



City of Albuquerque Native American Housing

Engagement Synthesis Report
December 2024



ORIGINAL LANDS OF THE TIWA PEOPLE

City of Albuquerque Land Acknowledgment

The City of Albuquerque acknowledges that Native/indigenous Peoples and Tribal nations, including the Tiwa Pueblo peoples, and our neighboring Tribal Nations, have stewarded through time immemorial and a millennium of generations, the lands, and waterways of what is now the City of Albuquerque (City). The City also honors and respects the enduring relationship that exists between these Peoples and Tribal Nations and this land and commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land the City inhabits as well.

Urban Indigenous Populations

According to information provided by Little Earth of Minneapolis, MN: "Statistics show that as of the 2010 U.S. Census there were 5.2 million people in the United States who identified themselves as Native Americans. Of that population, only 22% live on reservations.

“78% of this
country’s
American Indian
population lives in
urban areas off
reservations,
and as such has no
access to...federal
and state funds
traditionally
reserved for
tribal entities.”

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In partnership with the City of Albuquerque,
MASS Design Group created this document in 2024.

Front Cover Image: Kewa Pueblo Family in newly constructed home
Back Cover Image: Focus Group Session 3 - MASS Design Group



01 Introduction

Executive Summary
Engagement Approach
Focus Group Demographics

Honoring Perspectives: Centering Indigenous Voices in Housing Development

In 2022, the City of Albuquerque's Office of Equity and Inclusion, in partnership with MASS Design Group, created two reports – a **Needs Assessment and a Site Planning & Analysis Report** – on housing needs and opportunities in Albuquerque.

These reports shared preliminary insights from government departments and community organizations working in service of Black and Native communities in Albuquerque. However, the engagement meetings also made clear that deeper conversations with community members would be necessary in order to gain a fuller understanding of their housing needs.

Therefore, in 2024, the City of Albuquerque advanced two additional engagements – a widely-distributed survey and a series of in-person focus groups – to better support housing development for Native communities, specifically. The survey and focus groups were designed to work hand-in-hand; focus groups were used to elaborate on trends that were emerging from the concurrent survey effort.

This report details the methods and findings from those focus groups. MASS Design Group convened three focus groups with **37** individuals in May and June 2024. Leveraging MASS Design Group's experience in community engagement and participatory research, the focus groups were designed to build trust, encourage open dialogue, and highlight the multiple perspectives of the urban Indigenous community of Albuquerque.

The report is organized to guide readers through the engagement process, insights gathered, and actionable strategies for addressing the housing needs of Native communities. The **Introduction** provides the project's background and approach. **Focus Group Summaries** delve into key findings and cultural considerations, and the **Design Recommendations** translate these findings into guidelines for planning and development at multiple scales. Supporting materials and additional data are included in the Appendices for further reference.



Focus Group Session 2, MASS Design Group

Rooted in Dialogue: Transforming Housing Through Collective Voices

What we heard:

Many participants expressed that “finding our home” is only one piece of a larger puzzle. Common challenges identified include transportation, access to healthcare, and food security—essential elements for maintaining well-being and stability. Participants also highlighted how the historical trauma endured by tribal communities exacerbates living conditions often marked by proximity to drug use, crime, and under-resourced areas.

To support holistic well-being, housing solutions must address these interconnected challenges. Thoughtful community siting should prioritize access to restful open spaces, fostering opportunities for residents to recharge and connect with the land. Traditional urban developments often neglect the deep, specific relationship Indigenous communities have with the land, resulting in a profound disconnect. By integrating these connections into urban housing design, communities can promote grounding and renewal for all residents, honoring cultural values regardless of tribal affiliation.

Cultural considerations:

Seeking spaces where people ‘like me’ can gather—whether in facilities, buildings, or businesses—is essential for fostering community among Indigenous people. These spaces should provide opportunities for connection, cultural exchange, and a sense of belonging. This project has the potential to create environments that not only welcome but also celebrate Indigenous cultures and traditions.

Participants emphasized the need for ceremonial and cultural spaces, such as shaded areas, sweat lodges, and communal spaces for gathering and cooking. Thoughtful design might also include reducing fencing in yards to encourage shared spaces and foster stronger neighborly ties. Additionally, creating spaces where families and elders can pass down cultural knowledge, host ceremonies, and teach valuable skills is vital to strengthening the community’s cultural fabric.

