“Writing these memories seems absolutely essential because we live in a world today where we are led to believe that lack of material privilege means that we can have no meaningful, constructive engagement with our living space and certainly no relationship to aesthetics. I am often disturbed when folks equate a concern with beauty, the design and arrangement of space, with class privilege. Unfortunately, so many poor people have been socialized by mass media and the politics of consumerism to see themselves as lacking in “taste and style” when it comes to issues of architecture and aesthetics that they have surrendered their capacity to imagine and create. Often they explain this surrender as the unavoidable consequence of poverty. But lack of material privilege need not be synonymous with poverty of spirit or imagination.”


The author would like to thank the following people for their patience and valued critiques of the work in progress, and for simply putting up with me:
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"Architechshare" - my fellow classmate in studio 415.
"A TRANSITIONAL HOME FOR THE HOMELESS"

THE CLIENT: HOMELESS PEOPLE AND TAXPAYERS OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

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ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN THESIS COMMITTEE

______________________________
PROF. JACK WYMAN
architectural design studio professor

______________________________
PROF. BOB KOESTER
architectural professor / thesis advisor
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Homelessness arises from a multitude of circumstantial conditions, which are as many as there are homeless people. If we strip away all the superfluous baggage that sometimes gets associated with the issue of homelessness, we see that it is simply about survival in the most basic way. I am certainly not advocating that the complex way in which our society lives is the best way to live and that everyone should conform to those standards. I would merely suggest that those who want to participate, should have the opportunity or the chance to develop the necessary skills to do so.

My thesis exploration is “How my architecture can strengthen the notion of education?”. Beyond that, it is about creating spaces of possibility! The program is developed for a facility that literally provides a bridge for the homeless to main stream society. It has also been developed in a rather open ended manner as to suggest a variety of possibilities for the designer under the assumption that if this particular project were to be built, and deemed successful, the program would leave enough latitude to be used at other locations around the city and state as a prototype.

Finally, I would hope that the program be used to develop architecture that provokes looking at the future differently. In these spaces it is possible to imagine ourselves dreaming, moving forward and beyond the limits and confines of our fixed location.

The project itself will result in a series of buildings that will house the homeless during a period in which they will be learning the skills that will afford them the opportunity to leave homelessness behind. The philosophical stance that the program is derived around is that rather than give a man a fish to ease his hunger, you teach him to fish so he can feed him self. The building(s) is not intended to be a shelter or “flop” house. At the stage the clients come to this facility they have already gone through extensive screening to make sure that they are mentally, physically, and emotionally willing and able to go through an intensive job skill training and job placement program.

There is a growing sentiment in America that the millions of Federally Funded tax dollars that are spent on the homeless each year does little to prevent it and is doing nothing to slow the alarming rate at which it is growing.

“Millions of our city and state tax and charitable dollars have been wasted. Agencies know that socks, blankets, shelter and dinner do nothing to stop the alarming growth rate of this plight, but they continue to keep asking for these accommodating tools and funding without any accountability.”

Because of the tremendous numbers of people the local shelters are dealing with, and because of the immediate need for shelter, clothing, and food, shelters continue to use their funds for accommodative tools.

The program for this project was designed to facilitate, in an innovative manner, an education center for the client. What is unique about the program is that it does offer accountability that can be measured in a real and tangible way, with the graduation of one of it’s clientele into the job market and into the tax paying society that funds programs like this.

The spaces that have been programed include: 10 group homes (approximately 10 persons per home), a job placement / study center which includes: study spaces, lounge, day care, computer center, shop area, kitchen, job librarian office space, director’s office space, certified public account office space, counselor office space, job library space, storage, and a health care facility space.

The program can be broken down into three general type of spaces: private, semiprivate, and public. The private spaces will provide housing for the homeless during their period of training. These space will accommodate single residents, families and the handicapped.

The semiprivate spaces are designated for the users of the private space with an emphasis placed on the notion of community and support for the radical process that they are undertaking.

