



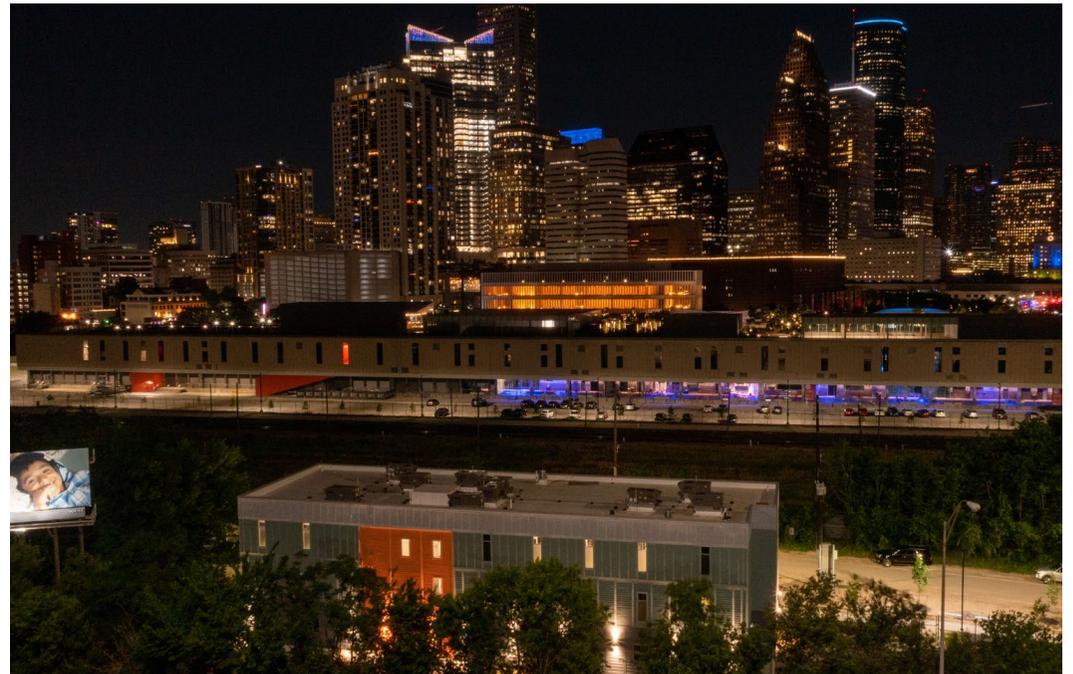
# HARMONY HOUSE

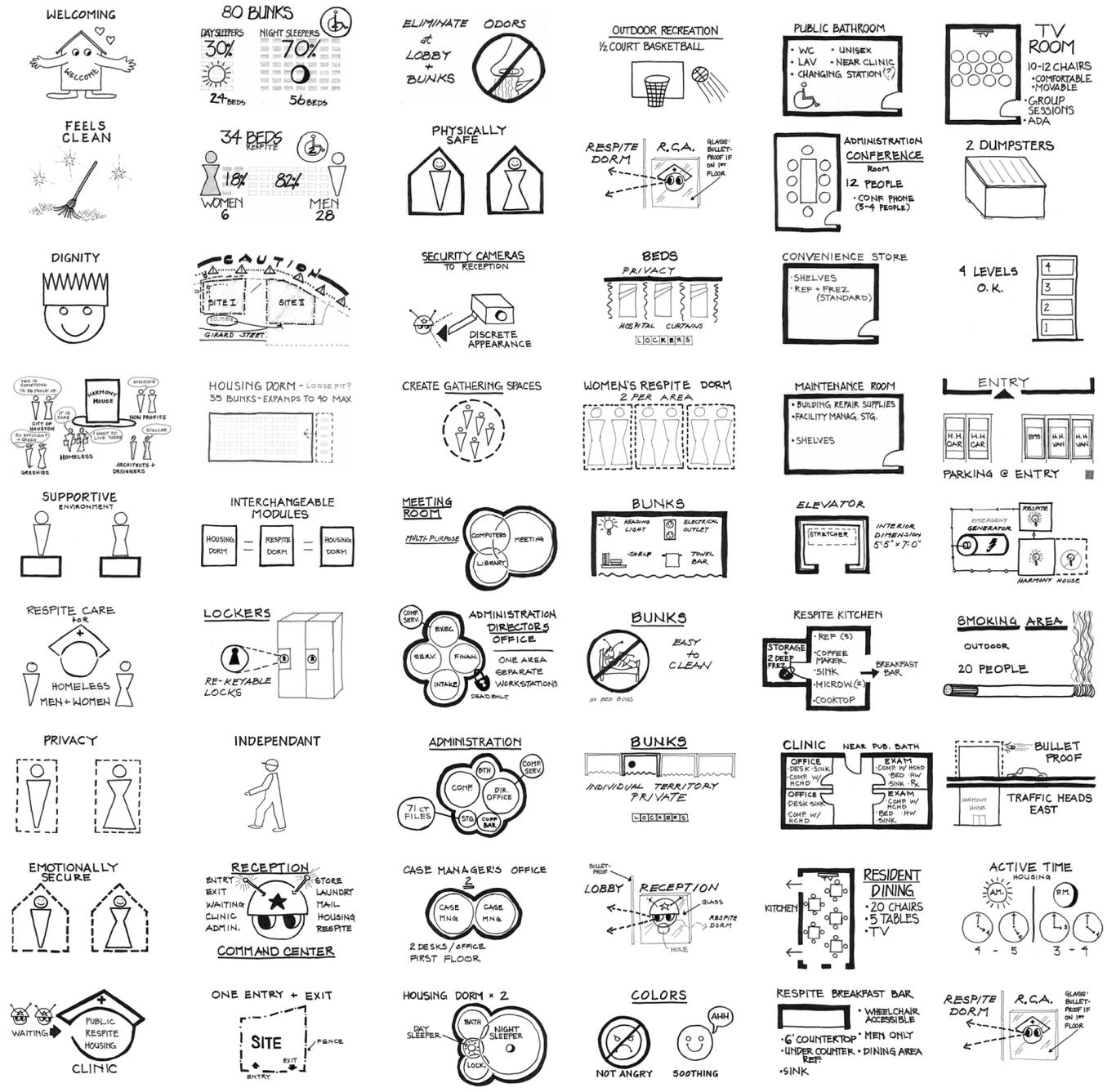
Harmony House is a dormitory style special residential building designed to provide affordable housing for the working men in Houston.



# SITE CHALLENGES

The site is on a dead-end road bordered by railroad tracks, billboards, soaring freeways, and flood plain. The wooded green space to the north houses occasional tent living.

