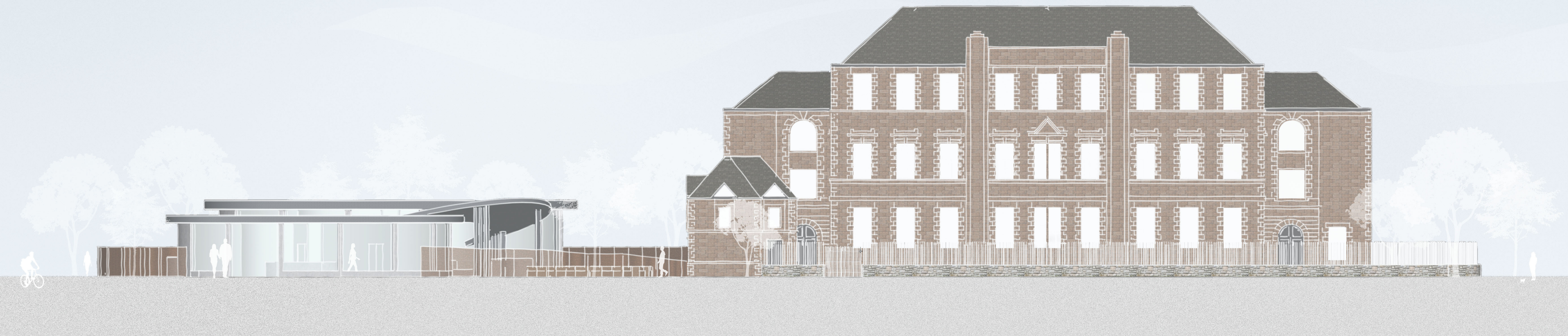


PARDIS /pærdi:s/

Refuge for Domestic Violence Survivors & Community Hub



Feeling safe is a basic human right, and everyone has the right to live a life free from violence.

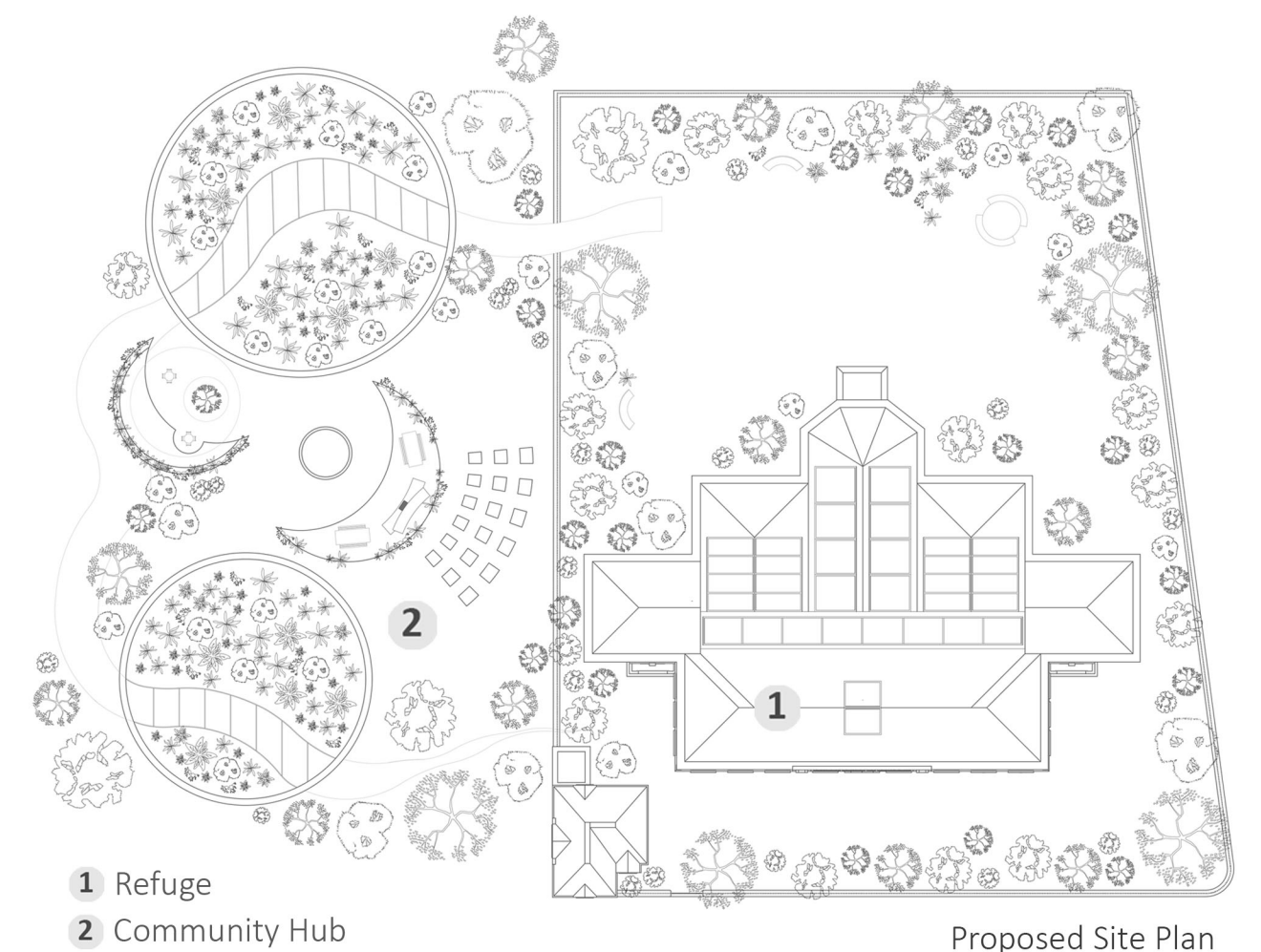
Covid-19 impacted all segments of society, particularly those in the most vulnerable situations. Reportedly **domestic violence** has **increased** during corona virus **lockdowns**. While some were safe staying at home, for many, home wasn't a safe place. Majority of domestic violence survivors have no choice but to live with it as they don't have a **safe place** to seek refuge. In some cases, survivors are forced to flee their perpetrator, often in the middle of the night, with no money or belongings, at this time they are in **desperate need of assistance**.