The job placement space will be the central focus space as far as the general public is concerned. The intention is to design a space that will become a center for job placement by using computers to link with companies across Indiana. This space is viewed as a preventative measure for homelessness as well as a necessity to getting out of homelessness.
thesis statement

An Overview

Throughout the semester my thesis statement has changed as my research proceeded. I started the semester by asking myself, "Is architecture a form of social art and should it be?". I believed it was. It became clearer to me from my work with the Liberty Center, in downtown Muncie, Indiana and my visitations of various programs around the state of Indiana, that what was more important and what took precedence was the program and not the architecture that housed the people and the programs.

General Statement of My Thesis

With this background information as a premise, the question I put to myself this semester is "How can my architecture be used to strengthen the notion of education?" The program type for my thesis project is a transitional center for the homeless. The program is based upon the idea that education and job skills are necessary if homeless people are to be placed back into a tax paying society.

The site for the proposed center is at the corner of 66th Street and Woodfield Crossing on the North side of Indianapolis. The location of the site is immediately east of North Central High School, J. Everette Center, and Hilltop School. The functional activities that the site are to contain are: housing for approximately 100 homeless persons, spaces for supplemental learning facilities to the existing educational services provided by MSD of Washington Township, spaces for staff personnel, and a job placement center for both the homeless and the general population, and parking for thirty cars.

The site is a relatively flat piece of land that occupies approximately five acres of land. The single greatest asset of the site is the wooded area at the west end of the site. Because the woods offers many amenities including: shade, wind resistance, an acoustical buffer, a visual barrier, and privacy, it has been designated by the designer as the primary organizational tool for the location of the residential units.

The Architectural Response

My primary goal was to establish a central axis through the site that linked the site to the existing facilities provided by Washington Township. It was decided by the designer, to create an axis that was reinforced by the residential units and was terminated by the two principle anchors, Hilltop Adult Education and the Community / Job Placement Center. The secondary goal was to create a community within the anchors as well as creating a sense of one having his/her own place. The response to that problem was the careful planning of sub communities among the total residential units.
site analysis

The Indianapolis Continuum of Care Draft made recommendations and suggested issues that needed to be addressed by the city, if Indianapolis is to ease the homelessness problem. Two critical issues became important in the choosing of the site for this project.

The "not-in-my-backyard" sitting and zoning response to all homeless housing and supportive services must be consistently and fairly overcome if homelessness is to be ended. No one neighborhood should have to do everything, but all neighborhoods have a part in ending homelessness.

* Job training is an essential element to the services needed by persons who are homeless. Job training is available through some local organizations, but not to the extent needed, and not in an adequately coordinated manner.

Currently, all transitional housing in Indianapolis is located near the city center rather than the suburbs, either for economic reasons or for the simple fact that people don’t want these type of places in their neighborhoods. This symptom is often referred to as NIMBY'S, standing for Not In My Back Yard. The site was selected considering a number of factors, including proximity to public services (schools, transportation routes, and government agencies).

Several directors at various homeless shelters and readings on the subject have suggested that it is most appropriate to locate transitional housing and shelters in an urban environment because the client feels most comfortable in that type of location. Familiarity for the location of the site is not necessarily a valid solution for the site in my opinion. The goal is to place homeless persons back into mainstream society. According to A Wellness Way of Life - (Gwen Robbins, Debbie Powers, Sharon Burgess), one of the necessary steps to achieving a goal is to break or scramble the behavior chain, which I maintain is the urban environment in which most homeless people live.

The site itself is located on the north side of Indianapolis, Indiana. (see map on page 09) The aerial photograph shows that the site is located on the south side of 86th street which runs east and west. To the immediate right or east of the site is "The Forum at the Crossing" retirement village. To the immediate left or west is North Central High School. Directly north of the site is a residential neighborhood. The south boundary line of the site is approximately five hundred and fifty feet from 86th Street. The site encompasses just over five acres.

Education and vocational training will be provided through the community in which the project is sited. The J. Everett Light Vocational School, one of the largest vocational schools in the state is located on the North Central High School Campus, and within a short walk of the site.

Traffic is consistent and very congested at times along 86th Street. The amount of traffic along Woodfield Crossing Boulevard is very minimal. However, from eight to nine a.m. and four to five p.m. weekdays, traffic is somewhat heavy due to the nearby office complex. (located as "G" on the adjacent aerial map)

The Metro bus service runs along 86th street. However, within a relatively short walking distance is a strip mall, grocery stores, a shopping mall, and a YMCA.

