

The Invisible Person

Northern Pacific Avenue & 4th St N

Fargo, ND

Matthew Leake



PROPOSAL A design response to address the insufficient means of shelter for the homeless population.

- What is currently provided is a mix of emergency shelters and organizations that provide **temporary shelter** for people experiencing homelessness, meaning infrequent stays on and off the street
- This form of shelter usually **lacks resources** for the homeless and acts as a temporary fix more than a solution
- Building form and aesthetic is institutional, which places a **social stigma** on the building and the people residing within
- The placement of these buildings are often far away from resources available to the homeless, and at times can be

Clients

The Fargo-Moorhead Homeless Population

Estimation of the homeless population in the Fargo-Moorhead Area is gathered through documentation of people currently staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, as well as others staying in forms of shelter that are not permanent or regular, such as outdoors, in a vacant building or car, a place of business or those currently doubled up with friends and family as temporary means because they have nowhere else to live.

At any given night there are **246 people** in Cass County, ND, and **147 people** in Clay County, MN, experiencing homelessness in a sheltered location (Either in emergency shelters or in a transitional housing program).

It is estimated through the Emergency Shelter Bed Prioritization list - managed by all emergency shelters in the Coalition, that there are a total of **113 people** staying in a place that is not considered a permanent place of residence and make continual efforts to access shelter beds. Of this number **98 are adults, 6 school aged children (ages 5 to 18), and 9 children under the age of 5.**

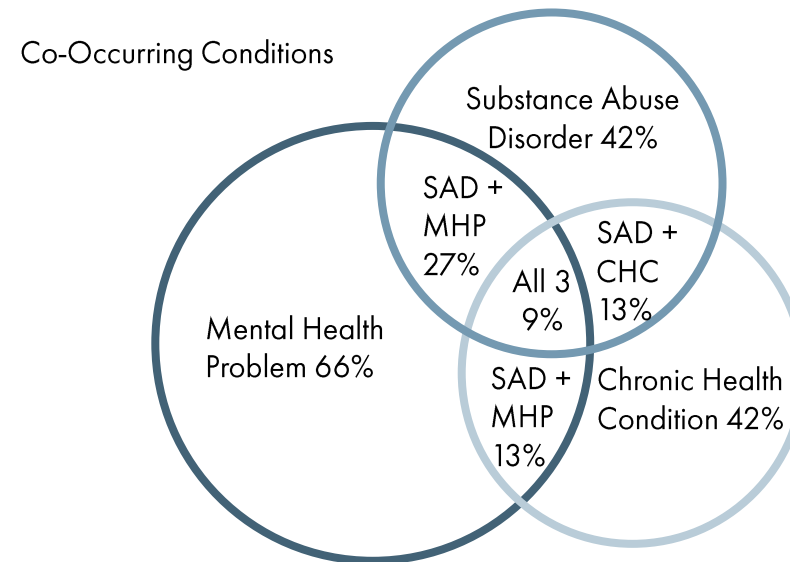
Gathering data on those who are doubled up is a difficult task because they often go unseen. In the FM metro area, **555 students** have been identified as homeless. A portion of these school aged children, 33 to be exact, were staying at the two emergency shelters serving families; 6 of the 33 were seeking shelter with their parents. It is assumed that the remaining 516 of the students identifying as homeless were doubled up, though it is believed by the coalition that there is a significant under representation of the number of students doubled up in the Fargo community.

Compiling these numbers, on any given night there is roughly **1,022 people** experiencing homelessness in the FM Metro Area.

Clients Co-Occurring Conditions

Data Gathered by the Fargo-Moorhead Coalition to End Homelessness indicates that people suffering from homelessness or extreme poverty typically experience problems with:

- Mental Health
- Chronic Illness
- Substance Abuse
- Financial Problems
- Domestic Abuse
- Chronic Homelessness