Pardis is a **complex** made of **two** separate facilities, a **women's domestic violence refuge** and a **community hub**.

The Refuge provides a **safe** and **therapeutic** environment for survivors of domestic violence, as well as an **optimistic** space with a **strong sense of community** and a **welcoming atmosphere**. This refuge with focus on **mental health**, supports survivors with a **pathway to healing from trauma**. The main **facilities** in the refuge building are the **accommodation**, **communal areas** and an **indoor vertical garden**. The refuge centre is a **private building** and it is only accessed by **residents** and the **staff**.

The community Hub is a centre primarily dedicated to **raising awareness** about domestic violence. It is open to the **public**, and anyone can use the facilities as well as participate in the activities. The Community Hub also serves as a **support centre**, offering **workshops** and **professional counselling** to those affected by **domestic violence**.

A **workshop area**, a **dance hall**, a **community garden** and **allotments**, a **community kitchen**, and an **outdoor kitchen** are among the main facilities in The Community Hub.





ACCOMMODATION

Based on a recent **annual report** by **Women's Aid**, I created **14 apartments** that can accommodate **up to 14 adult** and **9 children** in total, plus an **emergency accommodation** that could lodge **up to 6 persons**. I categorized the apartments into **5 types**:

- Type 1- **Single person** apartment
- Type 2- **Adaptive** apartment
- Type 3- **Big family** apartment
- Type 4- **Accessible** apartment
- Type 5- Short term **emergency** shared accommodation