Overall, the topography is relatively flat. The site has obviously been cleared of all trees, except the cluster that runs parallel to the small creek and constitutes the west boundary of the site.
research review and conclusions

My research began with an enlightening process of visiting local shelters and transitional housing in the city of Indianapolis. With the help of Greg Lunsford at the Eastside Community Center and David Licht at the Horizon Center I was able to gather the appropriate information for the current status of the homeless in Indianapolis currently. This journey was gut wrenching at times and really makes you realize how fortunate you are to have a home and have the skills to survive in society. As the information began to pile up I realized that the problem of homelessness constitutes many problems and that in order for me to get a handle on it I would have to set some of my own parameters and be discriminatory in order to create a program around which the thesis could be developed.

In 1980, 10.8 percent of the population of Marion County was living below the poverty level. In 1990, 12 percent of the population lived below poverty. This amounts to over 95,000 persons in Marion County. In Indianapolis' oldest and most urban township, Center, 26.5 percent of the residents lived below the poverty level in 1990. In 1990, the Indianapolis, IN Metropolitan Statistical Area's median family income (MFI) was $37,590. In 1990, there were 25,217 households in Indianapolis that earned between 0 and 30 percent of MFI and were renting. Close to 14,500 of those households are threatened with homelessness because they spend 50 percent or more of their income on housing.

The city of Indianapolis currently has 10 shelters/missions providing emergency, temporary shelter to the homeless in the city.

Currently, there are only 28 transitional housing units in Indianapolis. There are approximately 694 emergency spaces for homeless individuals and families.

Following HUD guidelines, a count was taken on the early morning of September 28, 1993 of people sleeping at shelters and on the streets. The following day, homeless persons who ate at soup kitchens for lunch were counted. The count revealed that there were 1,589 homeless persons in Indianapolis. There were 1,036 single adult males, 126 single adult females and 23 unattached youths. One hundred and thirty two families with children were counted; these families included 250 children, 127 adult females and 17 adult males. The families consisted of 5 single male head of households, 12 in-tack (both mother and father present) families and 115 single female head of households. A little less than half (707) of the homeless individuals found shelter the night of the count; they either stayed at emergency shelters, transitional housing units or with friends or relatives. Close to 900 people did not find shelter the night of September 28th. Fifty-seven families with children slept on the streets.

A large amount of time was spent on researching the site for the proposed program. I looked at various small colleges and vocational schools around the State and discovered that Indianapolis has one of the largest and most comprehensive vocational schools located on the North Central High School Campus. Hilltop, North Central, and J. Everette Vocational School all function together for the MSD Metropolitan School District. Hilltop, a self supporting adult education school, utilizes class tuition and facility use fees for operational expenses. There is a campus atmosphere between all three schools that I believe should be incorporated into my site for transitional housing.

By utilizing this existing facility as the means for education I simplified the program by only having to design supplemental educational facilities. The classes that are provided between the three facilities for adults include: adult basic education, GED testing, Arts, Agriculture (Horticulture, Landscape/Nursery), Athletics, Aquatics, Business (Administrative Support Lab, Computer Operations/Programming, Computerized Accounting Lab), High School Credit, Health (Dental Assisting, Dental Occupations, Health Occupations, ), Industrial-Technical (Auto Body Repair, Auto Mechanics, Building Maintenance/Repair, Commercial Art, Construction Trades, Cosmetology, Electronics, Heating/Air Conditioning, Interdisciplinary Cooperative Education, Machine Trades, Printing, Radio, Television Production, Welding), Real Estate, Marketing (Cooperative Marketing ), Home Economics( Child Care, Cooperative Food Services). This is a wide range of classes that will give the users of the transitional housing plenty of choices.

After visiting the site I really felt like the first thing I needed to do was to begin relate the new facility to the site and the surrounding context. My first studies in the computer were very elemental studies with block massings representing a program that was incomplete but which separated the spaces into three general categories that still hold true after the program was finalized and those were: Private Spaces, Public Spaces, Semi-Private Spaces.

