

# FLOW

## HYGIENE CENTER

### CONCEPT STATEMENT

Flow is a basic needs center that provides **COMFORT, REFRESHMENT, and SAFETY** to those in need with the intent of improving quality of life, self-esteem and mental health. Offering services centered around hygiene and job-readiness, this facility equips occupants with the necessary **RESOURCES** to build **INDEPENDENCE**. Human-centered design informs a **SUSTAINABLE, ENJOYABLE, and HEALTHY** environment for both employees and guests.

### RESEARCH

The limited access to public sanitation infrastructure is hindering the ability to maintain proper hygiene among the homeless, deteriorating both their physical and mental health. Designing a non-stigmatizing, safe and clean basic needs shelter that promotes proper hygienic practices, can lower the spread of diseases and lessen the psychological damage of being homeless to guide them on a path to self-sufficiency.

We interviewed a previously homeless person who made use of basic needs programs in Denton where he was able to get meals, showers and a mailing address. Even with programs available to him, his hygiene was greatly affected by his homelessness which in turn lowered his sense of self and his mental health. This is partly due to the unwelcoming feeling of these basic needs shelters that made him feel "sad and anxious". His mental health began to decline as his homelessness made him feel lesser and described it as "feeling like you've done something wrong". This inferiority complex among the homeless is common in the United States as there is a social stigma attached to homelessness as it is seen as "a result of personal failure" (Biswas-Diener, 2006).

We were also able to visit Cumberland's foster care for children who need a temporary living space. The Cumberland Presbyterian home for children is very aware of the psychological effects of homelessness and is very thorough with their mental services providing assessments of the children's mental and emotional needs to provide them with the necessary counseling and psychological services.



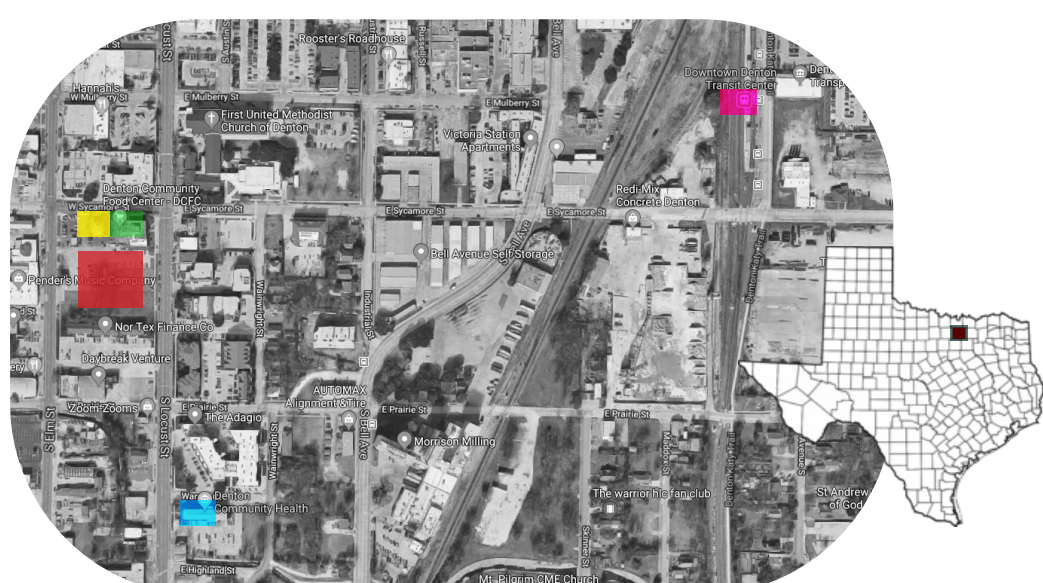
Our design will be guided by both the physical and mental well-being of homeless individuals, to allow us to create a thoughtful space for them to feel safe and welcomed so they can become autonomous and lead a healthy lifestyle. The main goals of this basic needs shelter are to improve guest's mental health and enrich the community. This design achieves that by using visual elements such as gentle colors and curvilinear structure to soften the environment and the path that one takes through the space. This, along with an atmosphere of equality in every way possible, will aid in reducing anxiety of the guests. Everyone should enter and leave this shelter feeling more secure, cleaner and like a valuable member of society.