Concept

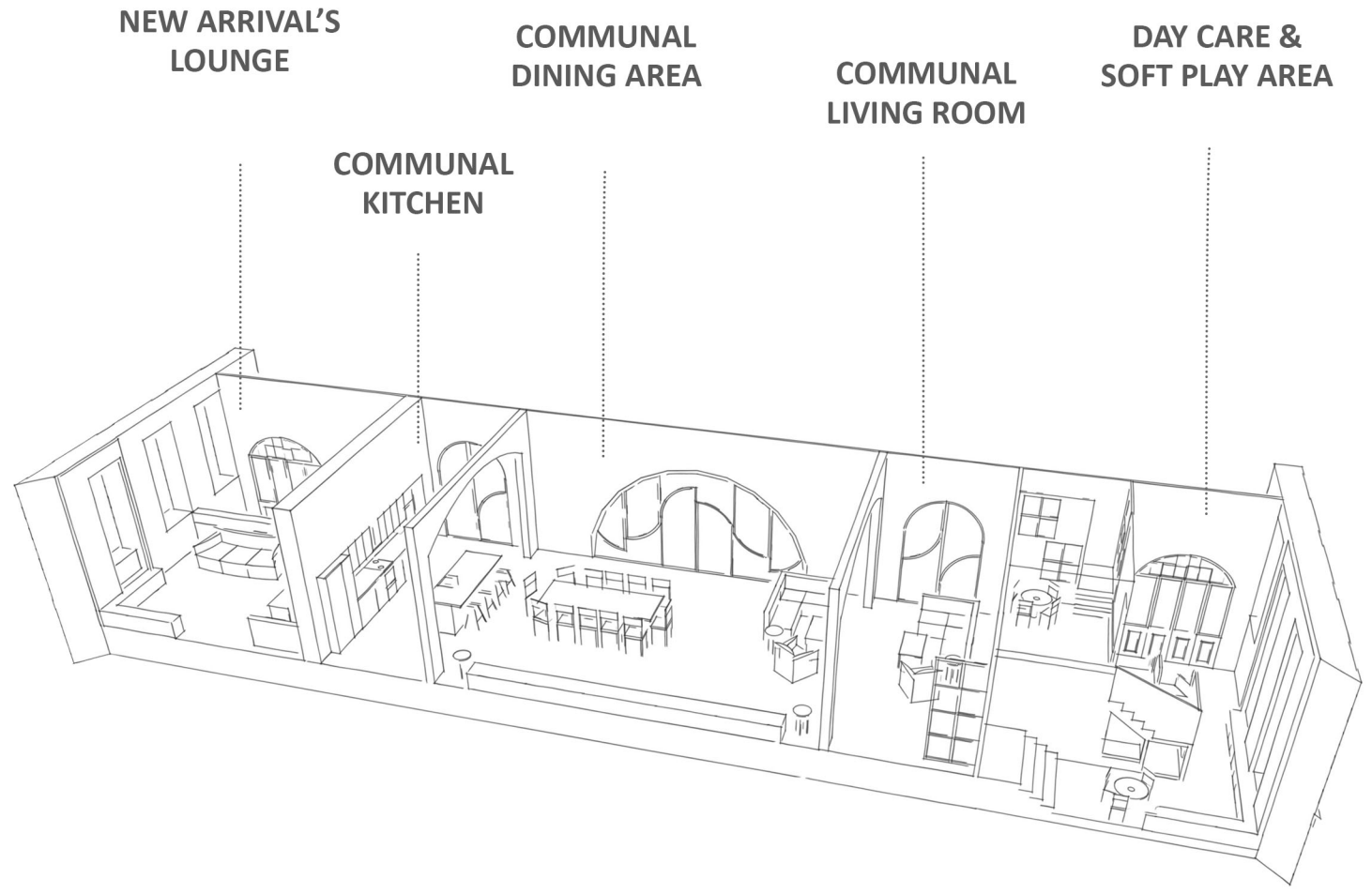
I was inspired by **micro homes** when designing the apartments as my goal was to create a **pleasant home** in a **small space** without making it too cramped.

A SAFE HOME

My main source of **inspiration** for designing the **communal areas** is a **Women's Shelter** in Glasgow, which, according to their websites, was **founded around a kitchen table** by a **group of friends** over a pot of hot curry and rice. The beginning of my design process was to consider the entire **refuge** as a home; **kitchen** and **living room** are the **heart of a home**, where brings all members of the **family** together. the **communal areas** are the heart of this **women's shelter**.