Wealth, in this context, goes beyond material possessions, encompassing the ability to support others and foster collective well-being—values central to Indigenous communities.

Home and process:

Localized care in housing design should prioritize larger room sizes and ample storage, exceeding the bare minimums typically associated with affordable housing. Additionally, there is a need for “missing middle” dwelling options, such as two-bedroom units, that accommodate diverse incomes, family sizes, and life stages. Participants emphasized a preference for housing that allows for proximity without overcrowding—for example, narrow single-story row houses with small yards or private garden spaces, enabling residents to have features like raised garden beds.

A significant gap identified is the lack of support during the preparation, process, and ownership stages of homeownership. Policies that complicate or delay these stages must be reevaluated to reduce barriers for buyers, enabling them to navigate the process without disrupting their professional, family, and cultural lives.

Logistics & Planning

Focus groups aimed to uncover the concerns, aspirations, and recommendations that Indigenous residents have for housing in the City of Albuquerque. In order to generate open and honest dialogue, facilitators focused on creating a comfortable environment that emphasized a genuine desire to hear new opinions and ideas rooted in lived experiences.

With support from the Office of Equity and Inclusion - Office of Native American Affairs, MASS Design Group conducted three focus groups at one of two locations:

- Focus Group 1: May 28, 2024 - Los Duranes Community Center
- Focus Group 2: June 11, 2024 - Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
- Focus Group 3: June 25, 2024 - Los Duranes Community Center

A concerted effort was made to provide the conversations in central locations to limit travel time for participants.

Each gathering included a meal prior to the focus group for all attendees and their families. Caterers with Indigenous backgrounds provided foods based on regional cultural dishes. Menus were shared with participants prior to the sessions to accommodate dietary restrictions.

Childcare was provided for all gatherings for the full duration of the event. Unstructured time before the start of the formal program also allowed for feeding children and coordinating childcare. Participants were also provided pen and paper for additional notes should they have comments that were unable to be addressed during the conversation.

Following each focus group, a survey structured on the focus group activities was provided to allow participants to provide additional feedback to the organizers regarding the topics discussed. Much of the feedback from the post-focus group surveys is included in the appendices, but is also referenced in the summaries.



Focus Group Session 3, MASS Design Group

Overview

Thirty-seven individuals participated in three focus groups, sharing their input on the urban Native experience in Albuquerque as it relates to housing.

Introduction

Focus group participants volunteered to take part in these conversations when they filled out a large-scale public survey organized by third-party consultant Research Evaluation Consulting, LLC (REC) in partnership with the City of Albuquerque’s Office of Equity and Inclusion (CABQ OEI) and MASS Design Group.

Respondents to the survey had an opportunity to request more information about participating in focus groups for the purpose of elaborating on their responses to the survey questions. Volunteers provided their names and email addresses to MASS via REC for the purposes of scheduling and participation logistics.

Of the 37 focus group participants, eight attended all three focus groups, an additional eight participants attended two focus groups, and 20 attended only one focus group.

Focus Group Participants (by Gender and Age)

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65+ years	Total
Man		1	2	1		1	5
Non-Binary			1				1
Woman	1	6	13	9	2		31
Total	1	7	16	10	2	1	37

Age & Gender

Survey participants were limited to adults (individuals above the age of 18), and therefore focus group participants faced the same age restriction. Nearly 80 percent (29 of 37) of focus group participants were aged 35 and older with the majority in the range of 35 to 44. It is our team’s understanding that this participant age range reflects the age at which homeownership becomes a greater focus for individuals and families living in Albuquerque.

Of the 37 participants, 31 identified as female, one identified as non-binary, and five identified as male. These demographics indicate the possible age and gender biases reflected in the findings that follow.

The majority of respondents to the online survey, as well as the majority of focus group participants, were Diné (Navajo).

