

# CITY SAN PEDRO, CA

## "Reducing Recidivism Through Design: A Proposal for Improved and Effective Supportive Housing"

The United States has a history of incarcerating more people per capita than any other country in the world. While there are many factors contributing to these exceedingly high prison populations, the key contributing factor to the consistency of these rates is the notion of recidivism. The significantly deficient amount of effective and well-designed transitional and supportive housing facilities in the U.S. largely contributes to these high rates of recidivism, rather than prevents them. With research conducted through interviews, case studies, and design critiques, this prototypical design proposal will explore how transitional housing facilities can be improved by placing an emphasis on trauma-informed design, residential design, dynamic security, communal living spaces, adequate supportive facilities, welcoming familial environments, and plenty of access to the outdoors. This particular proposal will focus on rehabilitating women and their children, but can and should be replicated to serve male facilities, as well. Strategically located in the state of California, this prototypical design is given a platform to succeed upon. The success of one properly designed supportive housing facility has the potential to reduce the rates of recidivism at a local level. However, purposefully designed to be easily replicated, the success of thousands of properly designed supportive housing facilities have the potential to reduce the rates of recidivism at a national level, as well.

255

522

Prioritize

Trauma-Informed

Design

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**



**Establish a Sense of** 

"Home"



Challenge Existing Supportive Housing Efforts



-Interviews conducted with a variety of professionals who work in the field (a pastor, a retired probation officer, multiple transitional housing companies).

-Case studies that evaluated successful design projects with similar or shared goals.

-Field work through site visits to successful similar projects.

JPPORTIVE FACILITIES

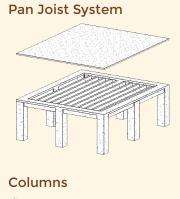
3,020 SQ. FT

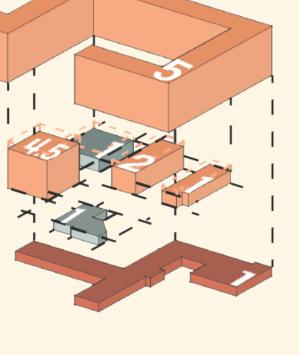
-Secondary data analysis including research of historic documents, government data, and trauma-informed design.

21,300 SQ. FT.