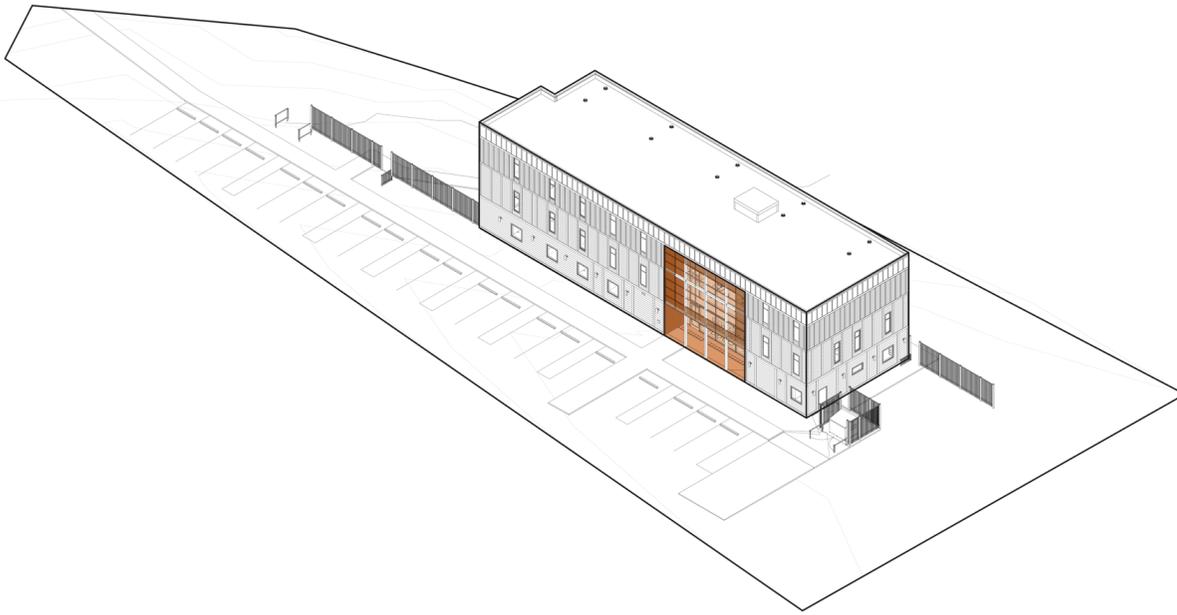




An extensive programming phase was used to outline the clients goals for the building. By creating hundreds of cards, the architects were able to learn lessons from a client with over 25 years of experience operating very specialized housing.

# PROGRAMMING CHALLENGES

# IN-BETWEEN SPACE BECOMES A PLACE



## **SITE**

A long, skinny property, limited by the flood plain and bordered by TXDOT R.O.W.

## **PROGRAMMING**

Need to meet concerns for privacy and security while housing in close quarters, as well as create a sense of community and dignity through architecture.

## **VIEW**

## **ECONOMY**

## **MATERIALS**

## **DURABILITY**

## **COLOR**

# FRAMED VIEW

The economical box shape is pierced with an enormous “picture window” facing downtown. The opening marks the entrance with color and provides the residents with an abundance of daylight in the community spaces inside along with an amazing view.





## VIEW

The design of the building is a very efficient 3-story rectangle with an eye on downtown.