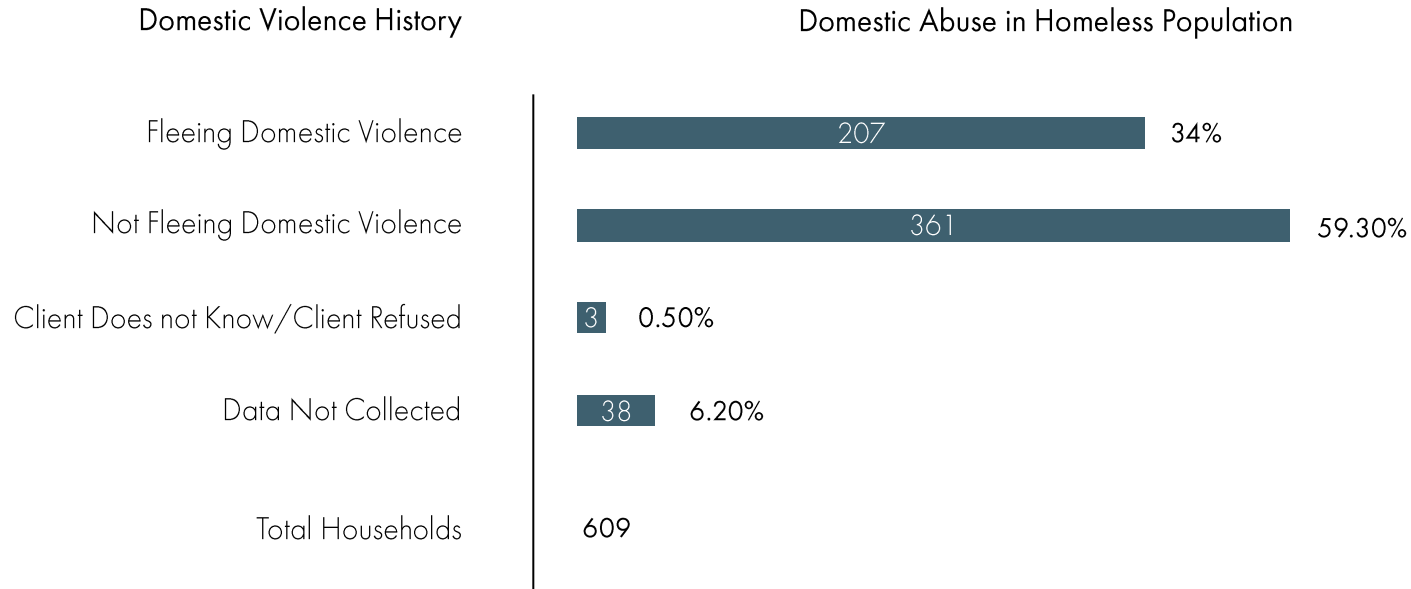


Architectural Response:

Due to the variation in the homeless population, spaces will have to be unique and equipped for the issue someone experiencing homelessness is going through. Some people may need assistance for the rest of their lives, others may be already capable of living independently.

Clients Domestic Violence

Agency specific data provided shows 80% of individuals who stay with the YWCA of Cass Clay County are seeking services because of violence. This can be linked to national research which has shown being a victim of violence as the number one reason woman become homeless.



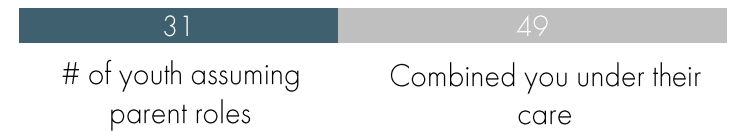
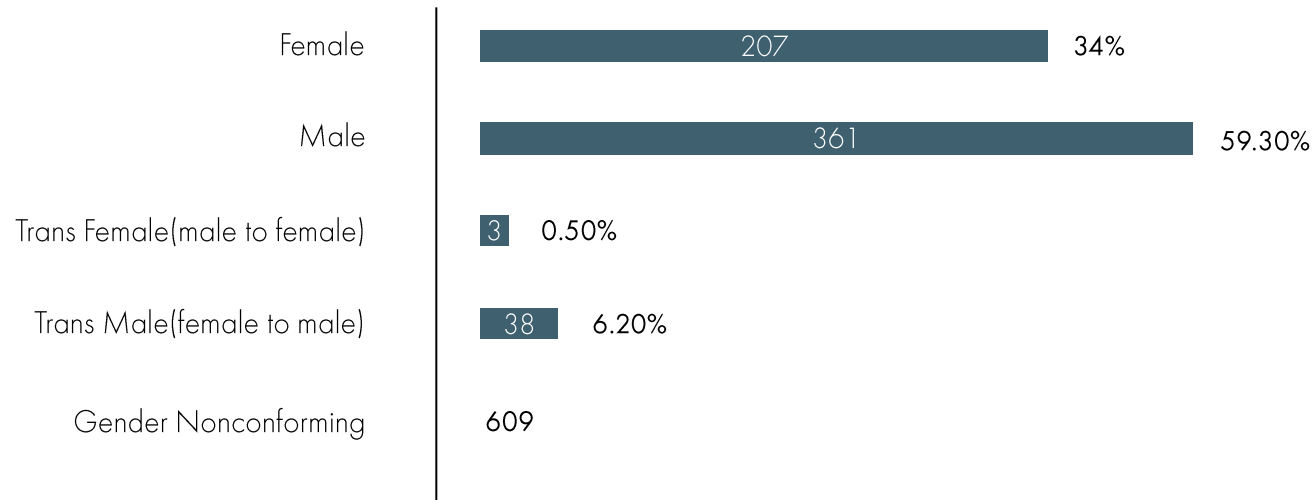
Architectural Response:

These portion of the homeless population that has been through traumatic events of abuse need a more private place of shelter. Spaces need to be more private but still allow for some supervision and care. Providing a sense of security is also something that would help comfort occupants. This can be done by giving this population separate spaces with some sort of security presence.

