

HAITI MEDICAL CENTER



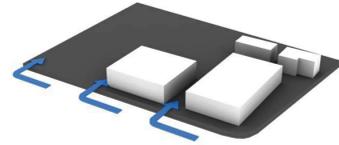
current state of vegetation



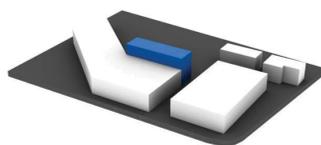
building context



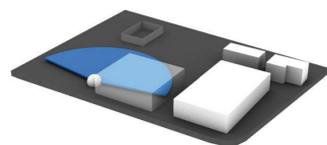
circulation to site from main street



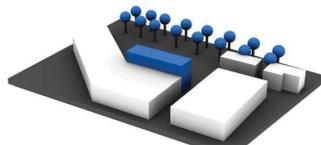
SECURITY. In order to keep the site as safe as possible, the site will be divided into three separate entrance sequences. The first (farthest right) will be the entrance for individuals who are residing at this facility. The second will be the main entrance, opening up to the waiting room. The third and final entrance will be more of a service entrance for supplies and ambulatory rescue services.



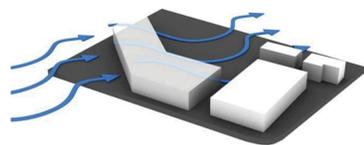
PRIVACY. On this site, we are planning to stack the residential zones on top of the building to give a sense of privacy and freedom from the worrying



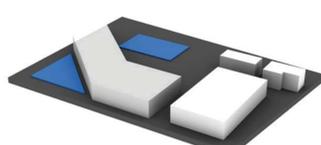
TRANSPARENCY. To prevent mass chaos and confusion, our design will be focused on displaying the system of the medical clinic and how it operates on a larger scale. This will allow individuals to observe the important process of care, healing, and recovery.



DAYLIGHTING. On our site, it is our plans to provide adequate shade and shelter for the site.



WIND ORIENTATION. Noting the location on the site, we are looking for ways to incorporate the site to achieve its full potential when receiving this additional program. Looking at the cardinal directions in relation to the site, we felt it was necessary to adjust the angle of our building in a way where we could fully utilize the winds coming from the north-east direction.



COMMUNITY. To bring together a better sense of community on the site, we are creating gardens and place of refuge for patients and their families on site. The beginning gardens also become a playground to attract the community to the medical center



The Eben-Ezer Medical Centre is a health facility that will bring healing and education to the still-suffering population of Fort Liberte, Haiti. The project is divided into three phases with exam rooms as a priority. The second and third phases of the project include a classroom, porches and a small surgery centre. The site is located near the water with prevailing winds coming from the North and North-east. A small existing clinic sits on the Northwest region of the site. The existing building is approximately 2708 square feet and will remain on-site with minimal modifications.

The program of the medical clinic includes a classroom. In Haiti one of the biggest medical issues is the lack of education and furthermore the illiteracy rate. Because of this demographic, learning is much more successfully achieved in an active style rather than passive; skits, songs and other activities are performed by educators and Haitians alike to teach the population about health. This type of learning gives way to an active classroom that has direct interaction with the functioning of the building.

The orientation of the new building opens to the Northeast windflow. Because the sun is extremely harsh in Haiti, porches and intermediate spaces are an essential part of the design. These porches can help to shade the waiting patients from the hot sun as well as provide a resting zone for the hospital staff. Intermediate zones and exterior greenspaces are augmented by the presence of vegetation; trees and plants that are indigenous to the land help to provide shade, cooling, privacy and intimacy to the site. Because of the playful nature of vegetation, the space becomes a calming environment that gives way to healing.

The efficiency and cleanliness of windflow defines the shape of the program. The building structures must be narrow in order for wind to pass easily through the different rooms. Top-nested clerestory windows allow air to pass through the top of the rooms, allowing for unclean air to be sucked through the top of the room as well as providing privacy to the patients within the space.

The project's orientation to the sun is crucial. The exam rooms open to the available northern light so that cleaner cooler light can ease through the windows. The southern region of the building is enveloped with vegetation due to the deleterious effects of the hot southern sun.

The circulation through the site is defined by the most common path of the hospital patient. Patients typically move from check-in and next through waiting and triage. After being seen in an exam room the patient will usually stop by the pharmacy to pick up medication on the way to check-out. The patient then has a clear path out of the building. Simple and direct means of wayfinding is a crucial element to the design. Many Haitians are fearful of hospitals and doctors and generally unaware of the service flow of a medical experience. Not only are they fearful but they are also curious. They arrive in groups and want to see what is happening to their family members in these facilities. Zoning must be clearly defined so that people understand spatial boundaries, and passing through the building must be facile and clear so that patients do not become confused and anxious.

The centre of the site is defined by an orthogonal open courtyard with trees and Haitian vegetation. This heart center allows for an extremely easy view of the circulation flow in the site. This courtyard is a space that allows fresh air and light to sweep through the building as well as provide a lush gathering space for the many anxious and waiting patients. Many Haitians are afraid of doctors and have high levels of anxiety and stress in hospitals. The calming greenspace is visible from the street and is a welcoming zone to many unsettled patients. It will not only be used by anxiously waiting patients but also by their curious family members who stand by. This space helps to draw crowds away from the hospital hallways.

The enclosed spaces are balanced by intermediate spaces such as porches and shaded areas. This rhythm maintains clean-flowing circulation and provides visual differentiation between spaces. The shed rooves and clerestory windows allow air to enter through one side of the building and exit directly through the opposing side.

Color is an important element to the design and helps to differentiate the spaces. In the Shelter-2Home project, color provides a playful spirit to the project as well as allows families to easily differentiate and locate their homes. The scale of these buildings is humble; the single and double-story language is low to the ground and respectful of the beautiful topography of Haiti.

The facility is divided into different sections for spatial clarity. Instead of one large daunting structure, the program is divided into less mysterious smaller masses so that the program and flow of the building is easier to understand.



site context



site context showing relationship to hospital



Shelter2Home; image from angel.co/shelter2home



UberShelter; image from inventforhumanity.org

-  **Security:** establish a strong sense of security by organized circulation
-  **Education** Transparency; waiting patients see healthier patients leaving
interactive classroom
-  **Wind Orientation** healthy IAQ
sickest air located at southern-most region of building
wind pushes sick air through the building
-  **Daylighting** building oriented to harvest daylight
southern region of building shielded from hot sun by trees
-  **Establish Privacy** adjacencies block most serious health zones from least serious
residential areas stacked to second level