### REFERENCES

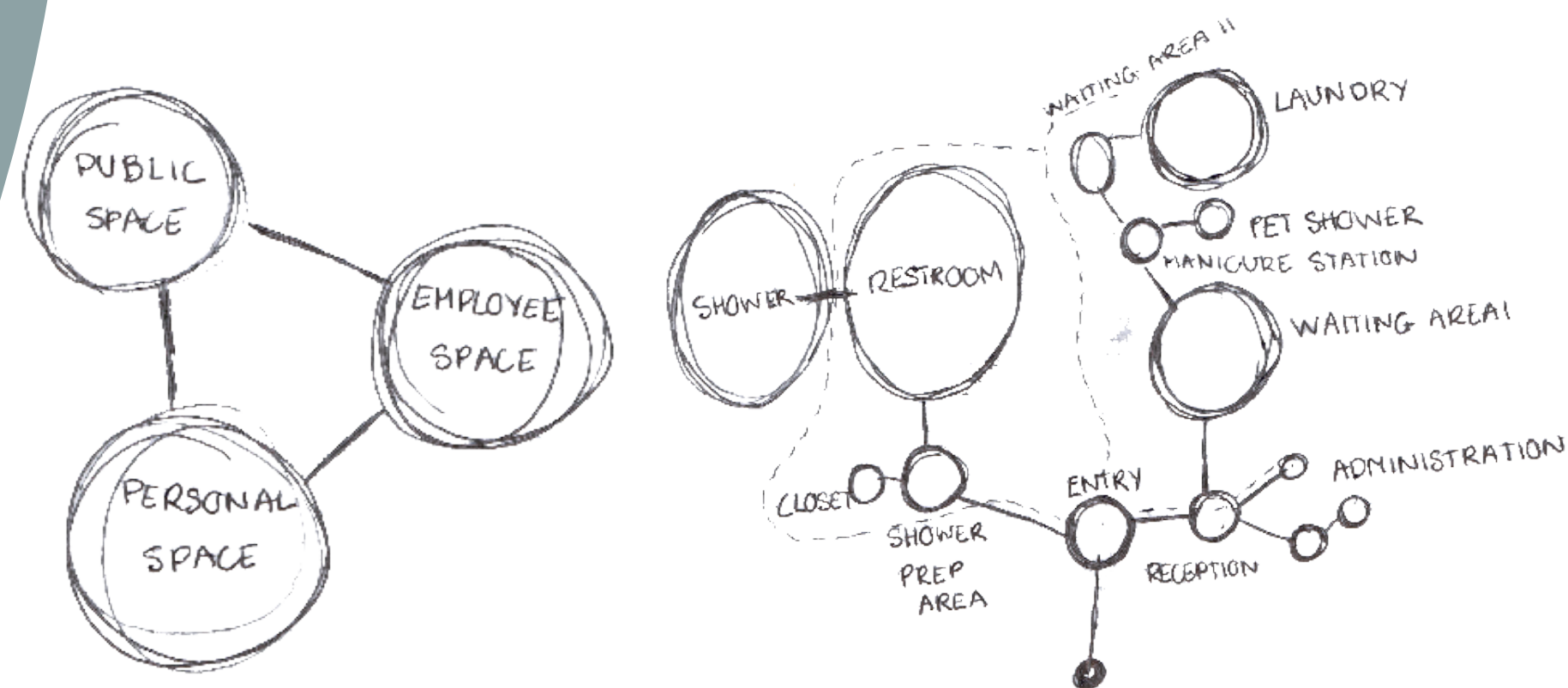
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### LOCATION ANALYSIS

- FLOW HYGIENE CENTER
- DENTON COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER
- DENTON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY
- DENTON DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CENTER
- DENTON COMMUNITY HEALTH