Scheme #1 was done so in order to establish a series of external spaces that could be shares between the three spaces, (Private, Public, Semi-Private) I used this simple study to make myself cognizant of the fact that all three functions need to function within themselves, but by using spaces that can be share by the various groups together at the same time, a dialogue can be established that acknowledges the need for separation between the three groups but also allows for mixing of the three types, thus eliminating segregation.
research review and conclusions

Scheme #2 was an attempt to look at how the spaces could possibly be arranged to replicate the sense of Row Housing. What this study revealed was the endless possible ways to create spaces among the individual spaces. In the private spaces the ability to create inner courtyards within the overall setting becomes an interesting possibility. Further studies I am sure would reveal endless possibilities that would have various effects on the inner spaces created by the arrangements and shade and shadow.

Scheme #3 was a simple attempt to create what I call a "Hot Spot" amongst all three type of spaces. This arrangement of the spaces around an activity node that is neutral and open created a busy space that becomes the heart of the arrangement. Further studies I am sure would reveal that the symmetrical arrangement that I quickly came up with is not the only possible way to arrange the space to create an activity node. Every type of space has an Activity node that creates a heart of the space.

Scheme #4 was an attempt to create "Quite Backs". The reason I felt this was necessary to look at was because 86th Street, which bounds the North side of the site is a very active four lane street that carries a lot of traffic. Obviously a solution for the project must incorporated some way of lessening the noise that is created from that road. Because the public are only temporary users of this site, it made sense to stick them closest to 86th Street and placing the private spaces furthest away form them in order to use the public spaces as an acoustical buffer. Further studies and more in depth studies of the height and mass of spaces and orientation to the street would yield the most accurate way to orient the spaces on the site.

Scheme #5 was attempt to look at completely isolating the various types of spaces and then linking them with a Promenade that would allow a very direct and forced path between the spaces. From this simple study I quickly realized how this type of layout offered endless ways to add on to the program, the flexibility for growth over this site is a real issue that has to be addressed because of the transient users of the space. More in-depth studies I am sure will reveal the optimal way to arrange the site as well as a way to maximize the number of user on the site.

Scheme #6 was a way of separating the three types of spaces through use of the third dimension. My intentions for this arrangement was to offer the residents a sense of privacy and security by placing their spaces above both the Semi-Private and Public spaces. I am sure that further studies of this approach tied into massing studies would give rise to studies on the form of the architecture to be placed on the site. However, what was learned from this short study was the need to be sensitive to privacy and security and that the third dimension is one way of achieving that.

With those six studies under my belt, understanding that each had important characteristics that needed to be incorporated into my design if it was to be successful, a schematic layout needed to be developed next. The previous studies were fine but were in a way merely playing with form. So I sat down and tried to truly define my thesis statement in order to define some goals to shoot for this semester. I had come to the realization that the architecture of the facilities that I had visited had very little to do with weather or not a program was successful or not. However, the architecture did have everything to do with weather or not the individual human being was able to perceive himself as a unique and important individual. It was the one element that was missing in all the facilities that I visited that what I believed caused them all to feel institutional rather than educational and unique. At about the halfway point of the semester it became my goal to use my architecture to strengthen the educa-
research review and conclusions

ational position of the facility, yet provide spaces that allowed for individuality.

At this point I made a stance and determined that the woods on the west end of the site was the organizing factor for my residential units and that units would take advantage of those amenities that it had to offer including: shade, wind resistance, an acoustical buffer, a visual barrier, and a sense of privacy. Once this decision was made the concept for the site laid out very simply. (see page 5) The large red circle shows the range of area that will be affected by building upon this site. The three set of lines that bisect the circle and define its center, and what I have determined as the center of the site make what I consider to be acknowledgments to the adjacent residential neighborhood, Hilltop Adult Educational Building, and The Forum at the Crossing Retirement Center. Using the diagonal boundary of the woods on the SW side of the site and the fact that using the diagonal allowed for the optimal number of residential units, the largest oval represents where the residential units should be placed. The second largest oval represents where the facility that will house Public as well as Semi-Public spaces will be located in order to use the site most efficiently and as a visual and acoustical buffer. The smallest circle at the center of the site is the imaginary heart or activity node of the site. The notion is that all the spaces are directly and indirectly join to this space and that an understanding of the purpose can be recognized within in this space.

