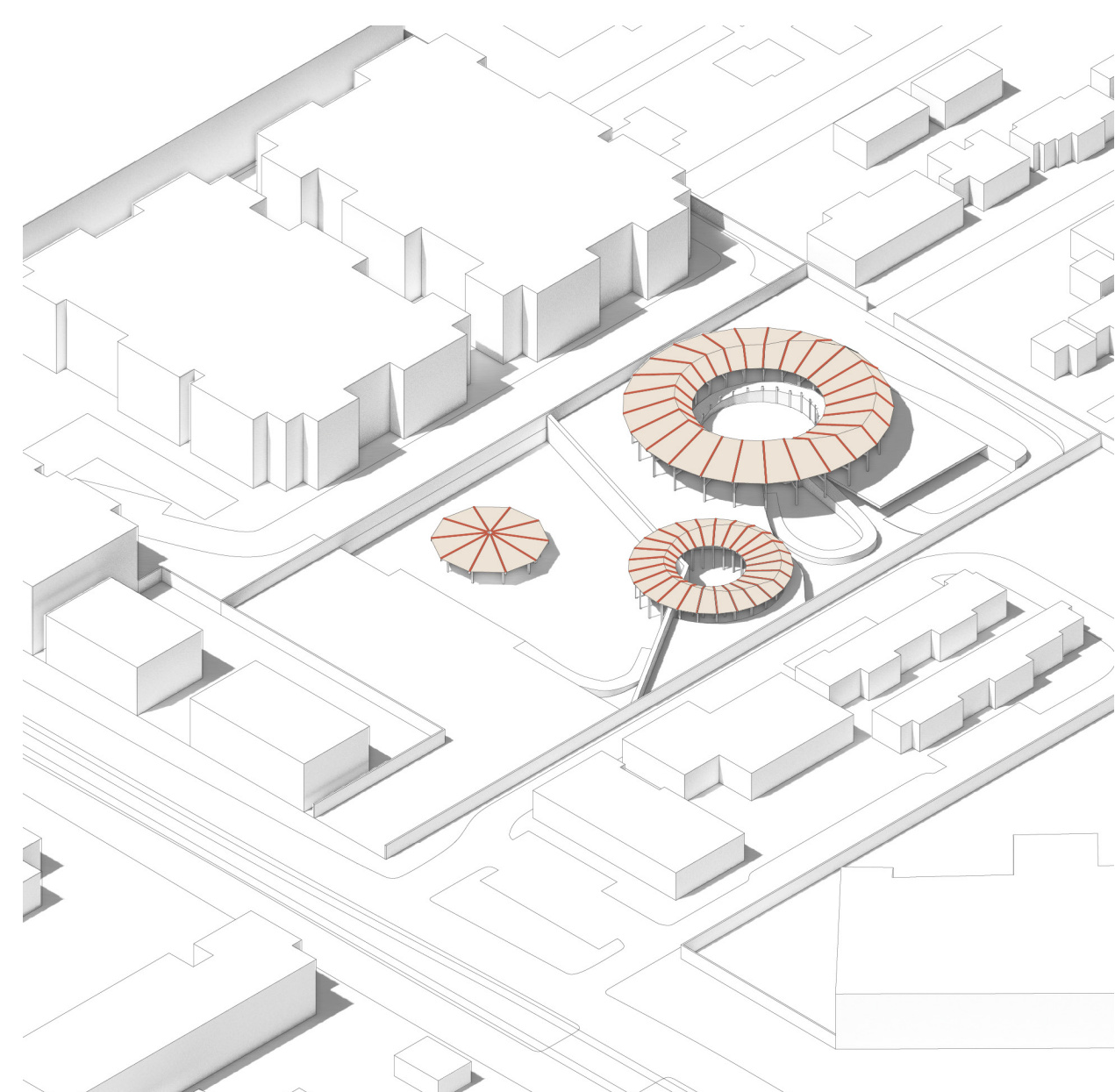
## STEP 4 SHIFT ROOF

By shifting the center peak of the roof off center allows for the increase of south/west facing roof area to put PV panels to create passive energy. Why? Phoenix is sunny most of the year so capitalizing on the energy could allow the facility to save money and run only on solar.