RESIDENTIAL

48.000 SO. F





a c

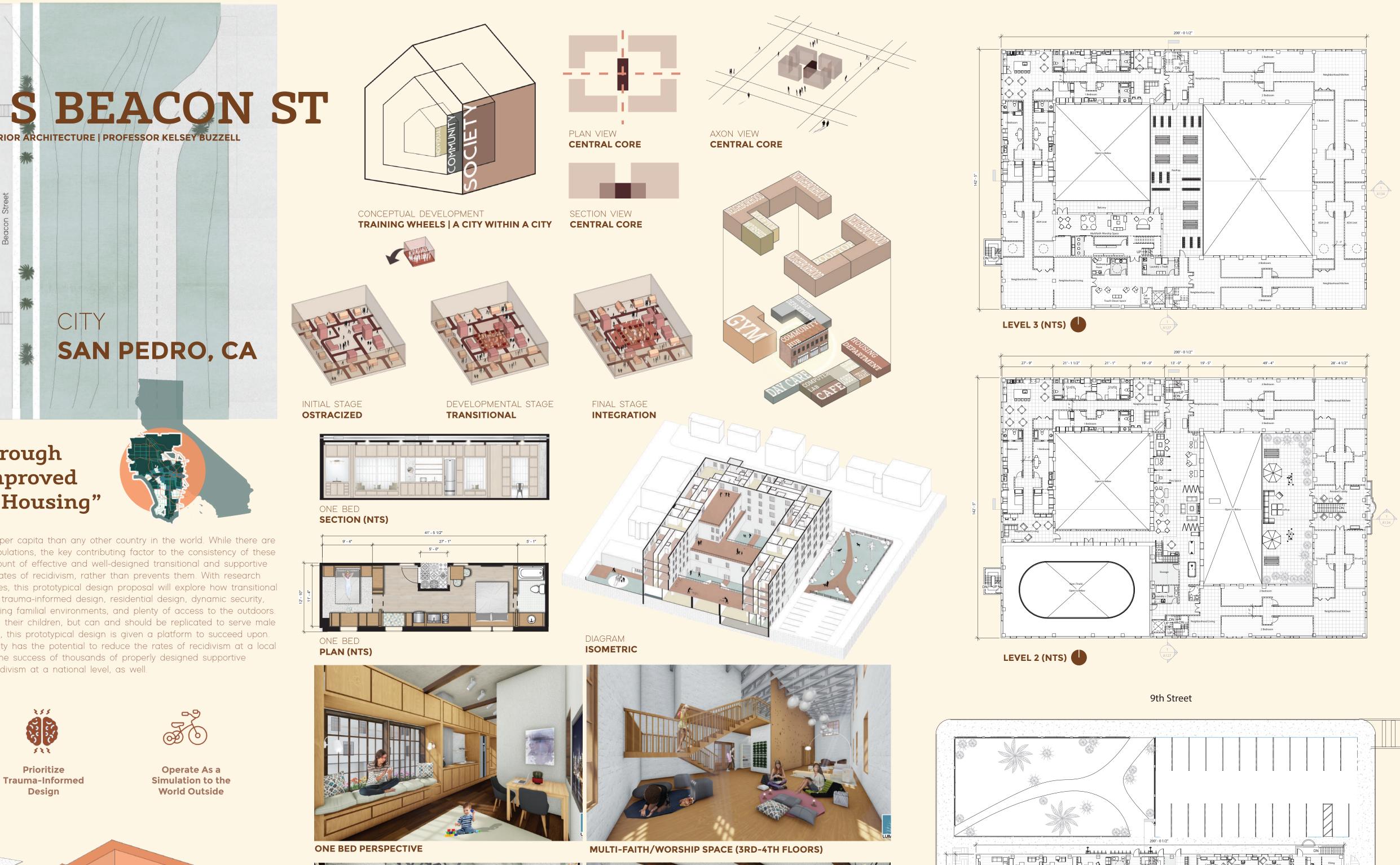
**Operate As a** 

Simulation to the

World Outside

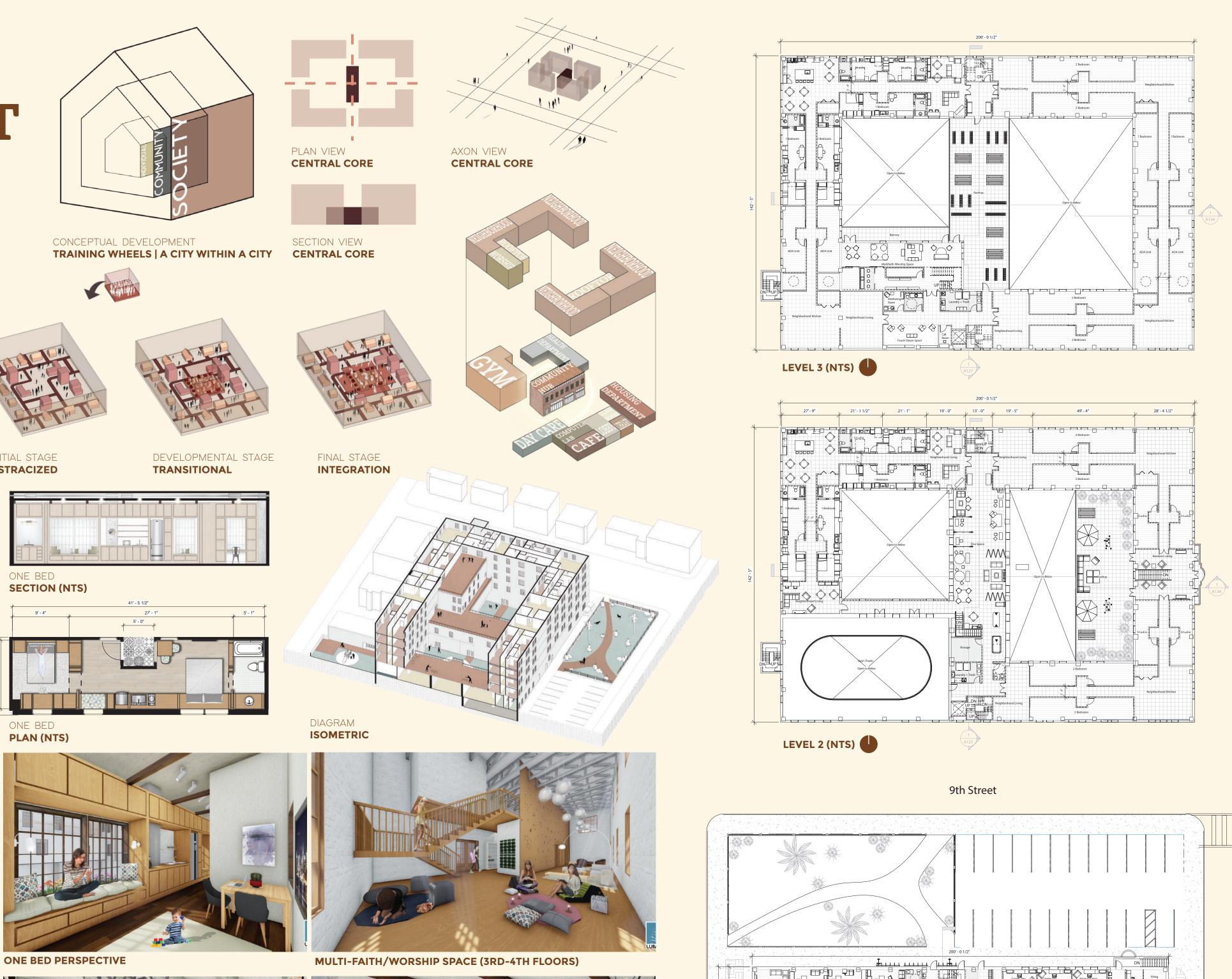










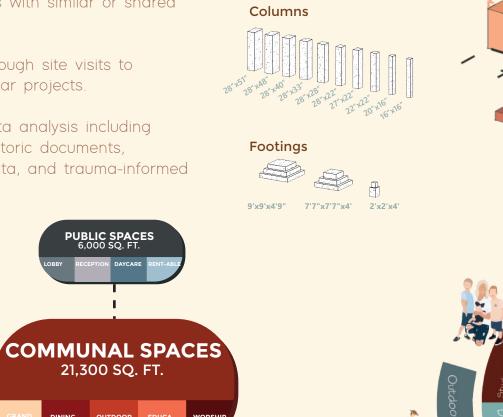




**RESIDENT LOBBY (1ST FLOOR)** 

#### **CONCLUSIONS AND TAKE AWAYS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

Meeting and exceeding guidelines for trauma-informed design and WELL certification criteria are driving goals behind this design. While the communal areas have plenty of access to the outdoors, which significantly supports physical and mental health, this design concept is lost upon the individual units. Going forward, I plan to re-design the units with a more conventional box-like layout. The