The program for the Community/Job Placement Center was then defined as containing both Semi-Private and Public Spaces. As I developed realistic space sizes and relationships to those spaces which included: health center, restrooms, day care, kitchen, lounge, study spaces, computer area, a study center, offices (director's, 2 C.P.A.'s, 3 counselor's, job librarian). I did two studies for a single container of those spaces that conformed to the strong diagonal that I show on page five.

There were several problems with both studies. Study #1 was done using Microstation and never finished because it had reached a point in which it became obvious to me what the result would be. This design was a “glove approach”, that is one in which the spaces were laid out and then the building shell is place around those functions. As a the study shows the facade that was begun (see page 13) really begins to give this building a very institutional feel. The central axis that was created is so unyielding and strong, it adds to the institutionalization of the place and makes it fell very uncomfortable.

The Second study, was done using a physical model. (see page 13) This study further exemplifies the sense of institutionalization and the uncompromising symmetry and central axis further institutionalizes the sense of the massing. Again the problem was that I took the spaces and arranged them in a logical way and then simply wrapped them in a shell. What came out from the study was the realization that the notion of institutionalization was one that I did not want this center to emit. The other problem with both of the studies is that they are singular and make no relationship to the private residential group houses that are going to exist on the site.

It became apparent to me that I need to start at the other end of the scale and begin at the individual scale of the group homes that I was going to provide. My research into group homes was rather extensive and the conclusions that I reached made it apparent to me that throughout the site I would place a series of group homes. Group homes are where the individuals can learn self reliance and working within a group a still be able to have the necessary privacy that we all need in order to be whole and healthy individuals.

As I began to develop a prototypical group home for ten to twelve people it became apparent to me that I needed to narrow the scope of what I wanted to accomplish and set some limitations on the program. It became my intention not to design every space but to merely suggest what spaces could become within a realistically sized shell that was also open ended in the fact that it could be easily manipulated of so desired. That would then allow me to manipulate the shell in order to create another new and unique building.

One thing that I need to make clear is that although cost was not the single driving factor to my design decisions, it was taken into account. What I wanted to be aware of was that although all the precedents that I had view were strictly designed with money as the primary reasoning for the architecture and materials, it should not be an excuse for poor design.

In my design for the residential building I decided that the central core of the house would be emphasized and that the dinning for the residents would be housed
within that area. The importance of sitting down together within the group home was something that I wanted to stress, so I opened up the second floor above it to reemphasize it on that floor. Although the floor plans on page 17 suggest where the spaces might go they are merely there for suggestion. The picture on page 14 gives a notion of how I envisioned the bedroom. It was my intentions that the stud walls that are used to define the bedrooms could easily be manipulated dependent upon the users of the space and the number of occupants within the group home at any particular time.

The sectional drawings (see page 20) of the group home are relatively plain with the exception of the raised ceiling above both the dining room and the living room on the first floor. The reason for the raised ceilings was to define the spaces without using walls. It was my intention to only use walls within the residential building to denote private spaces (bathrooms and bedrooms).

The elevation drawings on page 19 give a suggestion as to the type of materials that are to be used in these buildings. Thought materials was an issue that I wanted to get into for their thermal qualities as well as the psychological impact and cost effectiveness, I never had the time to get into that study. I have suggested in the elevations that the first floor and the core that contains the stairwell and the dinning facilities is made of load bearing CMU's while the second floor that contains the bedrooms is made up of stud walls with wood siding. Although I am not convinced of the materials at this stage of the project it is clear in my mind the materials is one way that I am interested in using to define the separate functions within the building.
final development drawings

ABOVE: PERSPECTIVE OF GROUP HOME FROM THE 2ND FLOOR LOUNGE AREA

BELOW: PERSPECTIVE OF GROUP HOME TYPICAL BEDROOM WALL SYSTEM.
final development drawings

PERSPECTIVE OF GROUP HOME LIVING ROOM

PERSPECTIVE OF GROUP HOME DINNING ROOM
final development drawings

PERSPECTIVE OF GROUP HOME FROM THE SIDEWALK

PERSPECTIVE OF GROUP HOME
open
research review and conclusions

The development of the Community/Job Placement Center started after completion of one prototypical group home and after the layout of the site was decided. My first attempt prior to the development of the group home resulted in a center that looked institutional and was a result of fitting the building around the program.