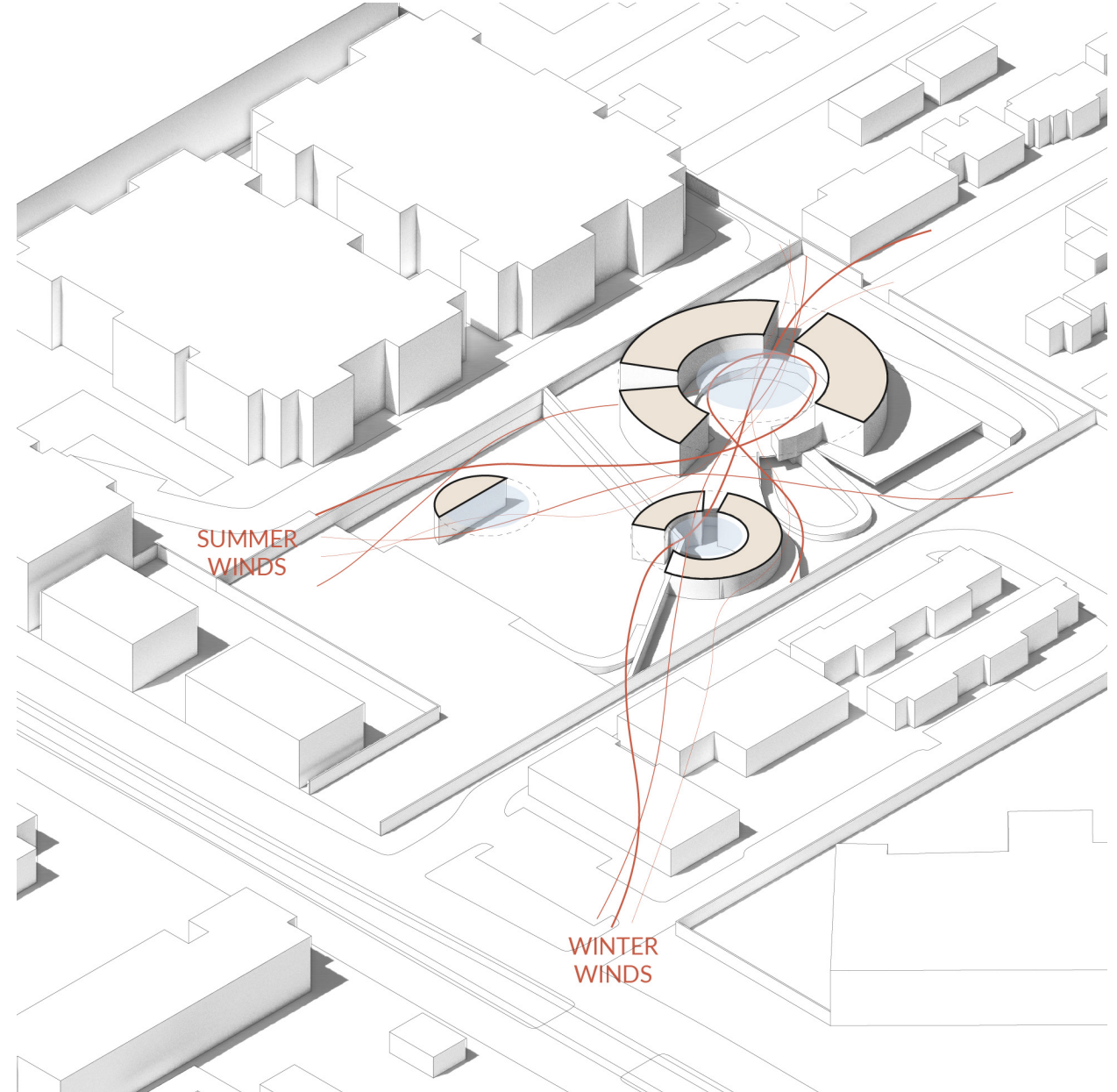
## STEP 2 DEFINE ENTRY

With the change in levels and separation of public and private ramps are used as the primary vertical circulation. Why? Ramps are a forgotten and most of the time not celebrated moment of the project but it creates a unique opportunity to celebrate the journey on the ramp.



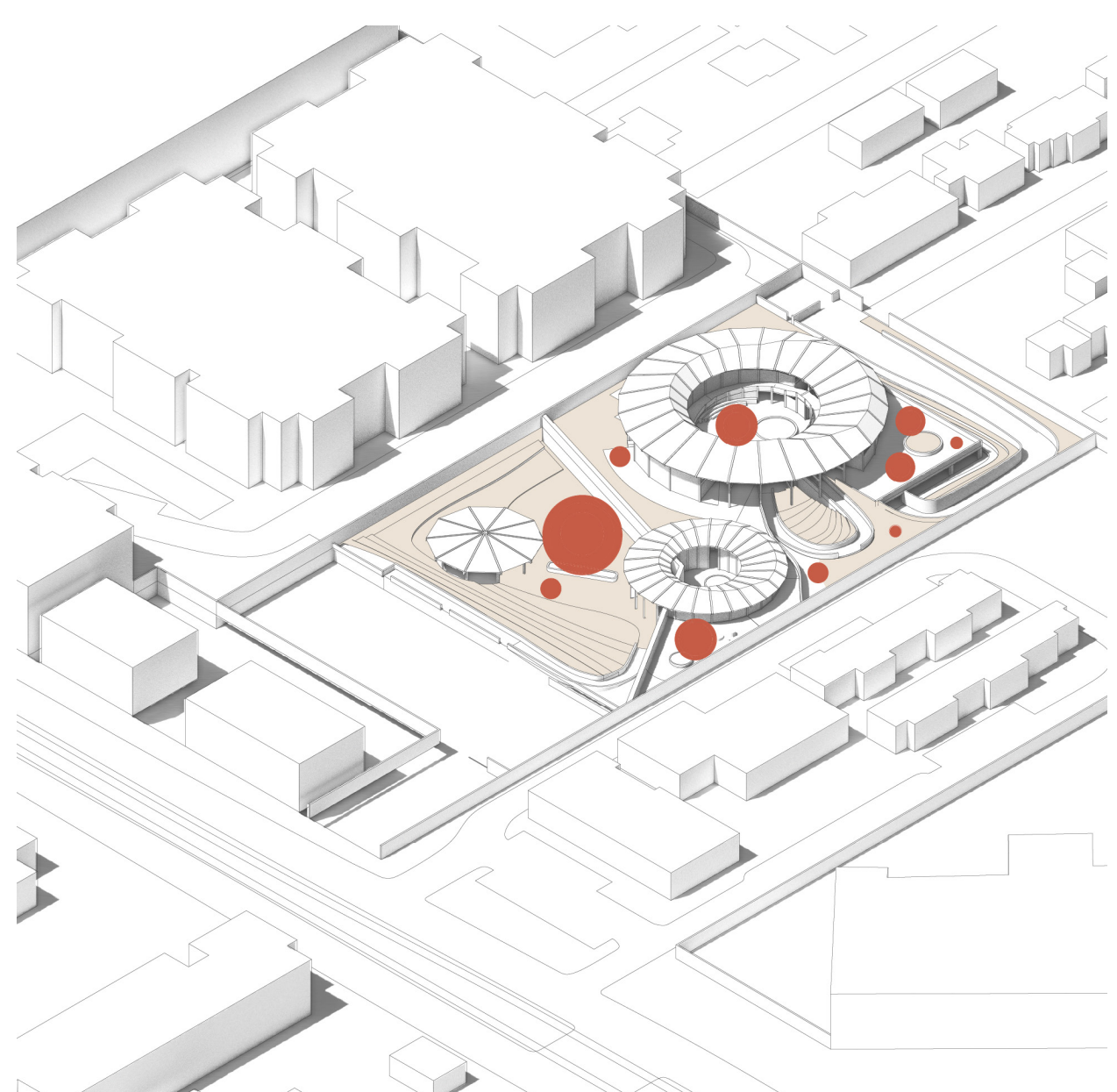
## STEP 5 SLICE

To start to bring the building scale down from institutional to a more residential scale, slices were taken out of the building which defines the mass timber structural frames. Why? Residents don't want a building that feels intimidating so breaking up the facade creates the effect of a smaller scale building.