Clients Youth and LGBTQ+

Homelessness in the youth population is often harder to track. Data collected by the HMIS shows that in 2019 there was a total of **324 youth** receiving homeless services in Cass-Clay County. This population is recognized as young adults **24 years old or younger**, living without parents or guardians and may potentially be parenting themselves.

Gender Identity



Lack housing because of an unhealthy relationship

Architectural Response:

Spaces for the youth population will have to be expandable so more than one child can live in a room. This will be helpful for children who are more comfortable with a sibling who has been assuming a parent role. Flexible spaces can provide the youth with the option to have their own individual room or live with other children.

Clients Problems with Current Architecture



Hostile Architecture | Making public spaces uncomfortable to prevent loitering and sleeping

- Does not help or fix homelessness
- Uncomfortable for people who are not targeted
- Inhumane



Emergency Shelters

- Temporary shelter
- Little to no resources provided
- Congested leading to public health concerns



Psychiatric Hospital Facilities

- Temporary shelter
- Limited resources
- Institutional

Architectural Response:

Regarding architecture, the safety net that our built environment provides for homeless people is very poor. To make up for this, the built response should be comfortable, provide care, and be a place people want to live. An exterior façade can stigmatize a building, and this can have harmful effects on the clients living there.

Typology Mixed-Use Rehabilitation Center



Care

Health
Permanent Living
Resources



Connection

Community
Education
Understanding



Growth

Job-Training
Economic Sustainability
Independence
Social Freedom



1 Fargo Public Library



2 Fargo Women's Clinic

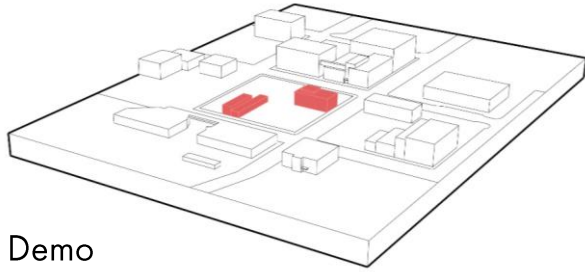


3 Matbus Terminal



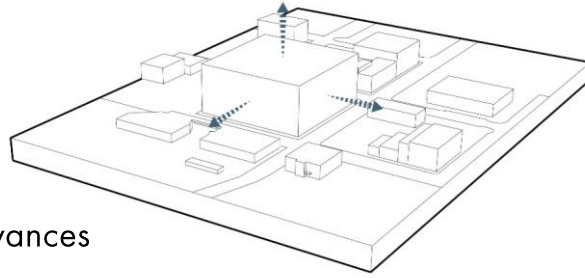
4 Family Healthcare





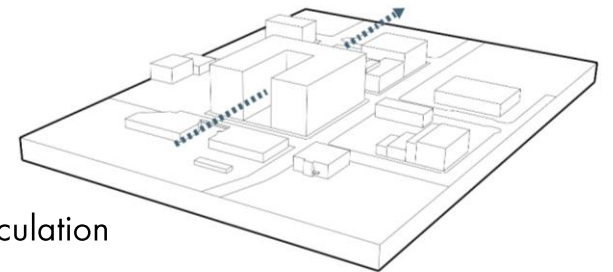
Demo

Two existing buildings taken down to fit building on site.



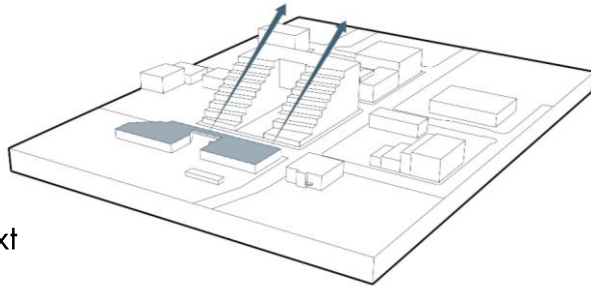
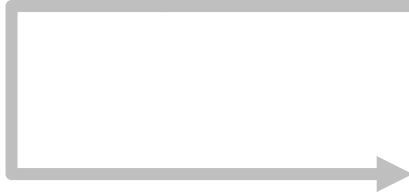
Allowances

Set building allowances for height and perimeter of building



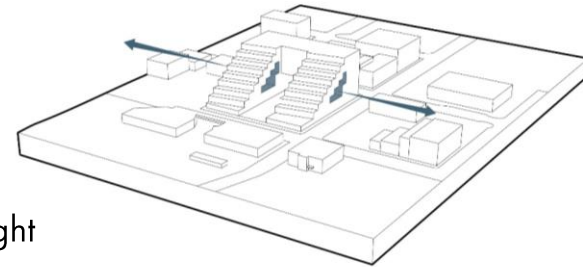
Circulation

Path cut from South to North of site to make center outdoor parkway and allow for better access to the bus station on the south side.