With a firm understanding of the site and how the buildings where to relate to on another the process of developing the center unfolded much easier than prior attempts and resulted in a building that seems much less institutionalized than previous attempts. The one goal that I wanted to accomplish with the building was to give it the sense that it belong to the residents and related to the group homes. Also from the residents side I wanted to use the building to hide or shield the residents from the general public and the parking that was required in the program.

From the general public entrance of the building I was looking to create a building that visually spoke to the site, welcomed you into the building and afforded the residents the visual privacy that they needed. As for the scale of the building, I felt it was necessary to relate it to both the retirement home and the residences across 86th street.

From the beginning of the design process I decided to use a change of elevation to accomplish my goals. It is one nice attribute of three dimensional design in the computer. I struggled early with the notion that the residential units needed to be nestled in the site below the existing grade in order to accomplish the privacy that they needed, but what I quickly realized is that this meant scooping many tons of earth away, and it became a bit unrealistic. My solution to the problem was to split the difference and raise the grade to the general public side of the building by seven feet, then develop a grand entrance into the building that required a five foot ramp and set of steps. The result of this move accomplishes what I could not accomplish in my two prior attempts and that is a building that does not feel institutional to the resident.

Looking at the floor plan on page 25 you can see that all the spaces on the first floor belong to the residents. This means that the residents can walk from their home directly into the building, with no changer in elevation into a floor level that contains space that are at only their disposal.

The second floor plan on page 24 reveals that all the offices and the job placement library are on the upper floor. The general public is cut off from using the stairs or elevator to access the first floor by the offices that service the residents and a glass wall.

The other notion that I was trying to avoid was that the residents where on display for the directors of the facility and the general public. Although I had created a hierarchy in the sense that I placed the offices on the second floor, it was justified in my mind by the placement of the stairwell. It was made as inviting as possible for the residents to access the offices. I also tried making the second floor offices and floor itself as transparent as possible, so that the tables where turned and it was the directors that felt like they where on display. My whole premise for doing this was to make a very institutional program for the building feel as un-institutional as possible. The sketches on page 22 and 23 give some indication of that notion.
final development drawings

PERSPECTIVE OF COMMUNITY/JOB PLACEMENT CENTER FROM PARKING LOT

PERSPECTIVE OF COMMUNITY/JOB PLACEMENT CENTER FROM STUDY ROOMS
research review and conclusions

PERSPECTIVE OF COMMUNITY/JOB PLACEMENT CENTER FROM OFFICES

PERSPECTIVE OF COMMUNITY/JOB PLACEMENT CENTER FROM MEETING PIT
schematic design options and conclusions

As I look back on this project there are many issues and options that I never had time to explore. The entire issue of how the residential units where to be laid out was an issue that I would have liked to explore in more depth. I researched Thomas Jefferson and his design scheme for the University of Virginia as a way to understand organization of housing units on a campus. I felt that the research confirm my initial goal to have a primary axis that was reinforced by the housing units. The sketches on page 28 and 29 indicate some of the options that I considered, but that really never got explored to deeper level.

The area that I feel has the most potential for options and exploration is the group homes. In my final design drawings I have suggested a prototypical home that is basically made up of three distinct parts. My final solution indicates that these three parts can be manipulated in order to created a unique group home.

The problem is that I never took this any further. What I would like to create is a series of options or set of guidelines for these three parts. These guidelines might result in a matrix similar to the one on page 29 that will allow the designer to see the implications of interchanging the three parts and the orientation of those parts.

The matrix would be a result of solar studies of the individual units and the endless possibilities of the materials that could be used to construct those units. The matrix might suggest the size of widow openings, thermal qualities of materials, and durability of material that should be used dependent upon which way the designer chooses to orient the particular part.