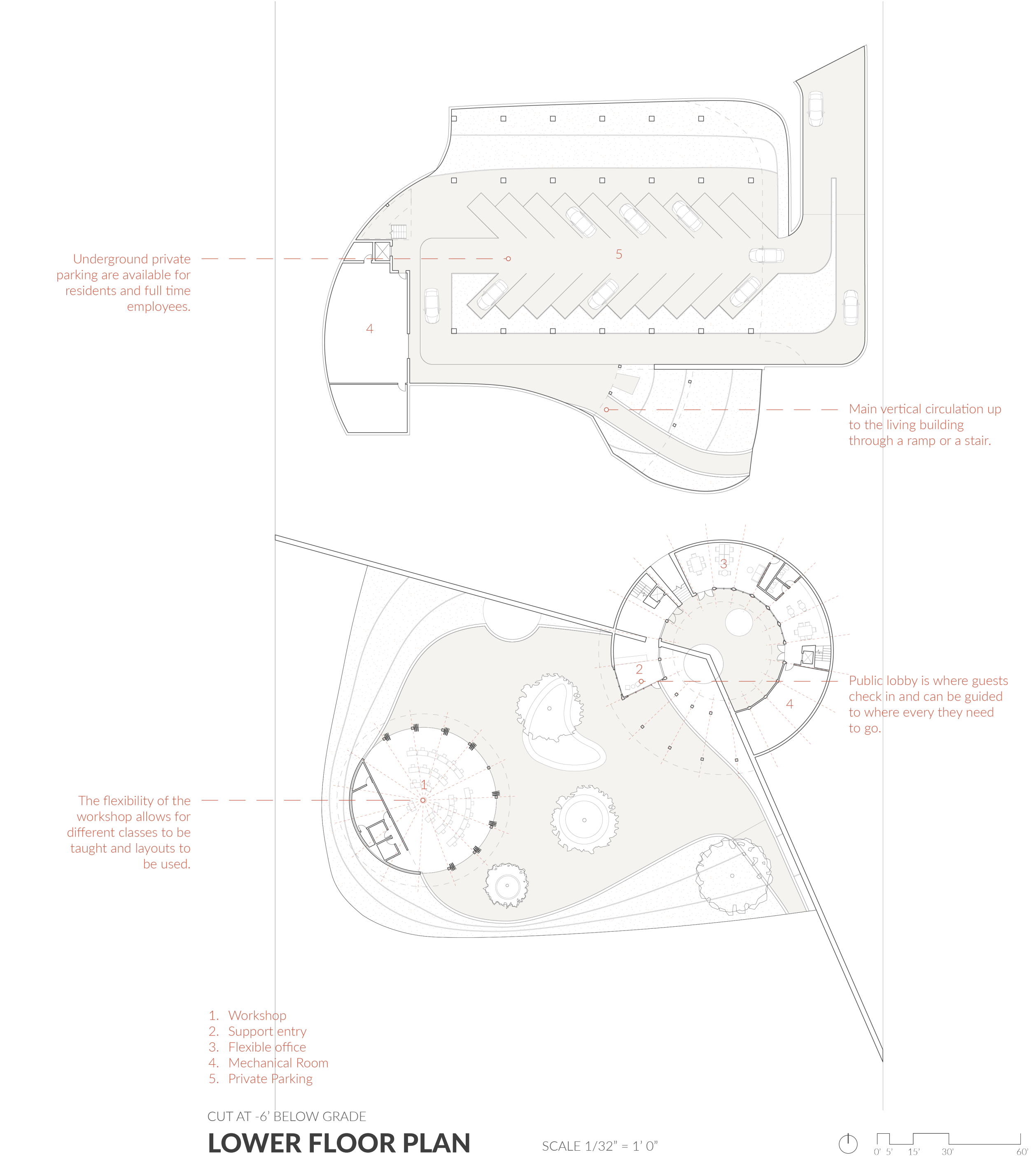
## STEP 3 CARVE

Carving out the building allows for winds to go through the building creating a comfortable environment in the center courtyards. Why? In the dry-hot climate of Phoenix allowing winds to pass through exterior space creates a much cooler climate making it usable in the hot summer.