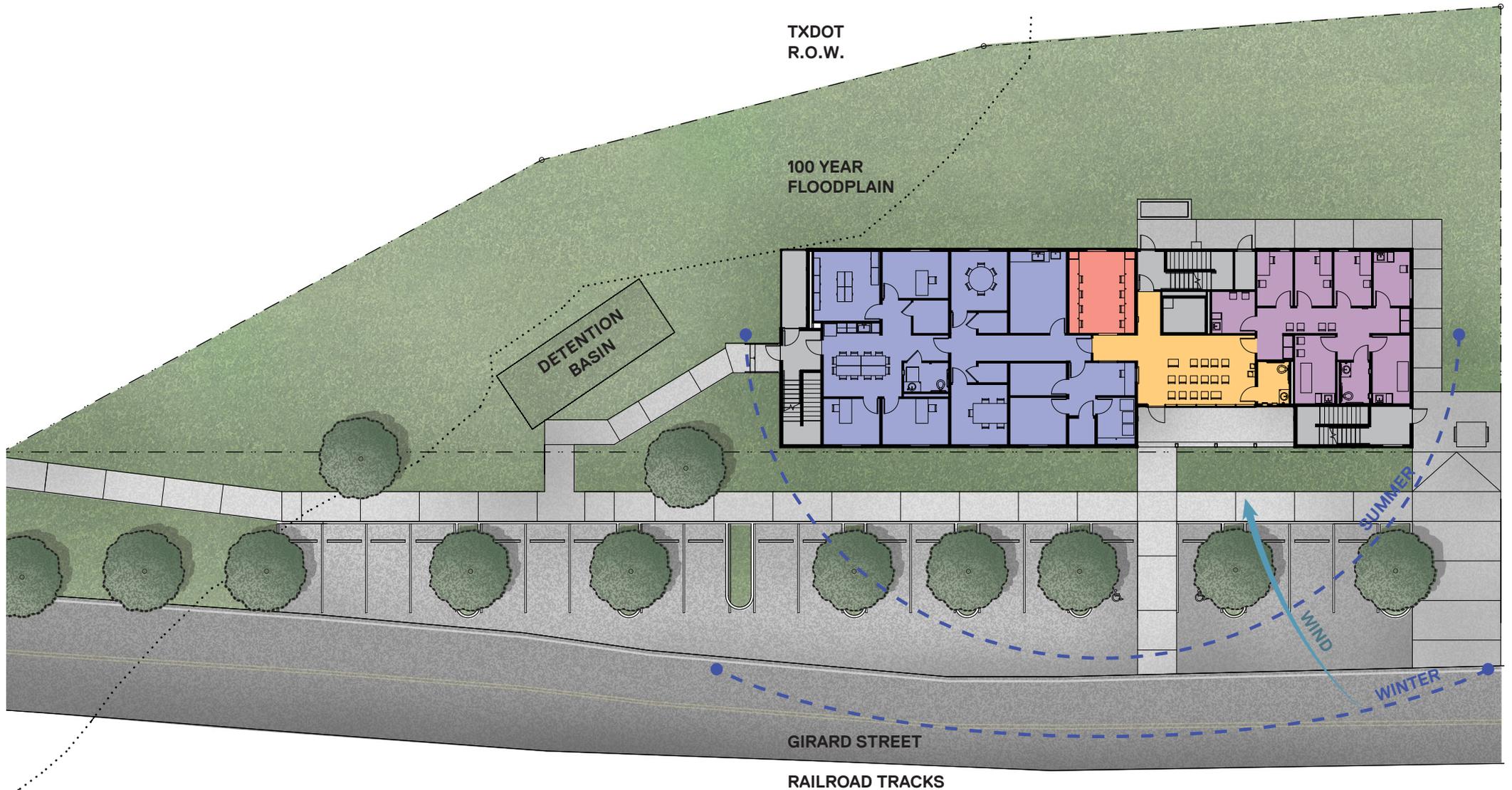


**SOUTH  
ELEVATION**



## **MATERIALS**

Durability and longevity were major themes for the design. The exterior of the building is painted fiber cement board with a combination of panels and lap siding to create texture and hierarchy.



The ground floor provides a computer room for residents, access to healthcare for residents and the neighborhood, and administration offices for management staff. The building is oriented efficiently to limit solar heat gain and take advantage of prevailing breezes.

# GROUND FLOOR

Administration Suite

Lobby

Computer Room

Clinic

# COLOR

Color is used as an economical design tool throughout the inside and outside of the building. Different wall and door colors are introduced on each level for way-finding. Bright, cheerful colors were selected as backdrops for shared spaces to create a clear shift from public to private.

