

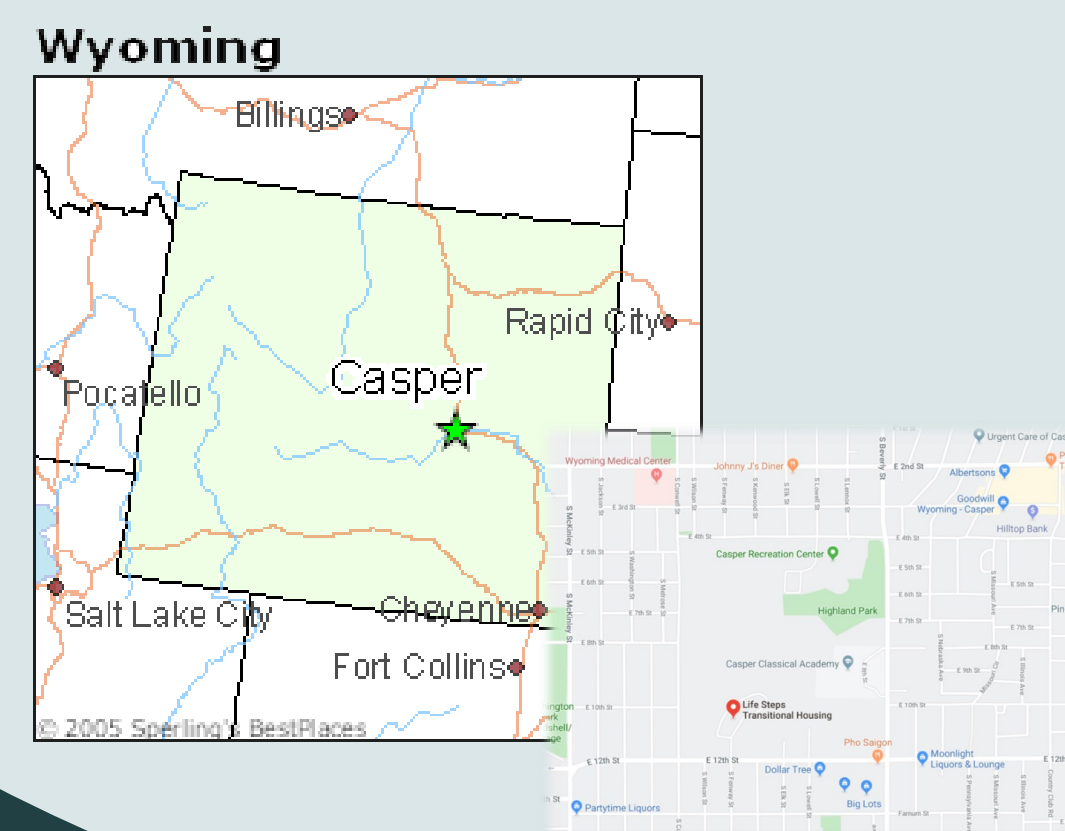
FREELIFE

Concept

The goal of FREELIFE is to create an environment that provides an open space that entices interaction through grouping, comfort through privacy and environment, and confidence in wayfinding. This center won't just provide basic needs, it will encourage people to gain confidence in themselves so that they may take a bold step into a positive future, whether that be through employment or other means of prosperity. FREELIFE is ready to provide an environment that makes those without a home feel at home. FREELIFE is more than a service, it is a community.

Location

FREELIFE will be located in the Highland park area of Casper, Wy. Being the biggest and most isolated city in Wyoming, this is a prime location for a basic needs center. The rural location of Casper provides less opportunity for the homeless population. The facility will be surrounded by a large park, and is in an excellent location for transportation, healthcare, food, and recreation. Transitional housing also shares the same location, allowing for a full range of amenities within walking distance for those searching for a comfortable and easily accessible environment. The rocky mountain region is known for its independent culture, that is why this facility was specifically meant to make the clients feel independent and welcome.



Acoustical control is the biggest concern when it comes to comfort in a space. To accommodate this, FREELIFE is equipped with an entire eco silence sublayer flooring. Carpet inserts and wood ceiling panels were added in the front of the center to add a cozier environment as well as sound absorption.