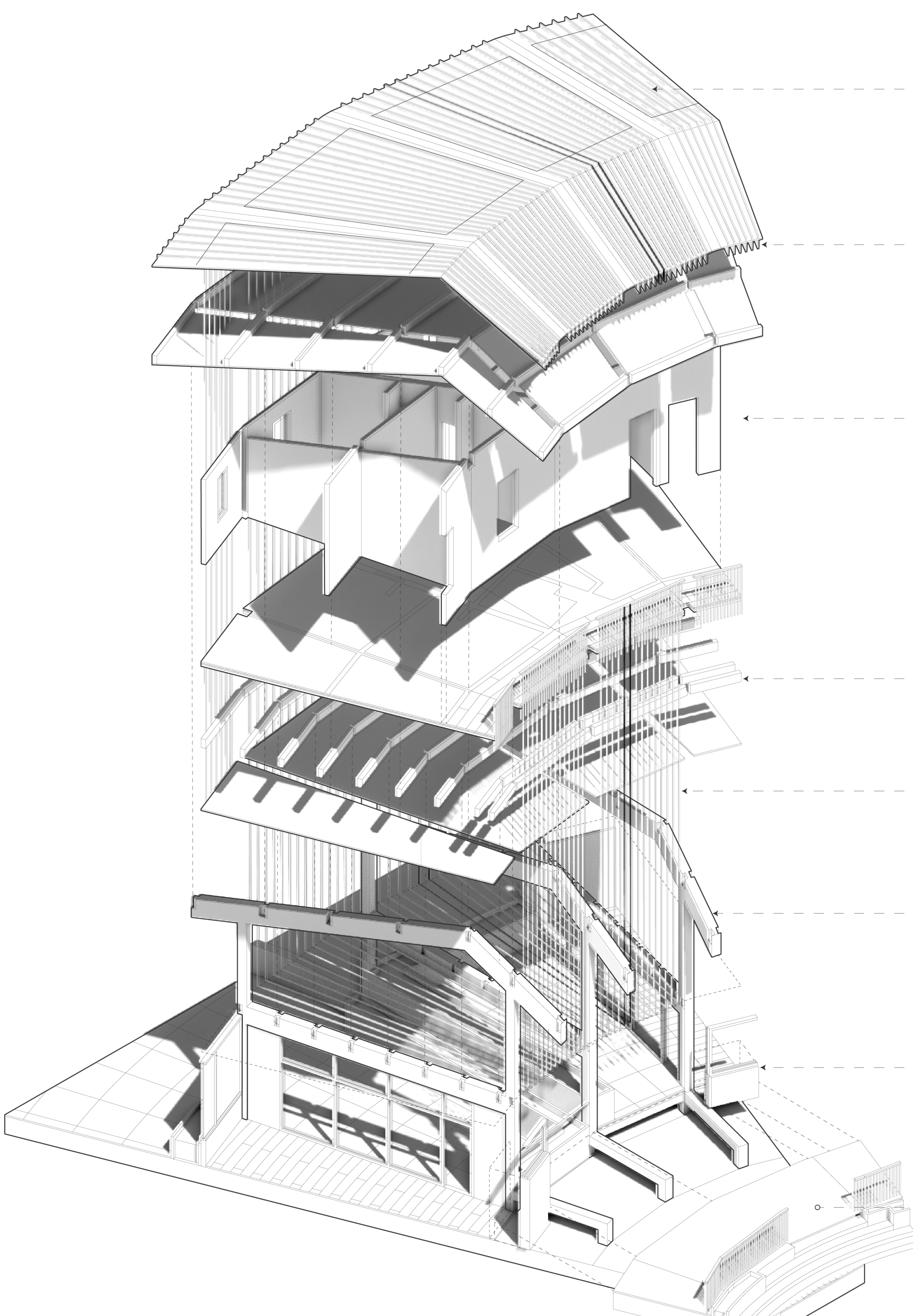
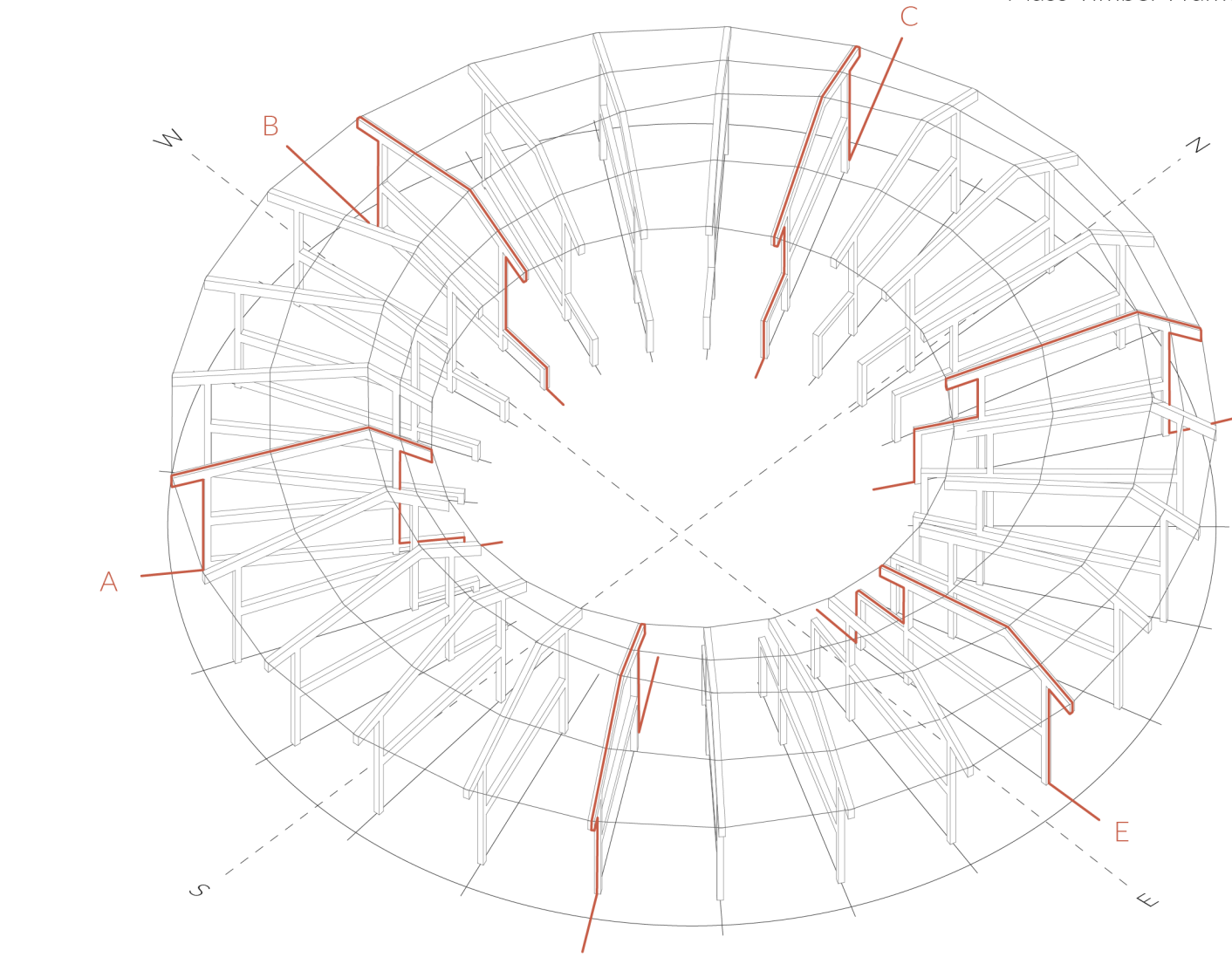