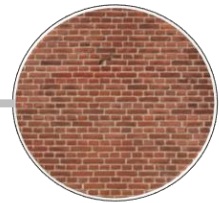
Fitting Context

Stepped form created to meet the height of the bus station and to create a vertical neighborhood aspect for occupants living in these units.

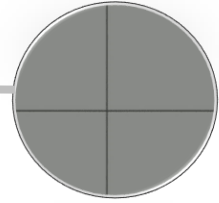


Natural Light

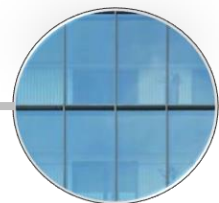
The form steps back from the south side allowing the units to optimal sun. A middle cut in the form allows natural light to get to other parts of the building.



Brick



Aluminum Siding

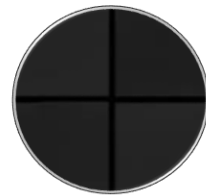


Glazing

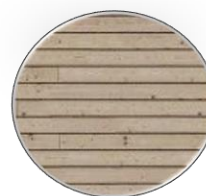
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Darker Aluminum
Siding



Wood Paneling

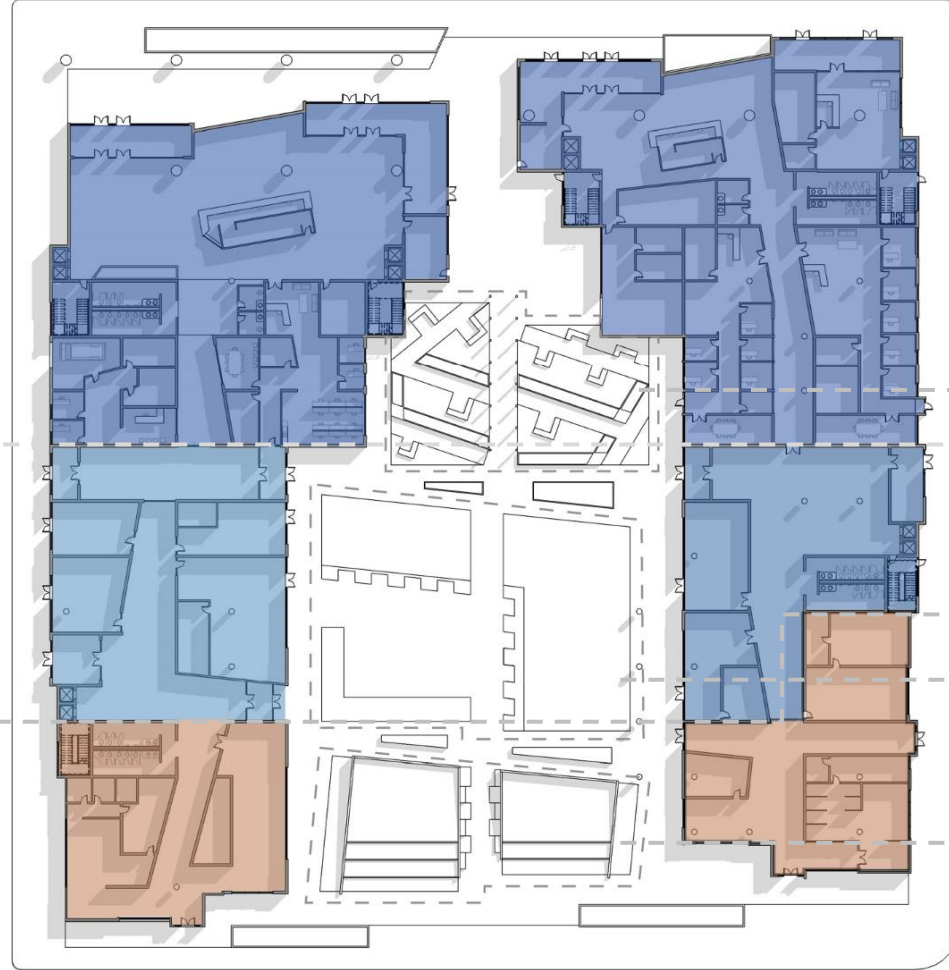


Green Space



Ground Level

- A Care
- B Community
- B Community
- C Commercial Job Training



Community Gathering

Self Sufficiency

Raised Planters

Ground Plots

Lounging Area

Central Path Access



Central Community Garden Area



Green Step Lounging

Bus Waiting Area

Central Path Access

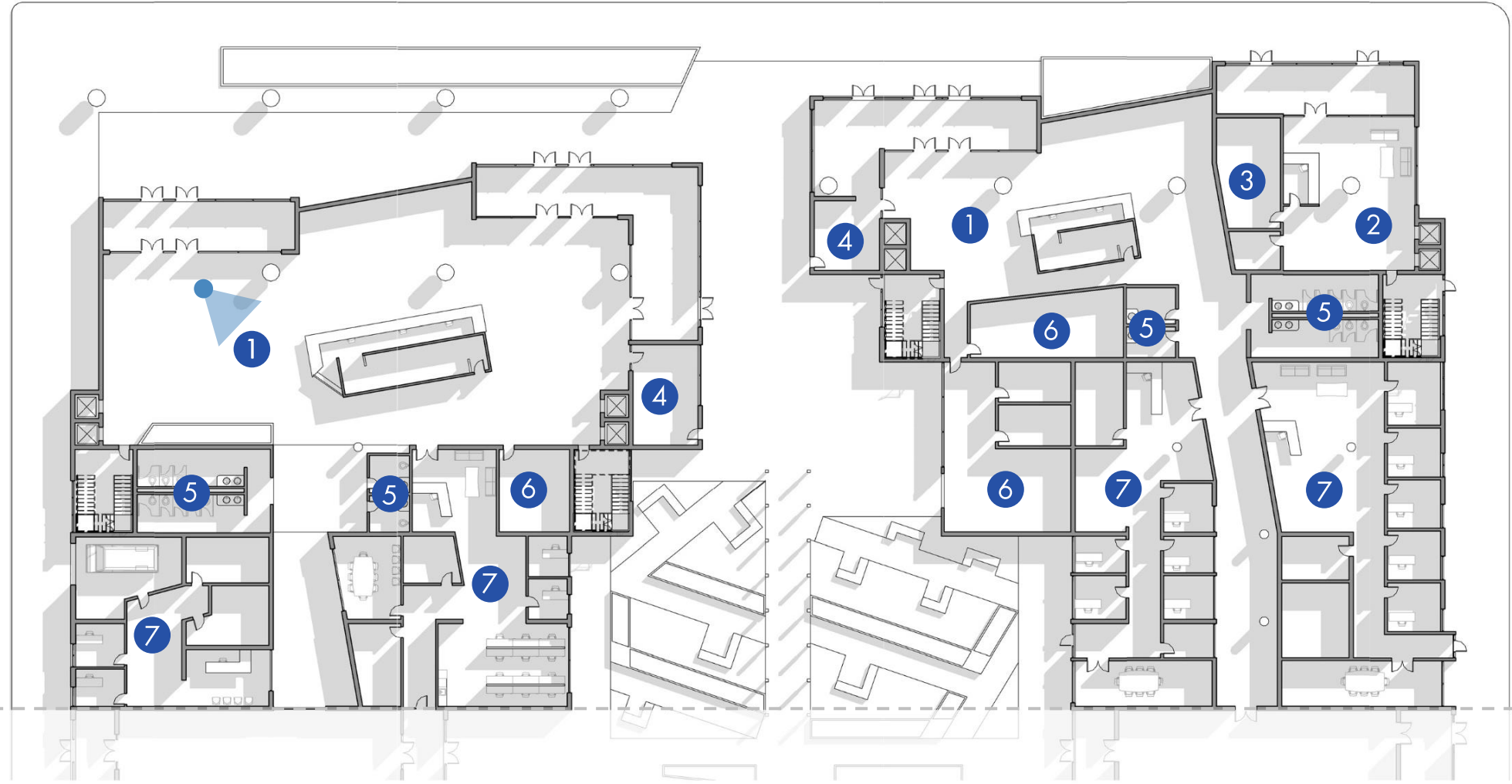
Commercial Access

Comfort Focus

Parkway Waiting Area

Ground Level Care

- 1 Main Lobby
- 2 Trauma Lobby
- 3 Security Office
- 4 Bike Storage
- 5 Restrooms
- 6 Office Space
- 7 Emergency Clinic