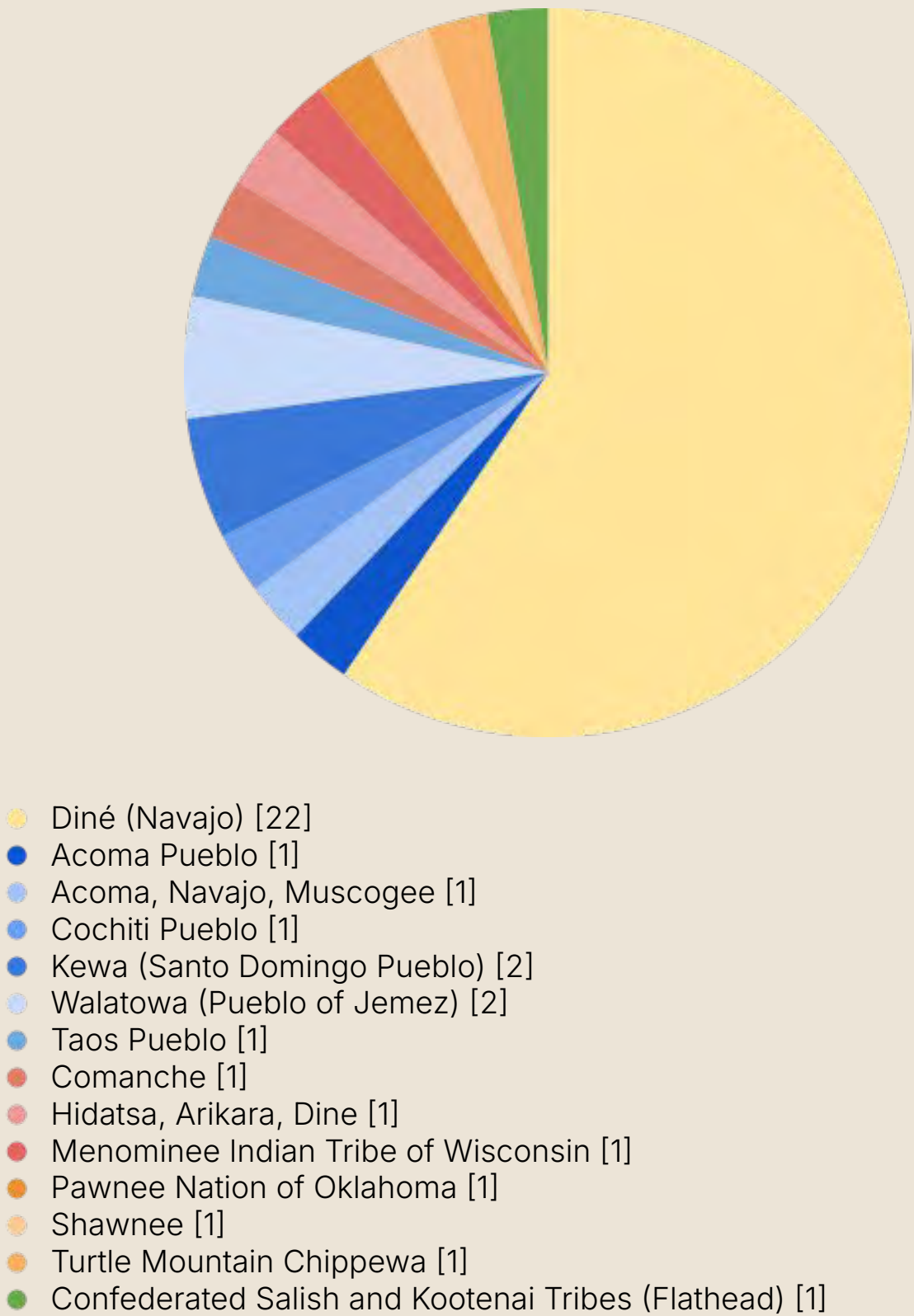
Tribal Affiliation

The majority of respondents to the online survey created by REC self-identified as Diné (Navajo). Since focus group participants were drawn from the online survey, nearly 60% of focus group participants (22 of 37) were Diné as well.

About 25% of focus group participants represented the Pueblo communities whose traditional homelands are now occupied by Albuquerque. Additional participants reported affiliations with the Comanche, Hidatsa, Arikara, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Shawnee, Turtle Mountain Chippewa, and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. There were no participants who self identified as part of present-day eastern Tribes.