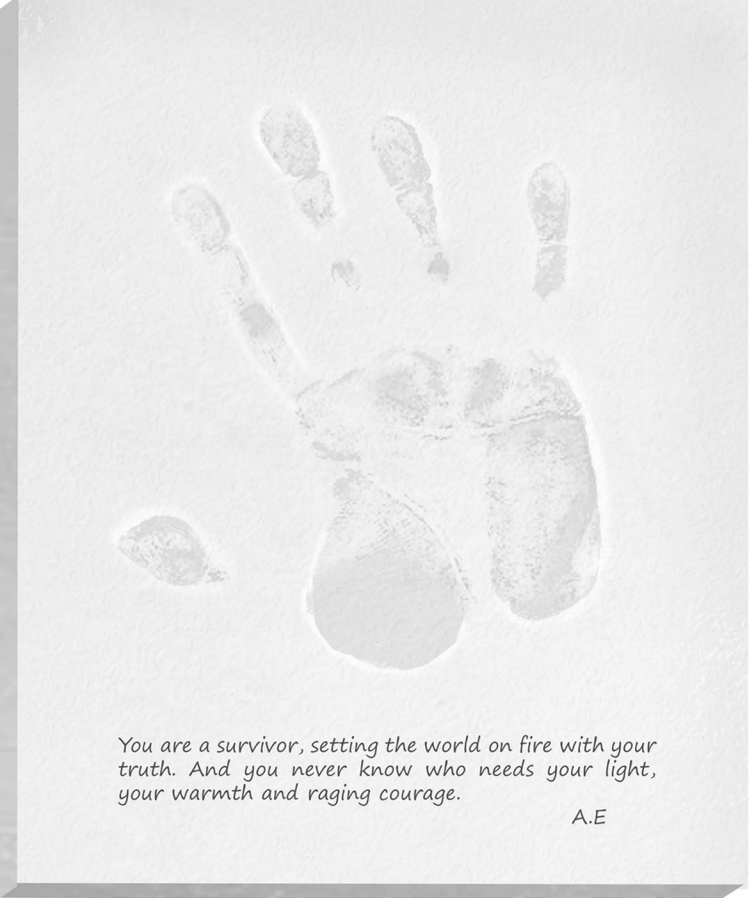
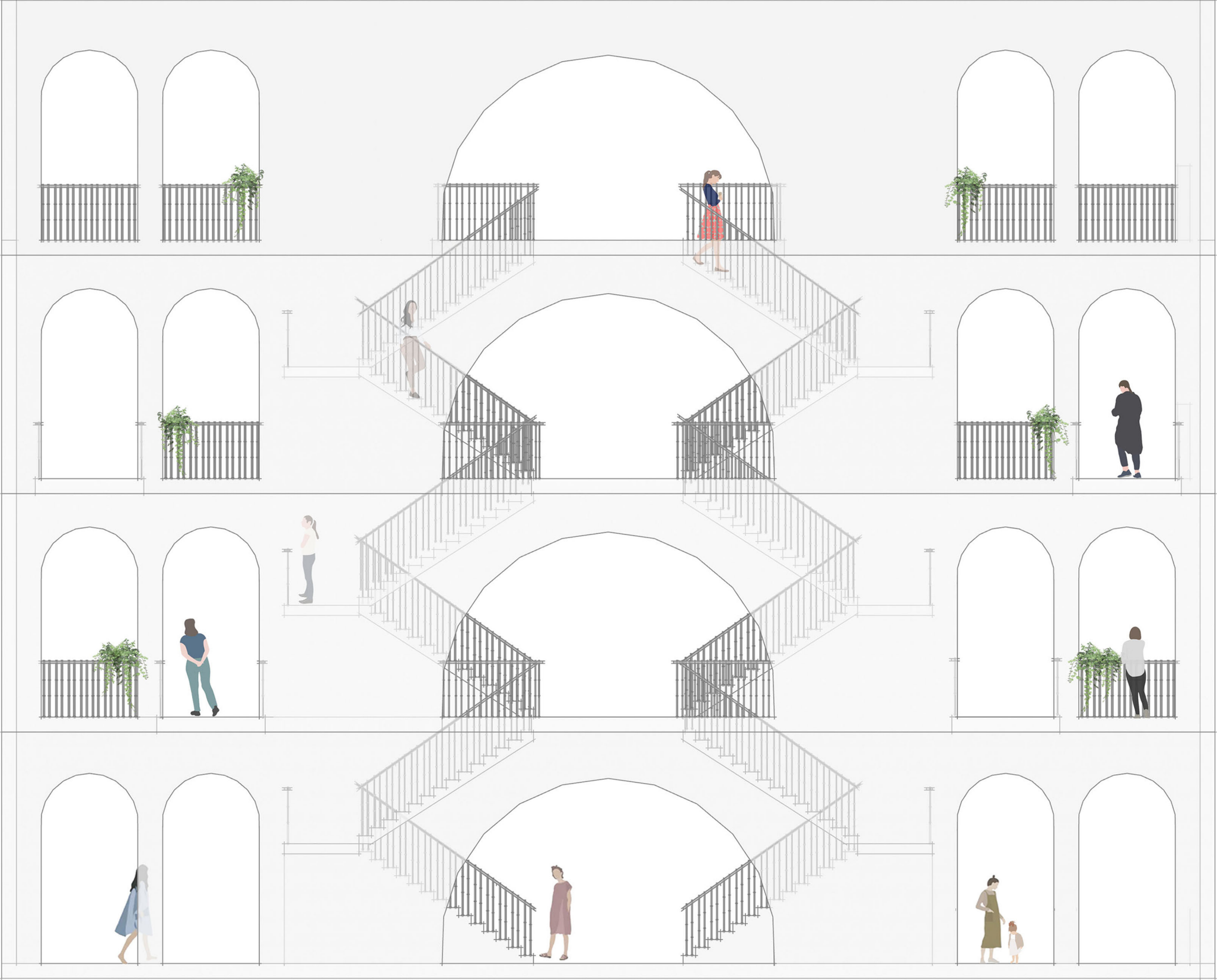
This area is also important for **emotional support** for residents, as it is a place where people can **meet** and **help each other**. It is also used as a **private** and **intimate workshop area** that is only accessible to residents and staff.