entrance to these layouts will be adjacent to single-loaded open-air exterior circulation, rather than fully enclosed double-loaded corridors. This creates the opportunity for each unit to have a kind of "front porch" or "front yard" which contributes to creating a sense of ownership, individuality, and a sense of home.

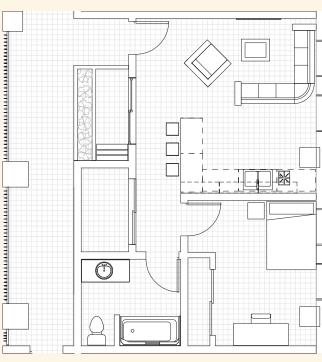


COMMUNITY KITCHEN/DINING/LIVING (1ST FLOOR)

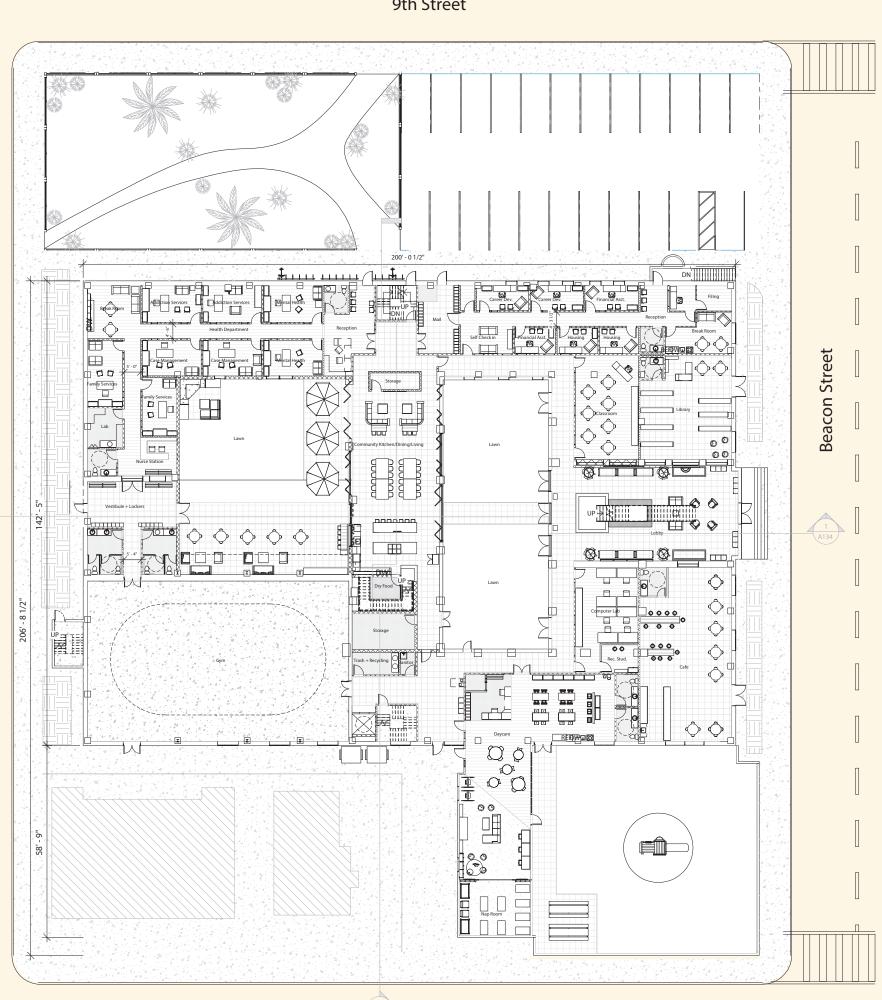


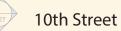
#### **THANK YOU**

A special thank you to my professors, Kelsey Buzzell and Linda Zimmer, who have helped guide me and provided me with support and feedback throughout this research-design process.



UPDATED ONE BED PLAN





LEVEL 1 (NTS)