The result of doing something like this would be that the designer would have endless possibilities, and the results could be quickly converted into thermal efficiency and cost. I think that would be a great idea especially in the arena of this particular type of architecture that is so dependent on the budget typically. This matrix would allow the designer to quickly make revisions and "guesstimate" what the effect might be on the total budget of the project. One thing that I have learned from my research of this type of architecture, that pertains even more so than any other type, is that flexibility and adaptability are key issues that need to be addressed if the project is to receive funding or consideration.
design development and conclusions

At the halfway point in the semester I tried to write down my goals for this project as well as the givens and a brief outline of the program. Because I am at the end of the semester I thought it would be useful to look at those goals in order to judge my design development and see what, if any, of the goals I was able to achieve in a semesters time.

**GUIDELINES FOR DESIGN 3/12/96**

"Foster the Spirit of Growth"

The scenario I'm trying to achieve might be correlated to a giving a needy college student a grant or a scholarship. By accepting the scholarship the client has then entered into a contract with the center to go to school and receive training in order to get a job. With the acceptance of a full time job the client has fulfilled the contract.

**Goals for the Project**

1. **Elimination of Homelessness** - The measure as to whether the center is successful is accountability. Accountability means the user of the center finds a job and becomes part of the tax paying base that supports programs like this particular center.

2. **Provide education** - The surrounding community must take also be accountable if homelessness is to be eliminated. The greatest amenity the surrounding community of Washington Township has to offer is its educational system. They can foster the "spirit of growth" by allowing the clients to take advantage of the services that their school system. In this way the community is taking an active role in the attempt to reduce homelessness.

3. **Provide Shelter** - A non institutional atmosphere must be a driving force of the design of the residential living units. A residential community of group homes will be the approach taken to achieving this goal. Growth must start with self reliance and the ability to work with others. The group home will provide an appropriate setting for fostering the "spirit of growth."

4. **Provide a Support Center** - This center should support and nurture the "spirit of growth." This means that the center will be education based, in a supplemental manner to the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township. Support is; uplifting, stable, true, assistance, comforting, and helpful.

**Universal Issues** - Environmental

1. Indianapolis is 807 feet above the sea level.
2. It is a temperate climate.
3. The latitude is 39.7
4. The sun rises from the east and sets in the west.
5. The prevailing wind in the wintertime is from the WNW.
6. In the summertime the prevailing wind is from the SW.
7. The summertime Mean Daily temperature range is 22 degrees.

**Site Issues**

1. The woods along the west end of the site is the only real amenity of the site. It provides a windbreak from the cold winter winds and blocks the direct glaring light of the setting sun. Therefore, the residents and their housing must take advantage of this amenity. This means that the woods will be an organizing factor for project.
2. Access into the site vehicles will be at the SE corner of the site off of Woodfield Crossing Road.
3. Access to Hilltop School and J. Everett Light School will be established through the woods as an alternative way to get to those facilities.
4. Design of all buildings on the site will take into account all environmental issues in an attempt to reduce the loads place upon the conventional HVAC system that will be used to heat and cool them.

**Program Issues**

There will be 100 to 120 clients living on site.

**10 Group Homes (10 to 12 residents each)**

- kitchen / dining
- ½ bathroom
- shared space
- mechanical entry/pantry
- 4 fixture bathroom (one per every four residents)
- single bedroom space
- laundry space

**Support Center** - Up to 150 users at one time.

- health clinic
- 2 men's and women's restrooms
- daycare space
- kitchenette
- lounge area
- study/research help center
- computer area
- acoustically isolated study rooms (10)
- job librarian office
design development and conclusions

director's office
c.p.a. office (2)
counselor's office (3)
job library
mechanical systems room
work shop/maintenance area
storage
Parking - for thirty cars

Material Issues
scope of users: The users of the complex are transient in nature and their stay at the facility is temporary in relationship to the life span on the buildings. Over the lifetime of the building there will be thousands of residents that have lived there. The duration of the stays will varies, but it very possible that a resident could be on the site well in excess of a year.

materials:
1. The materials used on all the buildings may have initial high cost, however, over the life span the material should be very cost effective.
2. Also because there will be a number of buildings on this complex, it is suggested that materials be used that will keep maintenance and upkeep to a minimum.
3. Materials should not be used to replicate or hint at the notion of the “traditional” home.

From the goals that I listed in March, I think that over the course of a semester I looked a number of issues. Although, I did not thoroughly resolve any of them, I felt as though a majority of them where adequately addressed, with the exception of passive design and materiality.