To provide the **new residents** with a **safe, warm, and welcoming environment** upon their arrival, they will enter the building through a **livingroom** instead of a reception/waiting area. For those who require **more privacy**, there is a separate **private lounge** attached to the living room.



EVAWN, THE EMPOWERING JOURNEY

Evawn is a Persian term that refers to a part of the house that is similar to a **balcony** and **overlooks a garden**. In this refuge **Evawn** is the central structure that includes the **building's central staircases**, as well as **balcony-like bridges** that **connects the apartments to the Eram Garden**.



High 5 Tiles

Residents of this refuge can make their own **High 5 Tile** as a **symbol** of **celebration** of **overcoming** their **trauma**, as well as write an **empowering note**, then hang their High 5 Tile anywhere **on the Evawn walls**. New residents will be surrounded by **supportive** and **encouraging** messages as they **walk through** the **Evawn**, reminding them that they are **not alone** and that with **help, love, and support**, they can **get through** their **difficult journey**.



BIOPHILIC PATHWAY TO HEALING

Eram Garden

The Persian word **Eram** literally means “**heaven.**” **Eram Garden** is a **mesmerizing** vertical green space where residents can **wander** through it via the staircases and get lost in this **biophilic paradise**. Eram Garden providing an **indoor, safe** and **secure** space for the residents to improve their **mental health**.

I have incorporated spaces within vertical garden that **supports** the residents with **learning**, such as a **gardening workshop, library, and computer suit**. There are also **quiet areas** where residents can **unwind** and **relax** while also meeting other residents.

I was inspired by **serpentine locomotion** when designing the **staircases** to create a **biomorphic awe-inspiring** element in the vertical garden that would draw users' attention and cause them to **look upwards**.