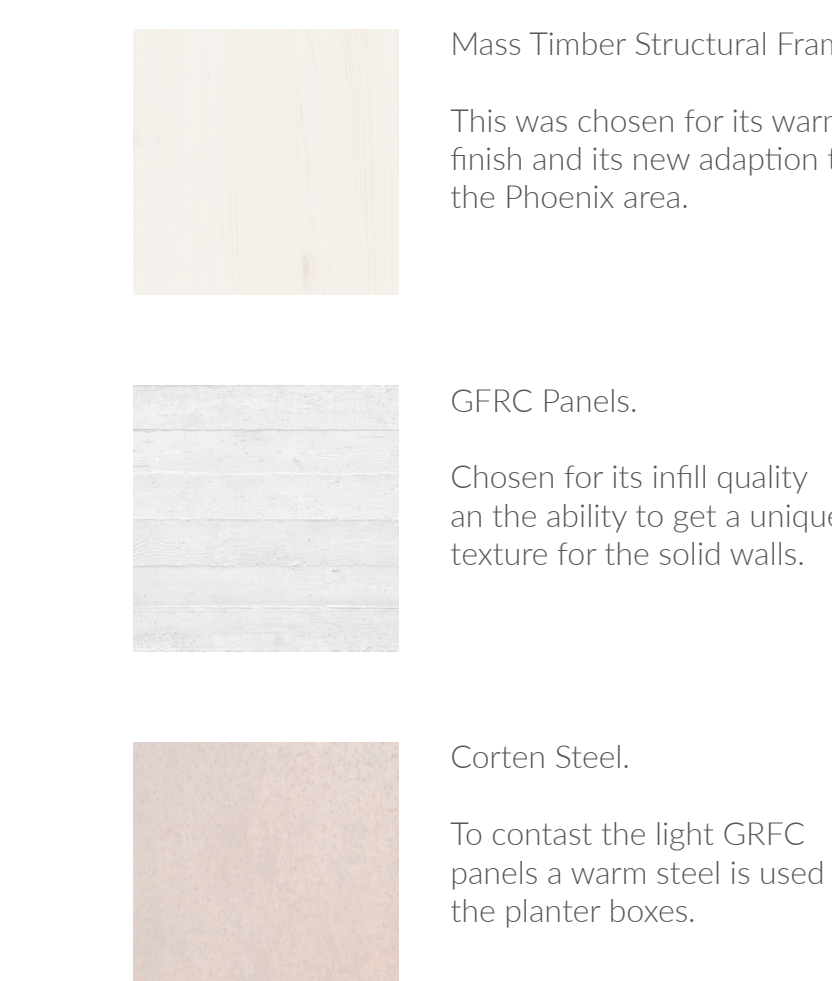
## STEP 6 CONNECT