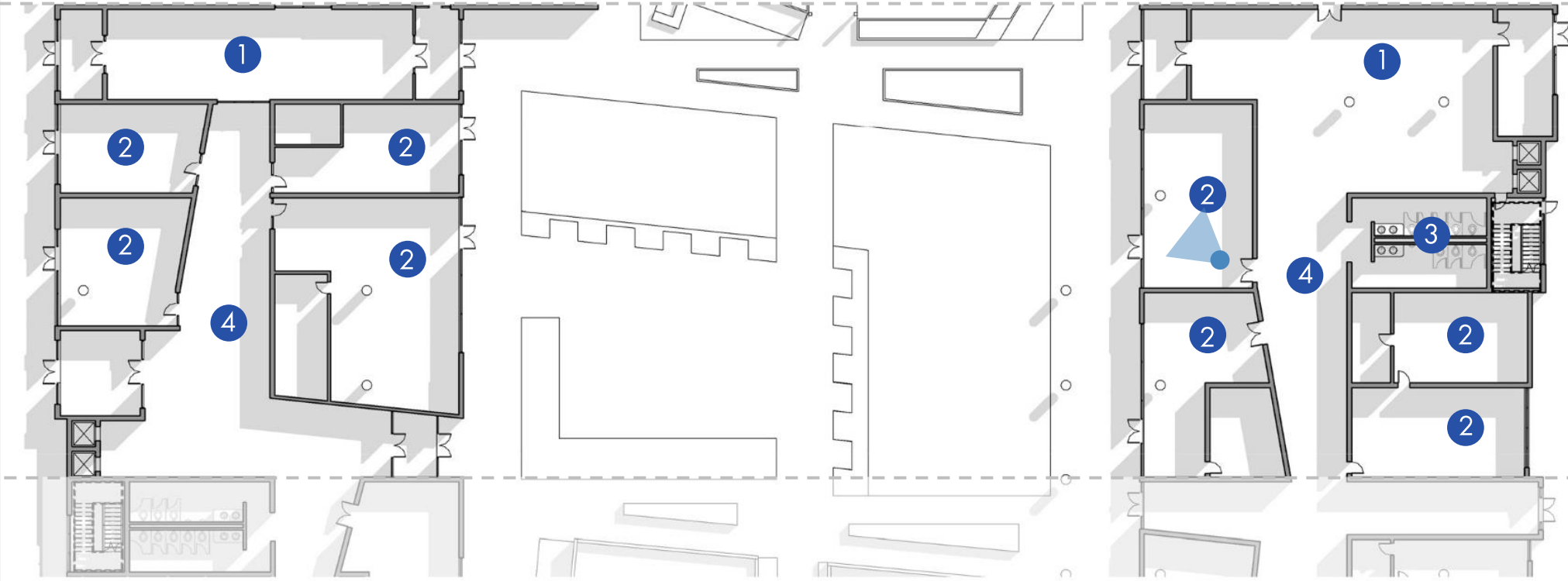




Care Facility and Apartment Lobby

Ground Level Community

- 1 Community/
Green Space
- 2 Community
Space
- 3 Restroom
- 4 Central Hallway





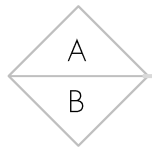
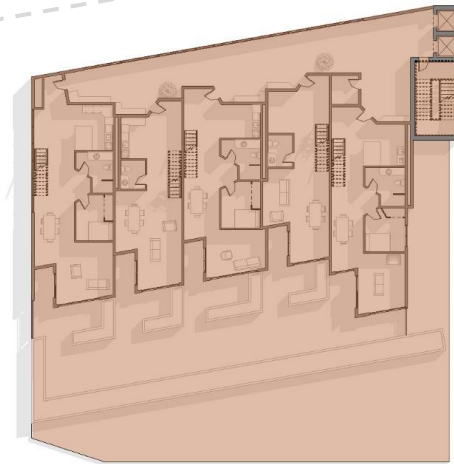
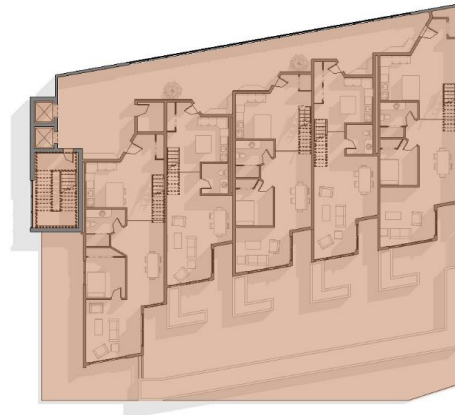
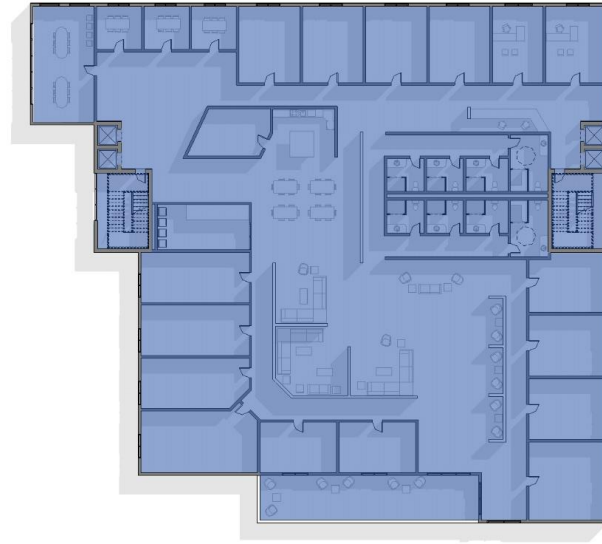
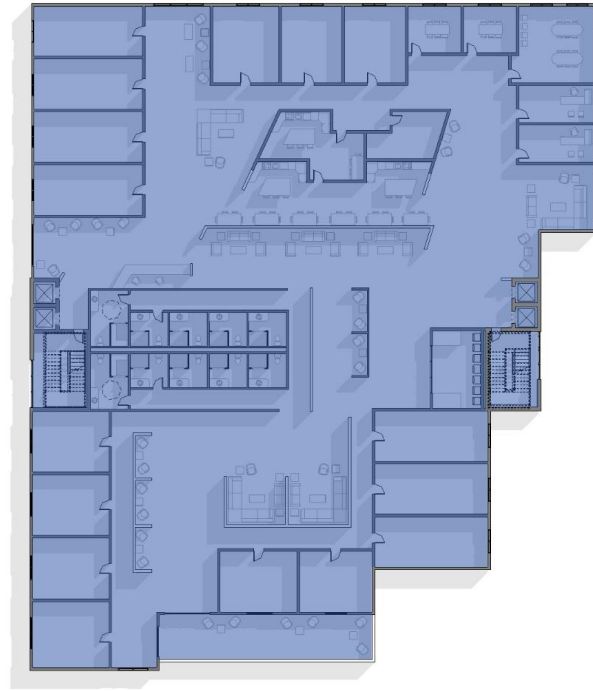
Community Breakout Space