As is the case with many populations, there is significant diversity within and across Tribal communities. Lived experience related to the cultures, traditions, worldviews, and homelands inform the perspectives, goals, and expectations of individuals and communities. Therefore, it is important to place the focus group input contained in this report in context, understanding that it does not necessarily equally represent the interests of all local Tribal communities.

Focus Group Participants (by Tribal Affiliation)





02

Focus Group Summaries

Focus Group 1: Impact-based Design Methodology + Creative Tensions

Focus Group 2: Journey Mapping

Focus Group 3: Closing Conversations

Intentions

The goal of our first focus group was to co-create shared language and goals for our research into Native housing.

In our first focus group, we asked participants to describe their reasons for attending. This group of 23 adults, including 20 women and 3 men, shared that they hoped to discuss and address various challenges and opportunities related to housing within their community. Participants reflected on a broad spectrum of experiences and goals concerning home ownership and housing stability.

Participants expressed an interest in sharing personal experiences, as well as those of others, in hopes of gaining insights about pursuing homeownership. Some participants shared that they were facing ongoing challenges in the process of acquiring a home, including red tape and discrimination. Participants shared they were seeking ways to overcome these barriers and support others in similar situations. Others were interested in the broader dynamics affecting urban Native Americans, including the shifting landscape of housing opportunities and

the impact of financial literacy on achieving home ownership. Furthermore, there was significant interest in understanding housing as a component of equity and social justice, highlighting the importance of this conversation in addressing systemic issues such as gentrification.

Participants ranged from recent graduates ready to purchase their first home, to individuals who had recently moved back to New Mexico and faced difficulties in buying a home, to single parents with no prior experience in home ownership. There was a common thread of curiosity and a desire to learn more about home ownership as a means of building wealth and stability.

Some participants had the experience of owning multiple homes, while others had experienced homelessness/unsheltered living. Participants were generally vocal and eager to participate, asking questions about what this project could mean for them, their families, or their communities.

Participants’ Stated Reasons for Joining the Focus Groups

Information and Help

- Seeking information to help others get housed
- Interested in financial literacy and housing

Personal Experiences and Challenges

- Faced red tape and discrimination in purchasing a first home
- Currently trying to get housing; finding it challenging
- Lived in an apartment for 20 years; now wants a home
- Previously owned a home and wants to share the journey
- Experienced bribery and deception regarding homeownership

Community and Cultural Reasons

- Want to help restore homes and build their own
- Interested in the shifting dynamics of urban Native communities
- Enjoy voicing opinions in Native focus group spaces
- Ancestral tradition of building homes

Curiosity and Education

- Curiosity about the discussion
- Learning about homeownership as an equity and social justice issue
- Recently graduated, ready to purchase a home
- Single mom and UNM student, first-time buyer
- Gaining knowledge to help tribal community

Support and Resources

- To be a resource due to homeownership experience
- Utilizing Homewise for guidance in homeownership
- Lived experience with housing struggles and seeking solutions

Advocacy and Leadership

- Promoting equity and social justice through homeownership
- Understanding homeownership as a pathway to personal leadership
- Desire to make the process of homeownership easier for others

Focus Group 1: Agenda

Our first focus group consisted of two activities: the Impact-based Design Methodology and Creative Tensions.

Activity 1: Impact-Based Design Methodology (IDM)

Introduction and review of Impact-Based Design Methodology (IDM), followed by community input regarding its four components:

- North Star - Collectively defining the vision or goal of the project
- Methods - Processes by which the North Star can be achieved
- Impact - Measures that can evaluate the effectiveness of the methods we put in place
- Systemic Change - Potential sectors and processes that can be improved by the project