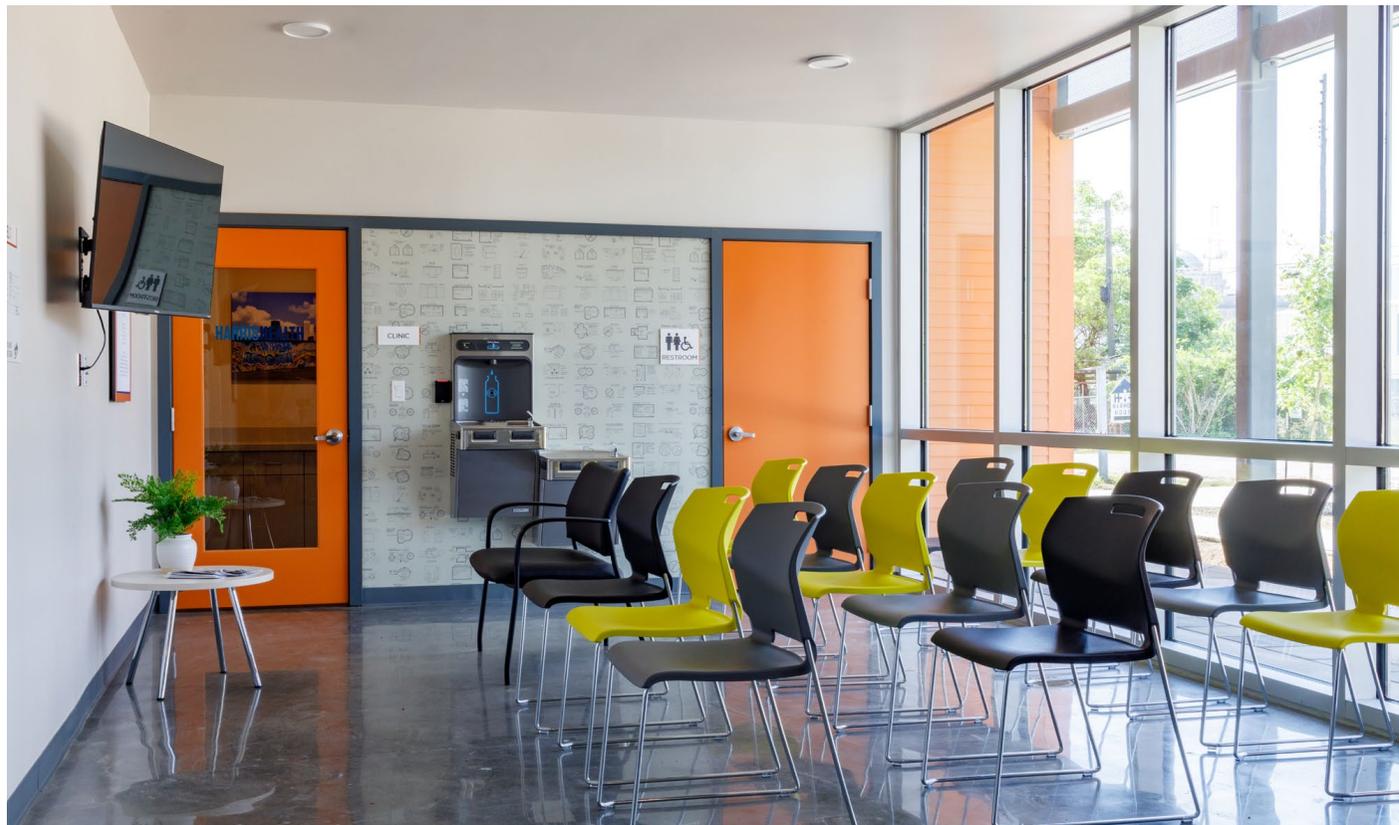


# COMING HOME

The recessed entrance protects glazing from the sun while feeling open and inviting. The building entrance is monitored 24/7 and waiting space is provided for visitors of the building.