Since the buildings are separated the landscape is designed to pull together the inbetween spaces to create various sizes of outdoor spaces. Why? This allows there to be exterior space for everyone with any group size as well as promotes a connection to vegetation.



## CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE MASS TIMBER FRAME STRUCTURE

Arrayed around the perimeter is mass timber frames that each have a unique elevation due to the roof change as well as the ramp within the central courtyard. Secondary members and finishes are infilled between the frames.



## Solar Panels

The roof louvers allow for the solar panels to be mounted there without breaking the water barrier of the roof.

## Corrugated Metal Roof

A corrugated metal roof allows the wood louvers frame to be mounted there without breaking the water barrier of the roof.

## Second Floor Walls

Unit walls are infilled between the mass timber frames and secondary structure.

## Secondary Members

Spanning between the mass timber frames are smaller mass timber pieces.

## Lower Wrap

Wood louvers wrap the roof under the upper floor and up to the second floor railing.

## Mass Timber Frames

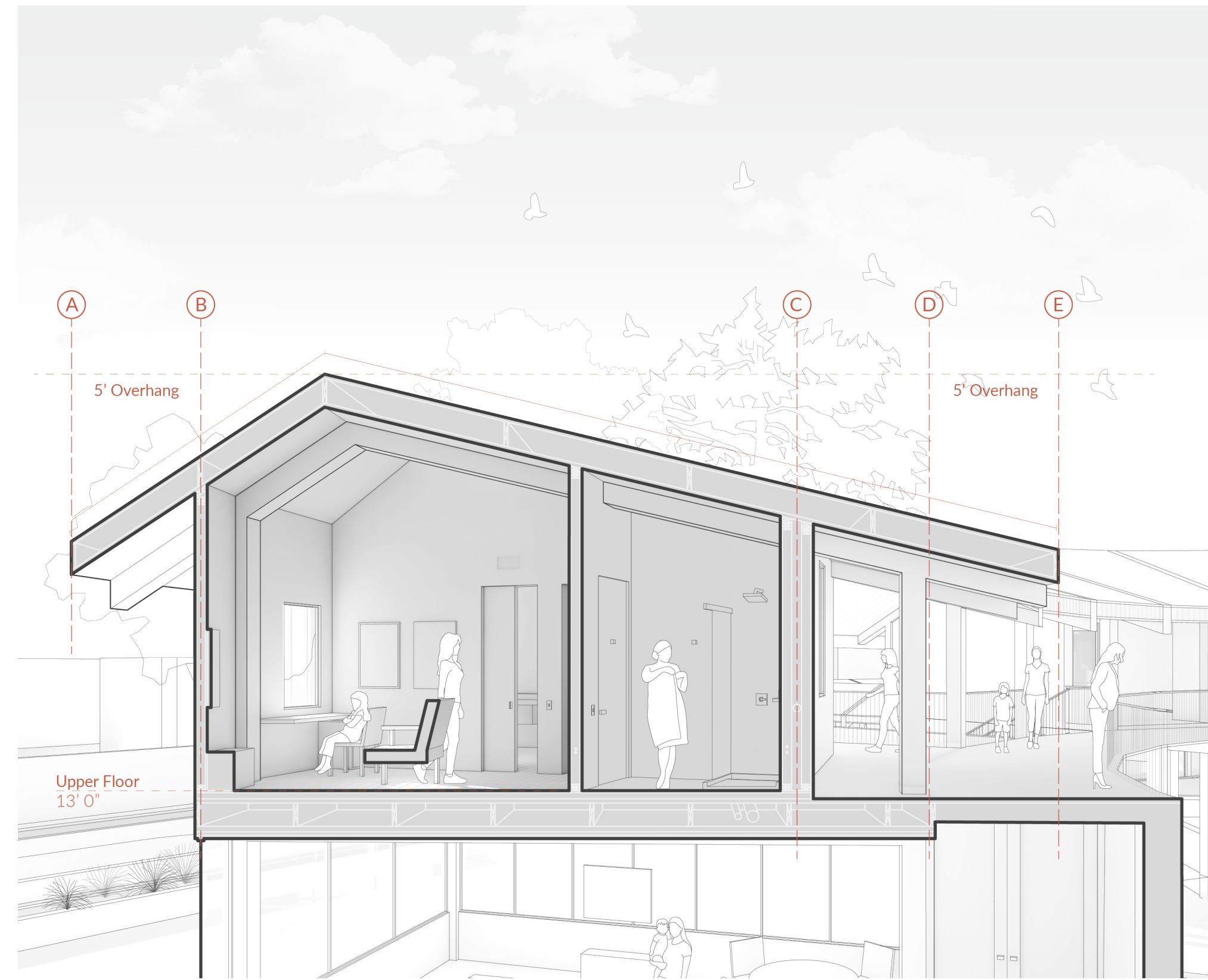
Primary structural element allows the structure to adjust to the roof and ramp height.

## Infill Walls

Between the frames are options for solid walls, half window walls, or full glazed walls.

## Courtyard Ramp

Around the interior of the courtyard is a ramp.



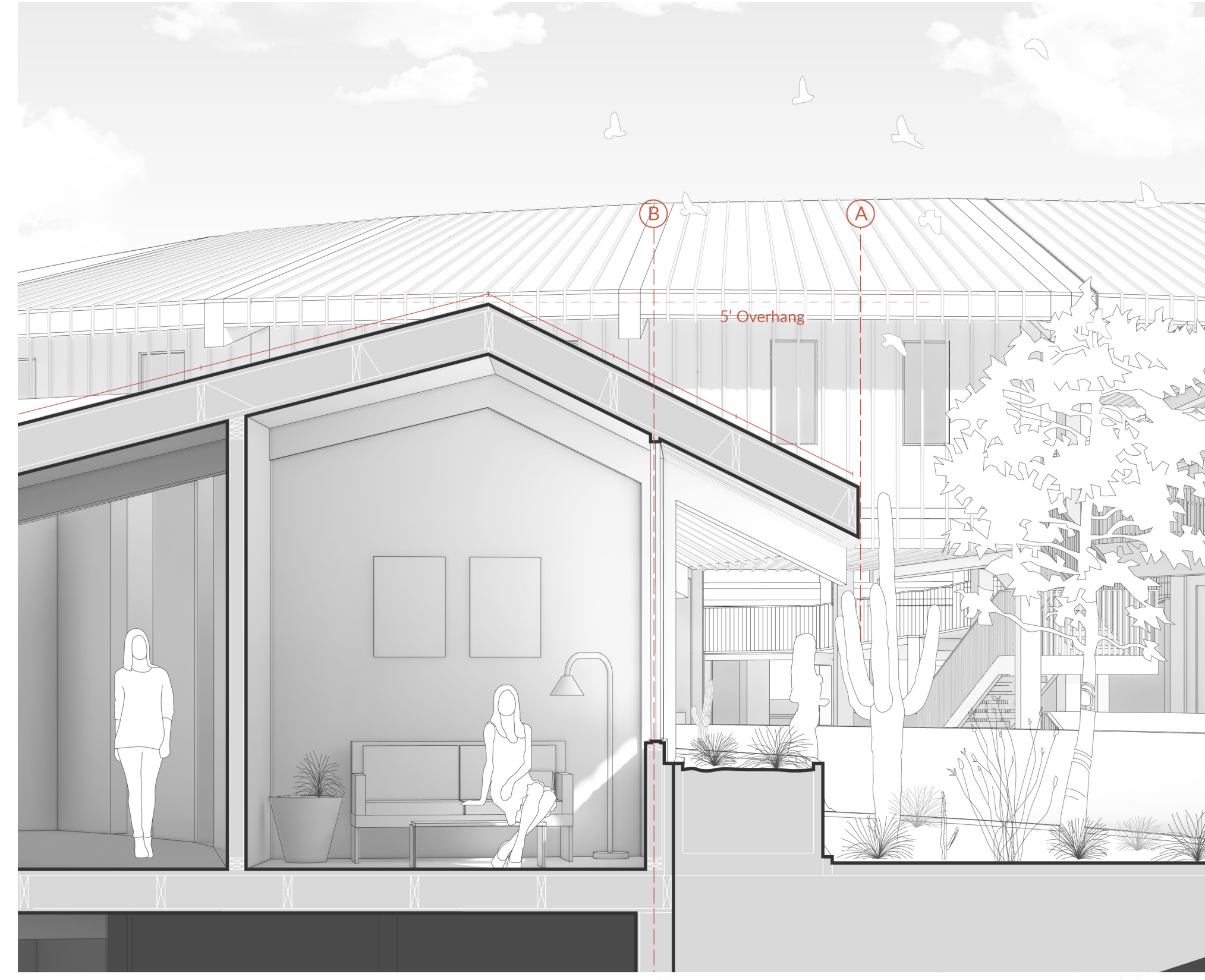
## HEALING ENVIRONMENT: BUILT LIVING UNIT

Within the living unit it promotes the built environment providing a private, safe place to live on the second floor of the living building.



