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It Takes a Village

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IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

THE TEMPORARY SOCIETY FOR REFUGEES

Justification

Health is not just absence of disease, it’s also about wellness. Doing activities that are meaningful is a part of that wellness. Doing meaningful activities is essential to health and also supports valued roles and habits that are vital to people’s lifestyles. These activities are also apart of a person’s identity. Refugees are usually waiting in camps aimlessly for years, so we are creating a community that they can contribute to and help create routine, meaning, and reclaim identity.

Every person in the community has been through experiences that no human should ever have to go through. And due to unfortunate circumstances, they lost whatever community they had before. This facility allows for community building through social interaction and proximity and promotes togetherness across all demographics. The forum acts as a hub for laundering services, communal showers, and garbage collection services. Park-like atmosphere is to have the residents feel at ease about the environment they are in. Most camps are cramped and do not give the residents motivation to interact and experience life. This layout will alleviate much of the anxiety of socializing and doing recreational activities.

Educational Facilities

These facilities will allow those (especially children) to continue their educational journey and fulfill their curiosity of the world around them. This will allow for a sense of structure and routine that may have been lost when they left everything behind. Also, this will act as a distraction from everything else that has happened to them during their tumultuous expedition to get here in the first place.

Community Center/Forum

The interior of the shelter has been upgraded to accommodate the people inhabiting them to give the residents a more comfortable living experience. It is designed to create a more homely environment in order to promote togetherness and intimacy to those inhabiting it.

Recreation Center

Engaging in physical activity in this unit is beneficial to overall well-being by way of giving the residents a way to relax or exert excess stress and energy in a controlled gym-like environment. The option of using this space in tandem with the forum will give residents opportunities to socialize and participate in community-building activities even when the forum space is compromised by inclement weather.

Gardening Areas

Gardening in this community gives residents a sense of purpose, as the crop that would be harvested will provide fresh produce for the communal kitchen area. It also acts as a way for residents to commit to maintaining an important system within the community; thus, providing a sense of belonging to a larger cause purpose that will benefit the whole. The act of gardening has also been proven to reduce stressors and improve physical health as well as mental stability.

Residential Units

This will be the most numerous unit in the community. The interior of the shelter has been upgraded to accommodate the people inhabiting them to give the residents a more comfortable living experience. It is designed to create a more homely environment in order to promote togetherness and intimacy to those inhabiting it.

Partnership with IKEA

We are partnering with IKEA with their award-winning shelter design and using it as a template for creating this community. The shelters that they designed are economical and sustainable enough to be implemented at a large scale without tremendous environmental detriment. They are what every inhabitable structure in the community will be constructed from.