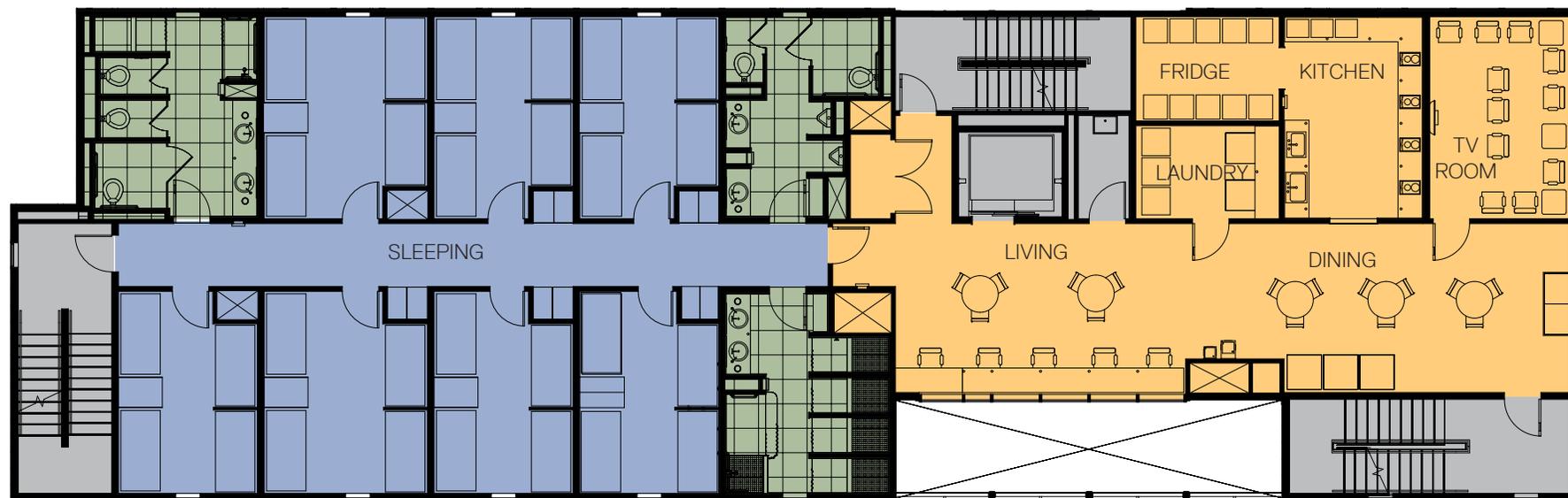
One wall is decorated with programming sketches printed on a durable laminate finish.



# CREATING COMMUNITY



Shared living spaces on the upper floors are filled with natural light and color to create spaces for meeting and gatherings while fostering a sense of relaxed community.



The upper floors are split to separate the private and public resident spaces. An abundance of natural light fills the community spaces, while more private sleeping zones are filled with soft diffused light from frosted glass and privacy curtains.



## TYPICAL UPPER FLOOR

Bunk Rooms

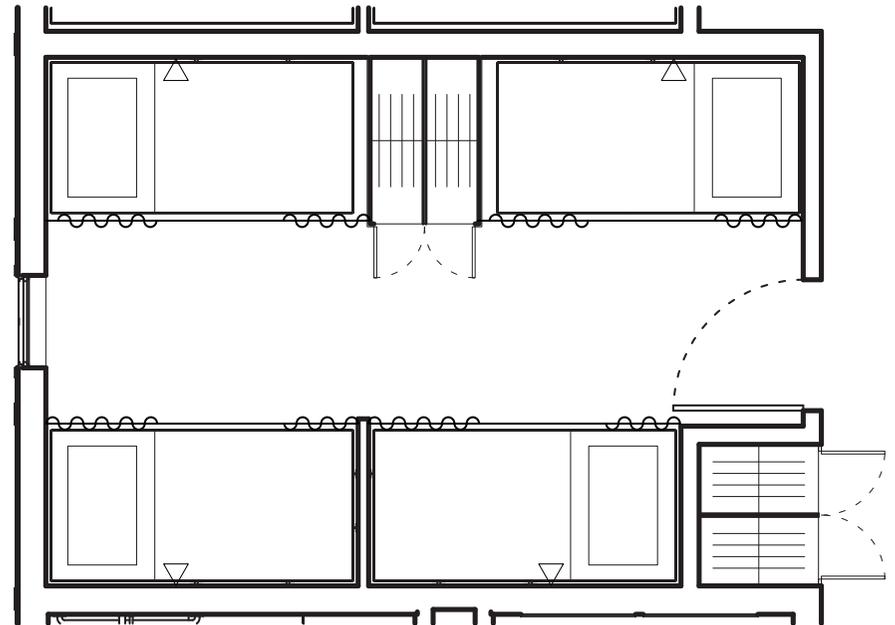
Common Area

Restrooms



# STORAGE

The bunk rooms provide each resident with a personal reading light, storage locker, and a privacy curtain.



# PRIVACY

Frosted glass provides privacy and daylight in the bunk rooms, efficiently using every bit of space with built-in lockers and under-bed storage.



# DURABILITY

The bathrooms have durable tile finishes with large format tile on walls and floors to minimize grout.







HARMONY HOUSE