### CONCEPT SKETCHES



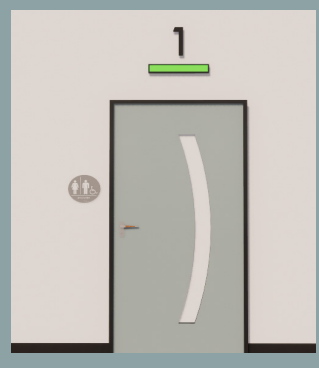
### THE WELL™ STANDARD

WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND PHYSICAL WELLNESS IN MIND, WE DECIDED TO IMPLEMENT ELEMENTS OF THE WELL STANDARD. THE PRIMARY FOCUS IS ON THE MIND, NOURISHMENT, COMFORT AND COMMUNITY ASPECTS OF THE STANDARD. TO SUPPORT THE WELLNESS OF THE MIND, WE DESIGNED THE SPACE TO HAVE SOFT COLORS, CURVILINEAR FORMS AND A SPA-LIKE ATMOSPHERE. TO PROMOTE COMFORT, WE USED UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ATTEMPTED TO CREATE A VERSATILE, CUSTOMIZABLE SPACE FOR THE COMFORT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH ALL DISABILITIES, IDENTITIES, AND STATUS. TO PROMOTE NOURISHMENT AND COMMUNITY THROUGH THE DESIGN, WE INCLUDED AN OUTDOOR COMMUNITY GARDEN AS WELL AS A COMMUNITY TACK-BOARD NEAR THE ENTRANCE. THE GUESTS OF FLOW WILL BE ABLE TO GROW THEIR OWN PRODUCE AND FEEL A SENSE OF PERMANENCE AND ATTACHMENT. USING THESE PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS WE WILL BE ABLE TO ENSURE THAT PEOPLE FEEL COMFORTABLE MAKING USE OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED IN THIS CENTER, ALLOWING THEM TO IMPROVE THEIR MENTAL/PHYSICAL HEALTH.

## UD SHOWER & BATH

HANDHELD SHOWER HEAD FOR THOSE WHO PREFER OR NEED TO SIT

FOLD UP SHOWER SEAT WITH EASY ACCESS TO HANDHELD SHOWER, SOAP DISPENSERS & GRAB BARS



THE DOORS TO ALL RESTROOMS AND SHOWERS EMPLOY PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN, GENDER NEUTRALITY AND RAISED BRILLE SIGNAGE ALOW FOR EQUITABLE USE. THE DOOR HANDLES REQUIRE LOW PHYSICAL EFFORT TO OPERATE. THE OCCUPANCY LIGHT SYSTEM WITH LETTERS/NUMBERS PROVIDES PERCEPTIBLE INFORMATION & TOLERANCE FOR ERROR. ALL DOORS HAVE AMPLE SIZE & SPACE FOR APPROACH & USE.