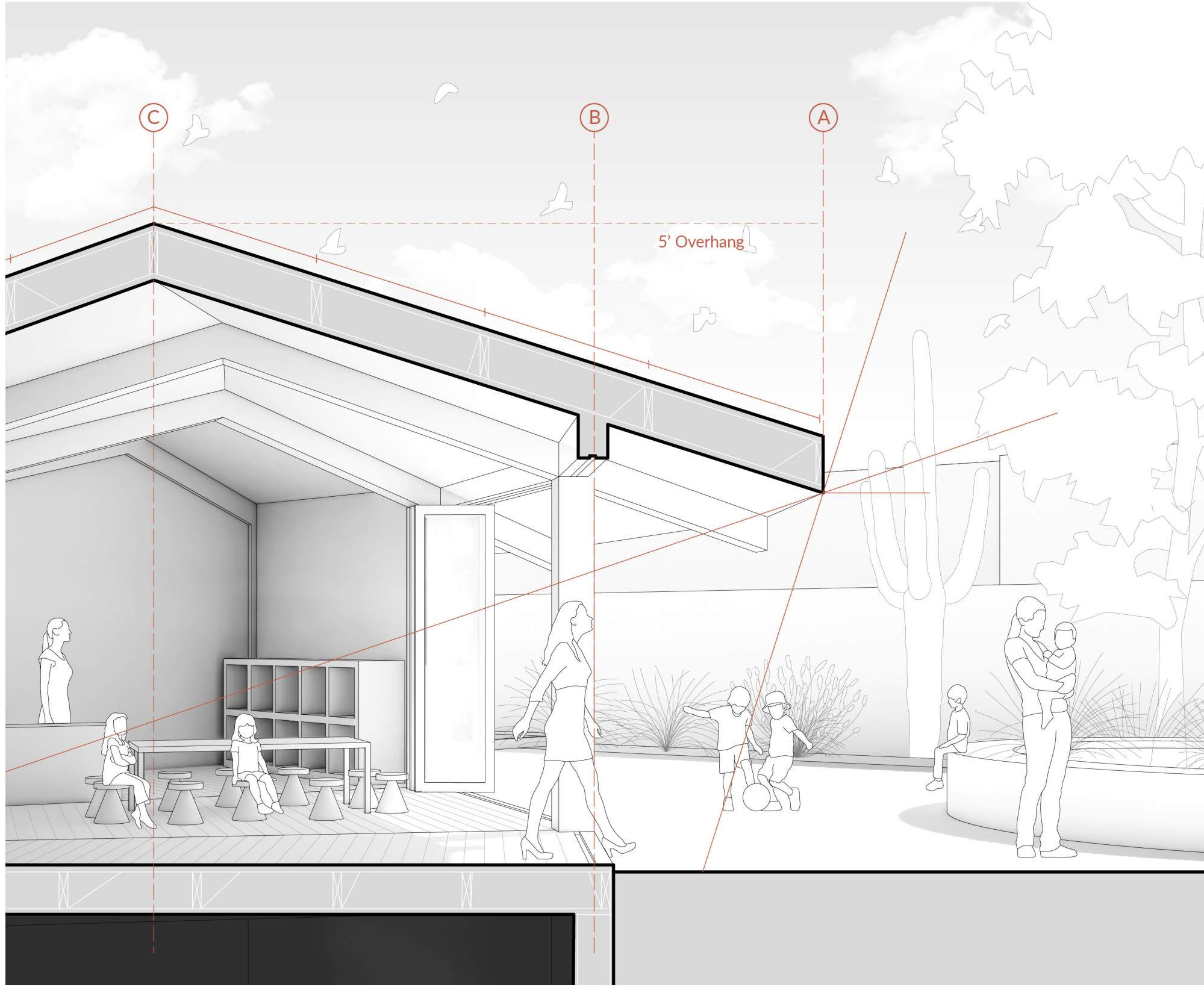
## HEALING ENVIRONMENT: SOCIAL COMMUNAL SPACE

Two communal spaces have the same program but one promotes larger gatherings with larger ceiling and the other promotes smaller social events that are more intimate.