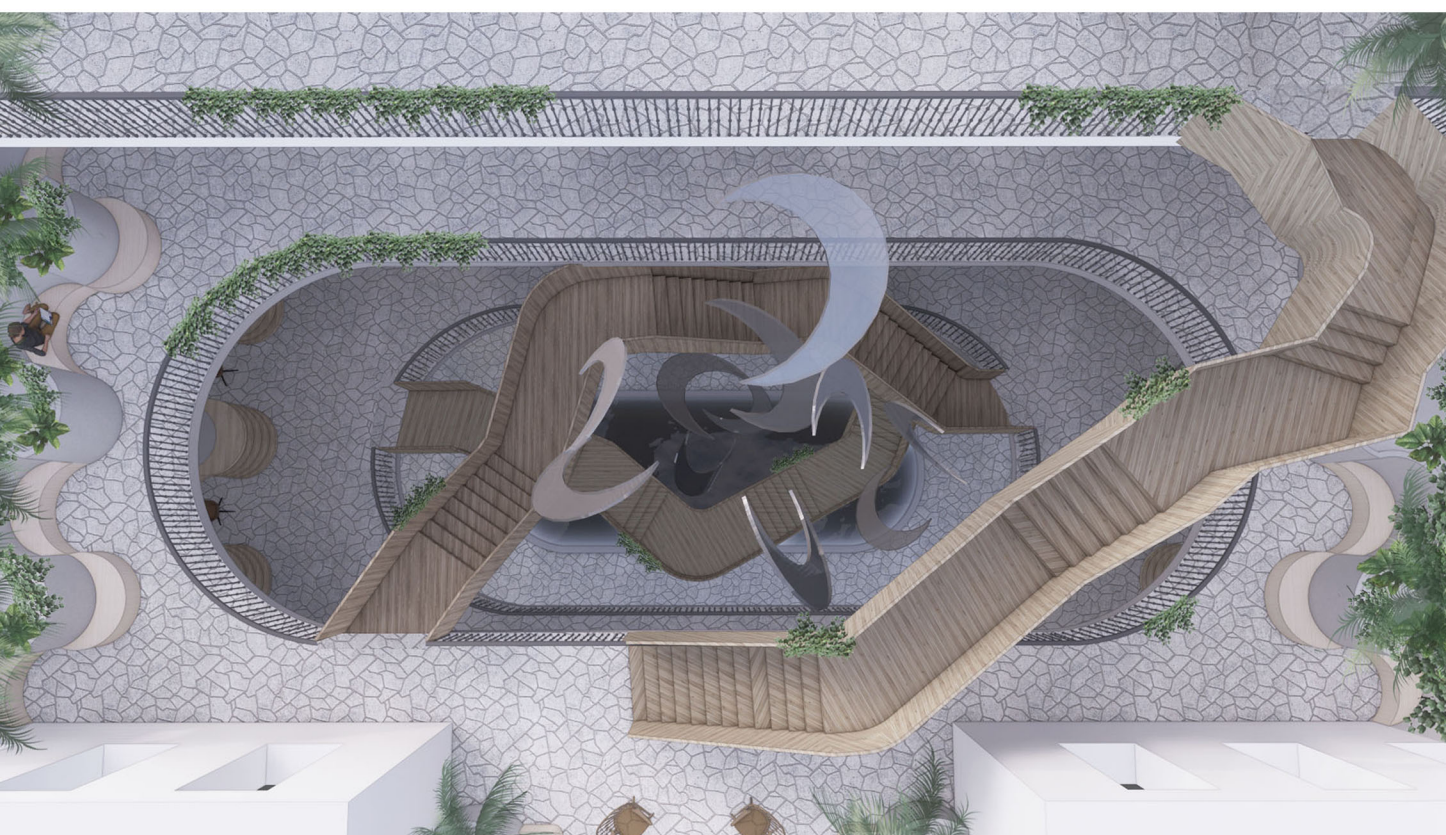
Video 1 shows the initial idea of the vertical garden and the video 2 is when the idea developed further.



Video 1



Video 2





COMMUNITY HUB & HELP CENTRE

Many people, regardless of gender, may be experiencing domestic violence. The main goal of the community hub is to raise awareness about domestic violence through community workshops and activities, as well as providing professional counselling services to the public.