GRAB BARS LOCATED 38" ABOVE GROUND AND 6" FROM PARTITION, PER THE T.A.S. STANDARD

ALL SOAP DISPENSERS AND DRYERS AT 48" REACH RANGE

ROLL IN SINK WITH WHEELCHAIR KNEE SPACE

5' CIRCLE TURN-AROUND

60"X56" CLEAR TRANSFER SPACE AROUND TOILET

COMFORT HEIGHT TOILET

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## FLOOR PLAN not to scale

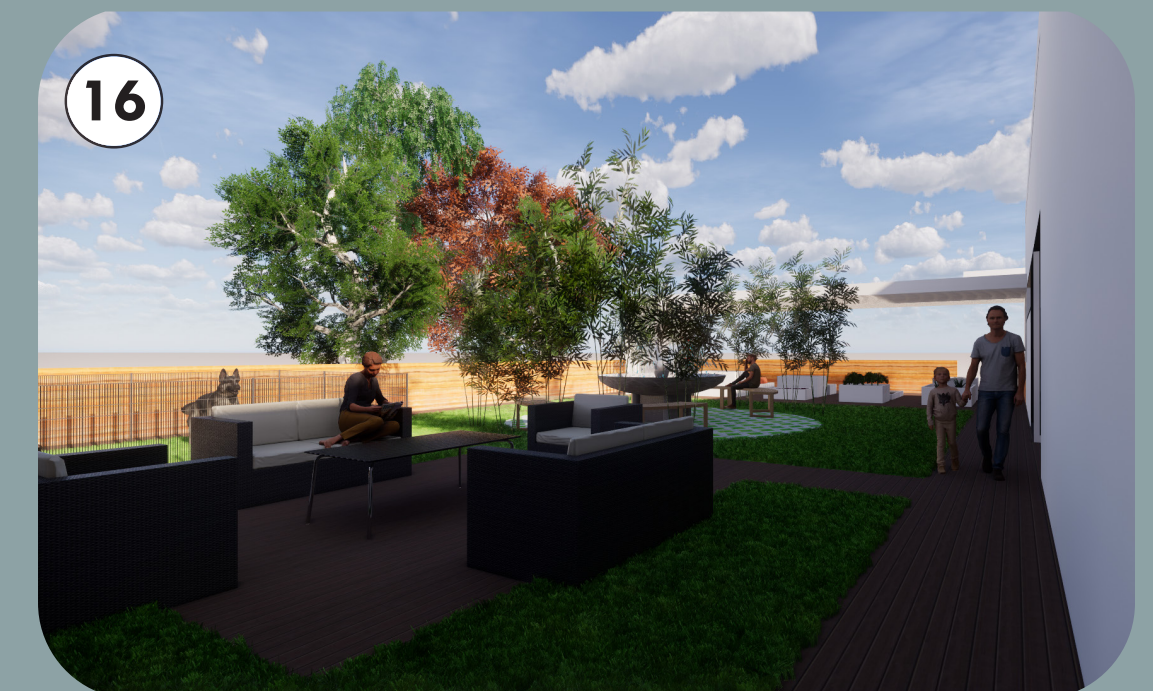


## PROGRAM & AREAS

01. RECEPTION
02. BREAK ROOM
03. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
04. EMPLOYEE RESTROOM
05. WAITING/LIVING ROOM
06. SECONDARY WAITING
07. PET WASHING AREA
08. LAUNDRY ROOM
09. INDIVIDUAL RESTROOMS
10. INDIVIDUAL SHOWER ROOMS
11. JANITORIAL CLOSET
12. SHOWER SUPPORT DESK
13. HYGIENE SUPPLY STORAGE
14. COMMUNITY GARDEN
15. ALL RELIGION MEDITATION SPACE
16. OUTDOOR SEATING AREA
17. DOG PARK



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## PROGRAM GOALS

### IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH

- Spa Like Atmosphere
- Soft and Soothing Colors
- Curving Spacial Form
- Enhanced connection with nature
- Separation of public and spaces
- Treating them like valuable members of society

### ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

- Fruit and Vegetable Garden
- Lowering the spread of diseases
- Helping with job readiness
- Using sustainable materials
- Accessibility and UD Design
- Health Promotion

## MATERIALS

### SHOWER FLOORING

#### WOOD PORCELAIN TILE

- REDUCES BACTERIA
- EASY TO SANITIZE/CLEAN
- LOW ALLERGEN RETENTION
- DOES NOT ABSORB ODORS
- DIRT AND STAIN RESISTANT
- SLIP AND SKID RESISTANT

### COUNTER TOPS

#### RECYCLED GLASS

- 100% RECYCLED
- 0% WASTE
- MADE WITH DOMESTIC MATERIALS
- CAN SUBSTITUTE FOR
- 95% OF RAW MATERIALS

### FENCING

#### RAMMED EARTH

- LONG LASTING
- NATURAL MATERIAL
- STURDY
- NON-TOXIC
- FIRE RESISTANT

### PRIMARY FLOORING

#### BAMBOO FLOORING

- RENEWABLE
- HIGH TENSILE STRENGTH
- HIGH COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH
- LIGHTWEIGHT
- SELF-REGENERATING
- DURABLE

### UPHOLSTERY

#### SENSUEDE FABRIC

- 100% RECYCLED
- FREE OF TOXINS
- FREE OF CARCINOGENS
- HYPOALLERGENIC
- 33-53% LESS ENERGY TO PRODUCE
- REDUCES SOIL CONTAMINATION

### WALL PANELS

#### CORKBOARD

- FAST GROWING
- HARVESTED FROM LIVING TREE
- FIRE RESISTANT
- NOISE ABSORBING
- NON-TOXIC
- THERMAL INSULATOR

## WAITING AREA & FURNITURE



VARIED SEATING CONVEYS NON-INSTITUTIONAL, COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT AND SENSE OF CHOICE FOR GUESTS

CUSTOMIZED BENCH FEATURES UNDER-SEAT STORAGE FOR SMALL ITEMS GIVING GUESTS A SENSE OF SAFETY



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