Ground Level Commercial

- 1 Restroom
- 2 Central Hallway
- 3 Commercial Job Training Space



2nd Level

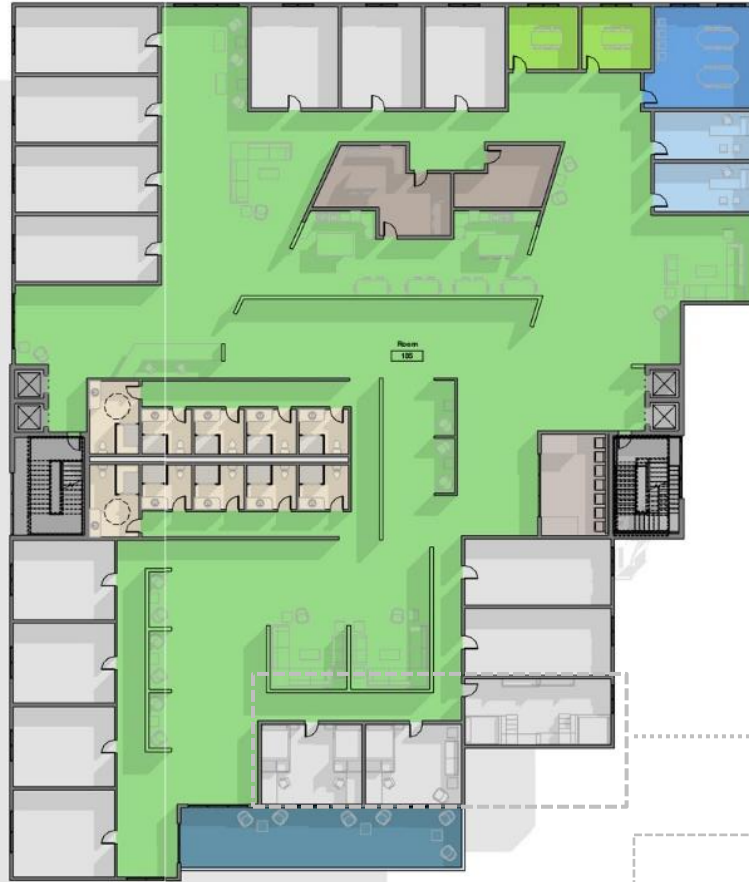


Dependent

Independent



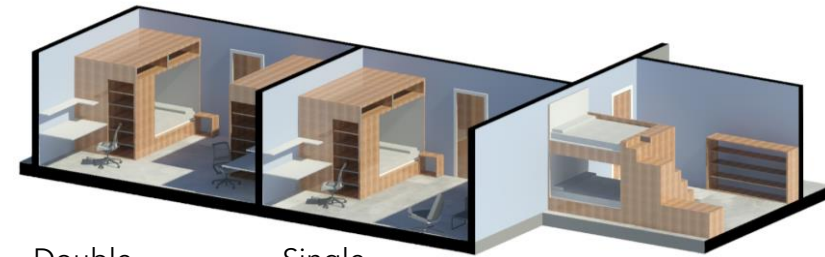
2nd Level Dependent



Department Legend

- 1 Bed
- 2 Bed
- 3 Bed
- Common Space
- Dining
- Halfway
- Janitor
- Large Conference Room
- Laundry
- Office Space
- Patio Space
- Resident Unit
- Restrooms
- Small Conference Room
- Support Space