Piotrowski, M. Christine. *Designing Commercial Interiors*, 3rd Edition. Wiley, 2016.



FREELIFE was designed with the circular formation in mind, both in design and function. The circle is a shape that most connects humans to nature through its representation of unity, wholeness, completion, fullness, connectedness, and perfection.

Suler, John. *Photographic Psychology: Circular Compositions*, http://truecenterpublishing.com/photopsy/circular_comp.htm.

GOALS

INDEPENDENCE

Allows for independence and personal growth in confidence and job seeking.

COMFORT

Comfort to help the clients relax and gather themselves so that they may excel in seeking new opportunities.

COMMUNITY

Space for social groups to form and become active with one another so that they may gain references and stability.

SECURITY

Escape from safety anxiety through accessibility of the open floorplan, and privacy in personal space.



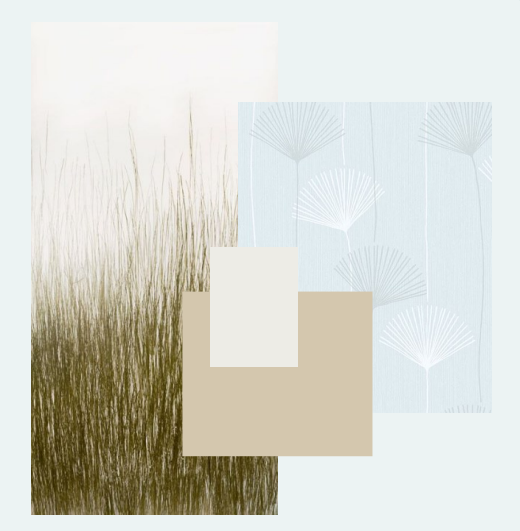
Acoustical wood paneling on the ceiling absorbs the high noise levels, while ADA accessible built in tables make laundry easy. A folding table spans the center of the space allowing for shopping carts and belongings to be stored underneath and within easy reach.

Primary Research

An interview was conducted with the basic needs facility manager, Charlie Malley, of the Murphy Center for Hope in Fort Collins, CO. Several questions were asked about space allocations, problems, and possible solutions to help the center run more smoothly for client and employee. One of the biggest problems that seemed to come up was the lack of space for showering and laundry. The facility only had two showers, (one male and one female) and 2 sets of washers and dryers. Not only were there not enough, but they also weren't placed very accessibly within the facility. Much of what Mr. Malley expressed was the need for better space and movement throughout the facility to help accommodate clients and their time based needs. Mr. Malley said that one thing that is great for the facility is their outdoor space, with its large lawn and small garden that the clients have access to. It provides fresh air and space for individuals, family's and animals to play. FREELIFE's goal was to address each of the concerns with a fully mobile facility that allows for easy accessibility, management, and comfort.

Malley, Charlie. Interview. Conducted by Georgia Wollert, 10 November 2019.

Box Diagram

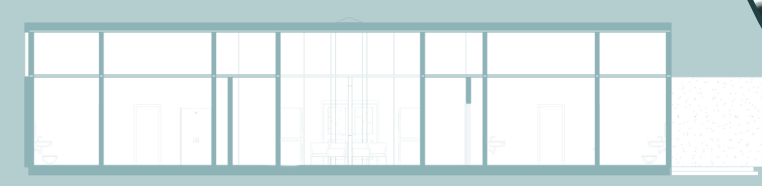


Energy efficient LED can lighting was used throughout the facility.

All materials used within the space were easy to clean, acoustically sound, hypoallergenic, and long lasting.

The color scheme follows the formation in that it is more natural in tones with blues, greens, tans and yellows.

EW Section



Separation between the coffee bar and living area was achieved through acrylic panels. These panels proved privacy for the living area from the outside, while the coffee bar comfortably overlooks the outside through the one sided glass windows.

Egress and ingress considerations were applied through a welcoming entrance into the space that is just off of the reception area to provide privacy, while also providing an open view of public areas for free movement. The left hand hallway is more private for the living areas sake, while the right hand hallway provides an uninterrupted view to the back of the facility for easy access to the pet space and back patio. The back patio is equipped with easy access to the street by a one way gate that only allows one to exit for safety purposes.