I think my next step would be to begin to address those two issues. Looking at the residential units, I would like to develop a system of part that is based on materials and orientation to the sun. The notion being that the Group homes could be made of three distinct units, like I have suggested, but the orientation to the sun would then dictate the materials. This study I think would be very helpful in my desire to make every group home unique and personal to the residents that live there. This study would also lead into issues of cost and efficiency that would be very useful if I were to take this project to the city of Indianapolis and try to get funding for this project.
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Magazines
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2. Utilization of the Horizon House - by staff at the Horizon House.

Footnotes

2. Indianapolis Continuum of Care Draft - pages 1-28, Prepared by the City of Indianapolis, Homeless Network of Indianapolis, Voices of the Homeless Congress.
3. Indianapolis Continuum of Care Draft - pages 15-16, Prepared by the City of Indianapolis, Homeless Network of Indianapolis, Voices of the Homeless Congress.
4. Indianapolis Continuum of Care Draft - pages 1-2, 11, Prepared by the City of Indianapolis, Homeless Network of Indianapolis, Voices of the Homeless Congress.
CALCULATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY/JOB PLACEMENT CENTER

**Requirements terse calculations for community building**

**Tax**

**Tax Billing**

- Assume have of 50 children in Daycare
  - 100 persons in the building at one time.
  - 50% women + 50% men
  - No. of Females Required

- **Basement**
  - Workshop Area: $30 \times 40 = 1200$ SF
  - Mechanical Systems Room: $22 \times 35 = 770$ SF
  - Storage: $30 \times 10 = 300$ SF
CALCULATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY/JOB PLACEMENT CENTER

Community/Job Placement Center

Medical Center - ≈ 30,000 s.f.

Health Center - ≈ 20,000 s.f.

Exercise Area

Daycare - ≈ 10,000 s.f.

Computer Area - ≈ 10,000 s.f.

Lounge Area - ≈ 2,000 s.f.
CALCULATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY / JOB PLACEMENT CENTER

SECOND FLOOR SPACES

Job Librarian Office  -  \( \approx 200 \text{ sf.} \)

Director's Office  -  \( \approx 200 \text{ sf.} \)

C.P.A.'s Office  -  \( \approx 150 \text{ sf. each} \)

GROUND FLOOR SPACES  -  \( \approx 200 \text{ sf each} \)

Restrooms

1. Women  -  \( \approx 100 \text{ sf} \)

   2. Men  -  \( \approx 100 \text{ sf} \)

   - 2 stalls
   - 2 Lavatories
   - 1 toilet
   - 1 Lavatory

ELEVATOR STAIR CORE  -  \( \approx 400 \text{ sf} \)

Job Library  -  \( \approx 400 \text{ sf} \)
CALCULATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY / JOB PLACEMENT CENTER

Health Center: 2000 sf.  

Classroom: 200 sf.  

Dressing Room: 200 sf.  

Daycare: 1000 sf.  

Office Area: 200 sf.  

Study: 200 sf.  

Computer Area: 200 sf.  

Meeting Room: 500 sf. each.
CALCULATIONS FOR THE GROUP HOMES

Living Room / Formal Entry

Min. area = 200 s.f.
Min. width = 14'

See Fig. 7, page 63

18' x 13' for 2 people

\[ 338 \frac{1}{4} \text{ sq ft} \]

Living Room

Mechanical Room
0. Kitchen - pa 12 - corridor

Bathroom
- toilet & 1 lav. for exemptic residents
- 2 lavs. for every 8 residents

- one bathroom/bathroom to every group of four people

One room consists of
- 1 toilet
- 1 lav
- 1 sink/tub

3 of these units in one house
+ 1 1/2 bath - with toilet, 1 lav.

Using plan for 6 persons 1/2 bath = 22.5 sq ft

4' x 7'-6"
CALCULATIONS FOR THE GROUP HOMES

\[ 93 + 70 = 163 \]
CALCULATIONS FOR THE GROUP HOMES

Laundry

Storage

Total Area: 125 ft²
CALCULATIONS FOR THE GROUP HOMES