Dependent Units



Double

Single

Youth





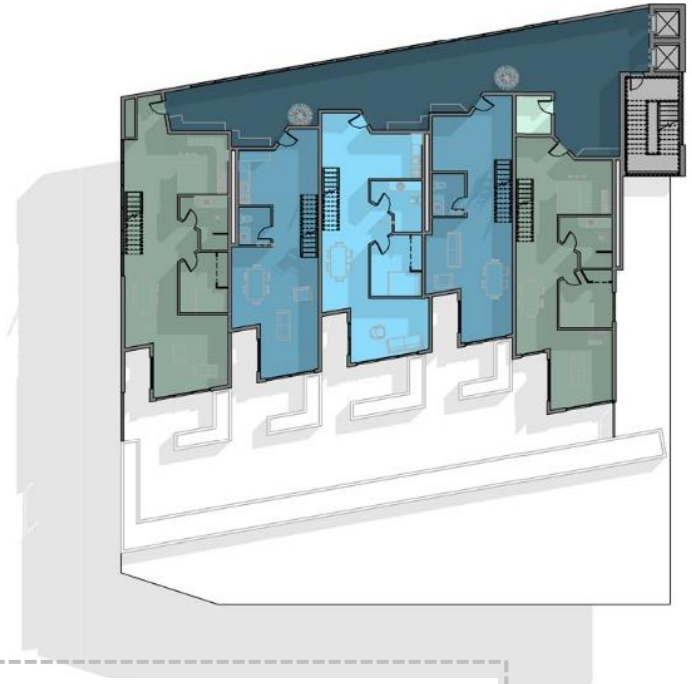
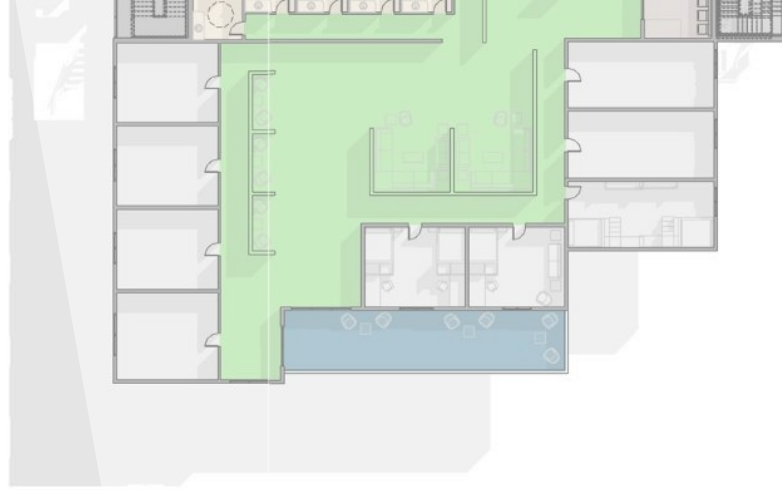
Independent Apartment Hallway



Independent Apartment Living Room

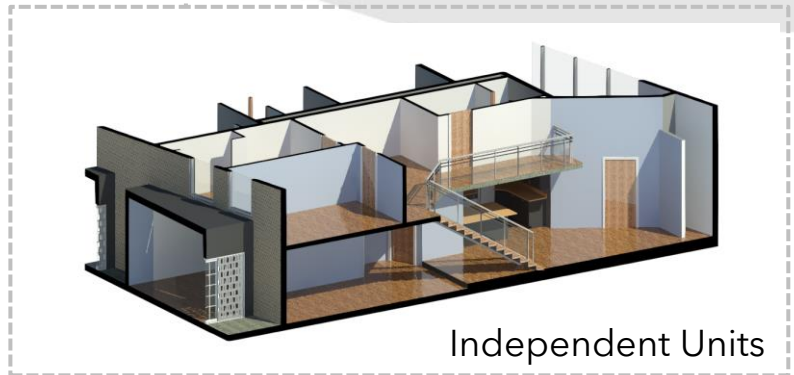
2nd Level Independent

- 1 Main Lobby
- 2 Trauma Lobby
- 3 Security Office
- 4 Bike Storage
- 5 Restrooms
- 6 Office Space
- 7 Emergency Clinic



Department Legend

1 Bed
2 Bed
3 Bed
Common Space
Dining
Hallway
Janitor
Large Conference Room
Laundry
Office Space
Patio Space
Resident Unit
Restrooms
Small Conference Room
Support Space



Independent Units



Dependent Apartment Lobby



Thank you