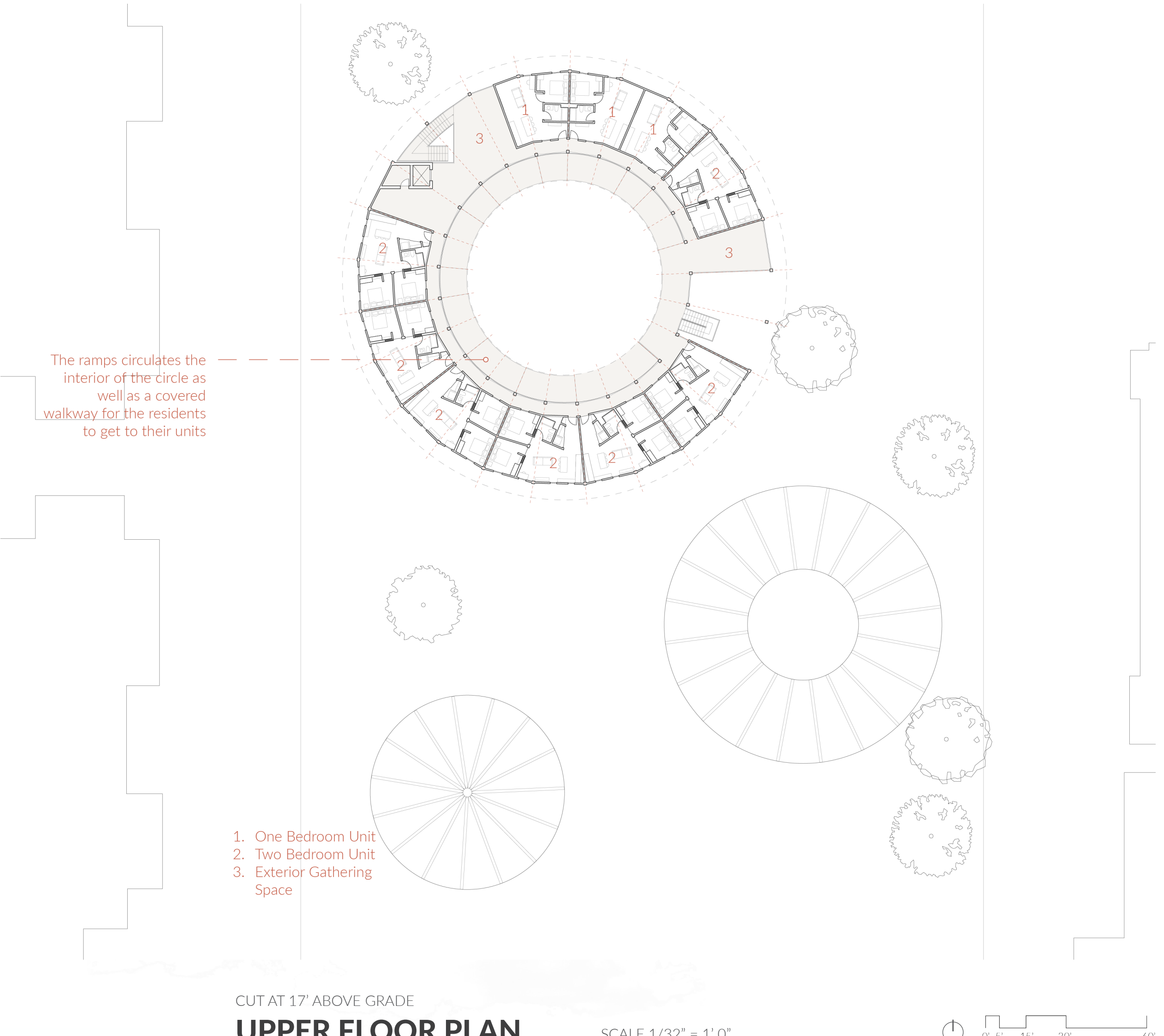
## HEALING ENVIRONMENT: NATURAL COUNSELING ROOM

A counseling room is somewhere you want to feel safe. The large window that is north east facing allows lots of natural light as well as a planter box blocks views with vegetation.



## HEALING ENVIRONMENT: SYMBOLIC DAYCARE

The daycare is a symbolic programmatic element that allows the kids to have a safe place to be kids again. Allows them to make friends and hopefully heal from any trauma they have.



## LEVELS OF INTERACTION

Every victim situation is different meaning there needs to be places to relax, interact and reflect all in one. Organizing the site as a gradient of interaction allows everyone to have a space that fits their needs.

## LEAST INTERACTION

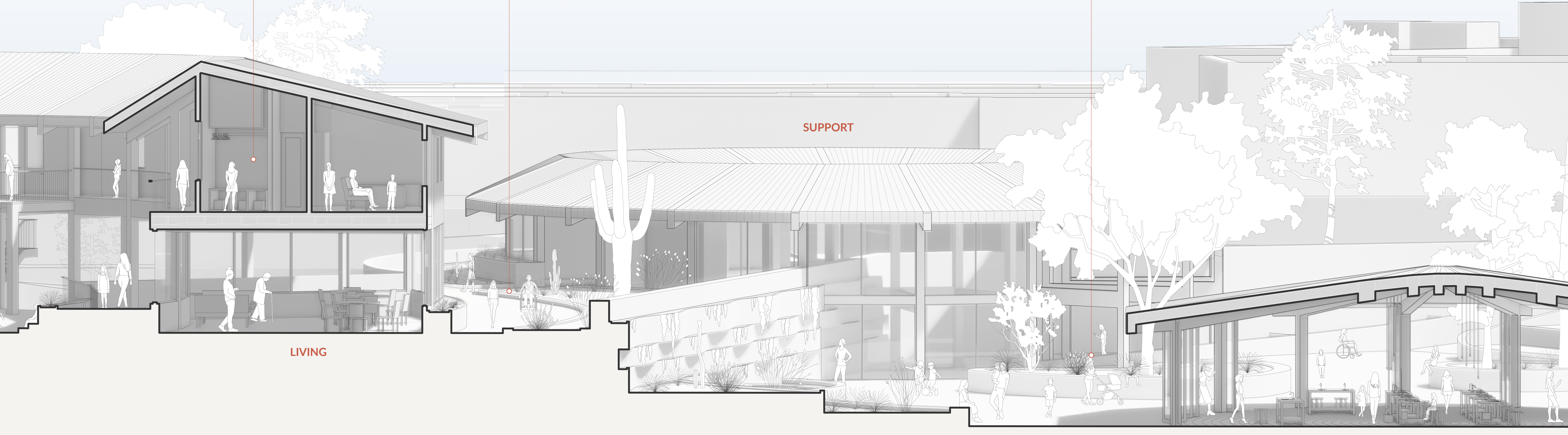
Each resident gets to share private unit with their family allowing them to have privacy and time to themselves.

## MEDIUM INTERACTION

Walking paths connect communal and gathering spaces allowing for lots of informal interactions.

## HIGH INTERACTION

Public courtyard adjacent to workshop allow for large amount of people to gather and the possibility of lots of interactions.



## THROUGH MIDDLE OF SITE SITE SECTION

0' 1' 5' 10'

0' 1' 5' 10'