Activity 2: Creative Tensions

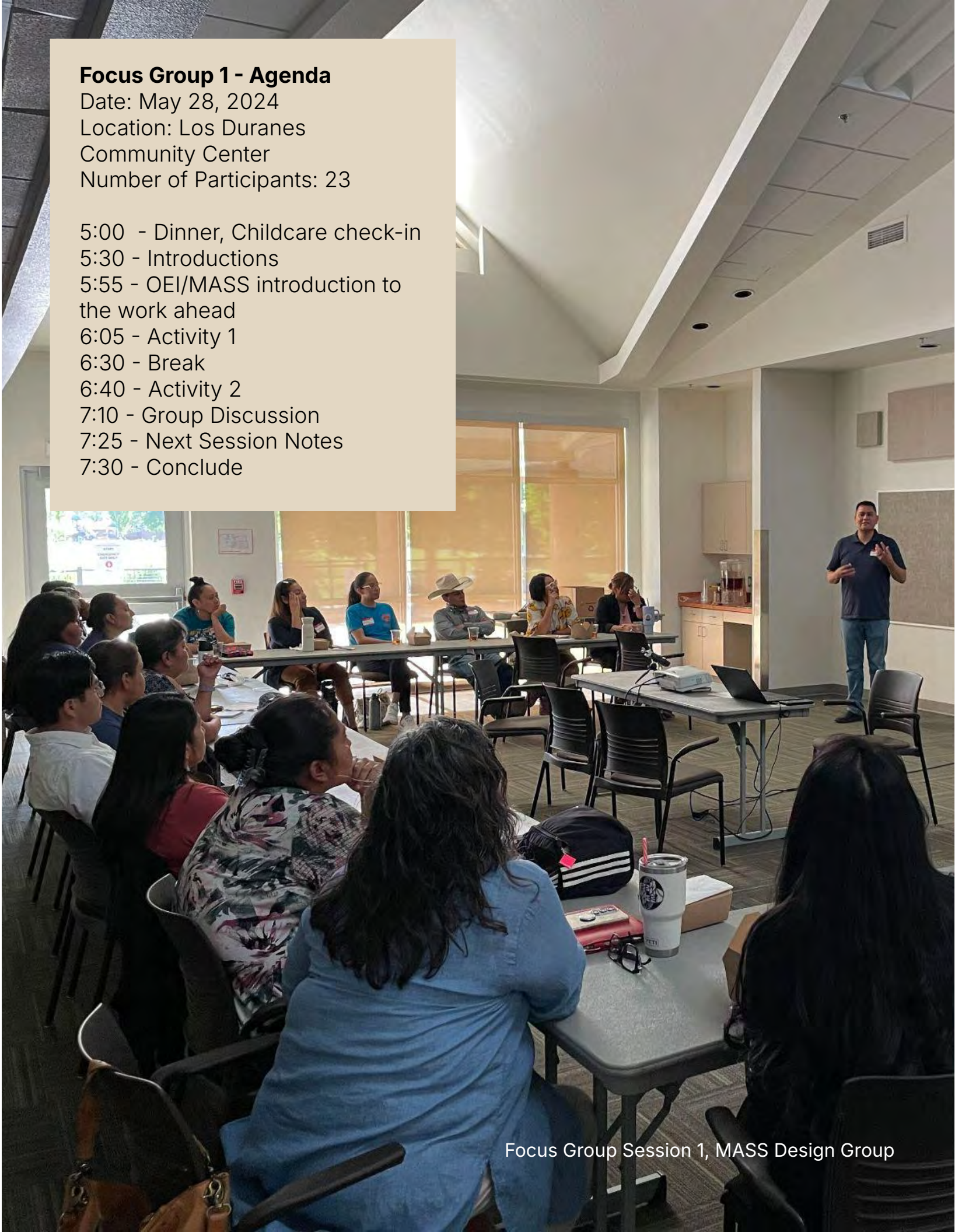
Exercise to identify participant preferences for the type of housing they desired and their intended uses, based on the following spectrums:

- Starter Home vs. Forever Home
- Support Needed vs. Minimal Support Needed
- Host Frequently vs. Rarely Hosting
- Open to Attached Layout or Reduce Yard for More Bedrooms
- Independent Maintenance vs. Communal Maintenance
- Close to Community vs. Separate Community

Focus Group 1 - Agenda

Date: May 28, 2024
Location: Los Duranes Community Center
Number of Participants: 23

5:00 - Dinner, Childcare check-in
5:30 - Introductions
5:55 - OEI/MASS introduction to the work ahead
6:05 - Activity 1
6:30 - Break
6:40 - Activity 2
7:10 - Group Discussion
7:25 - Next Session Notes
7:30 - Conclude



Focus Group Session 1, MASS Design Group

Activity 1: Impact-based Design Methodology

The IDM seeks to establish common goals and methods for the project.

Goals of IDM

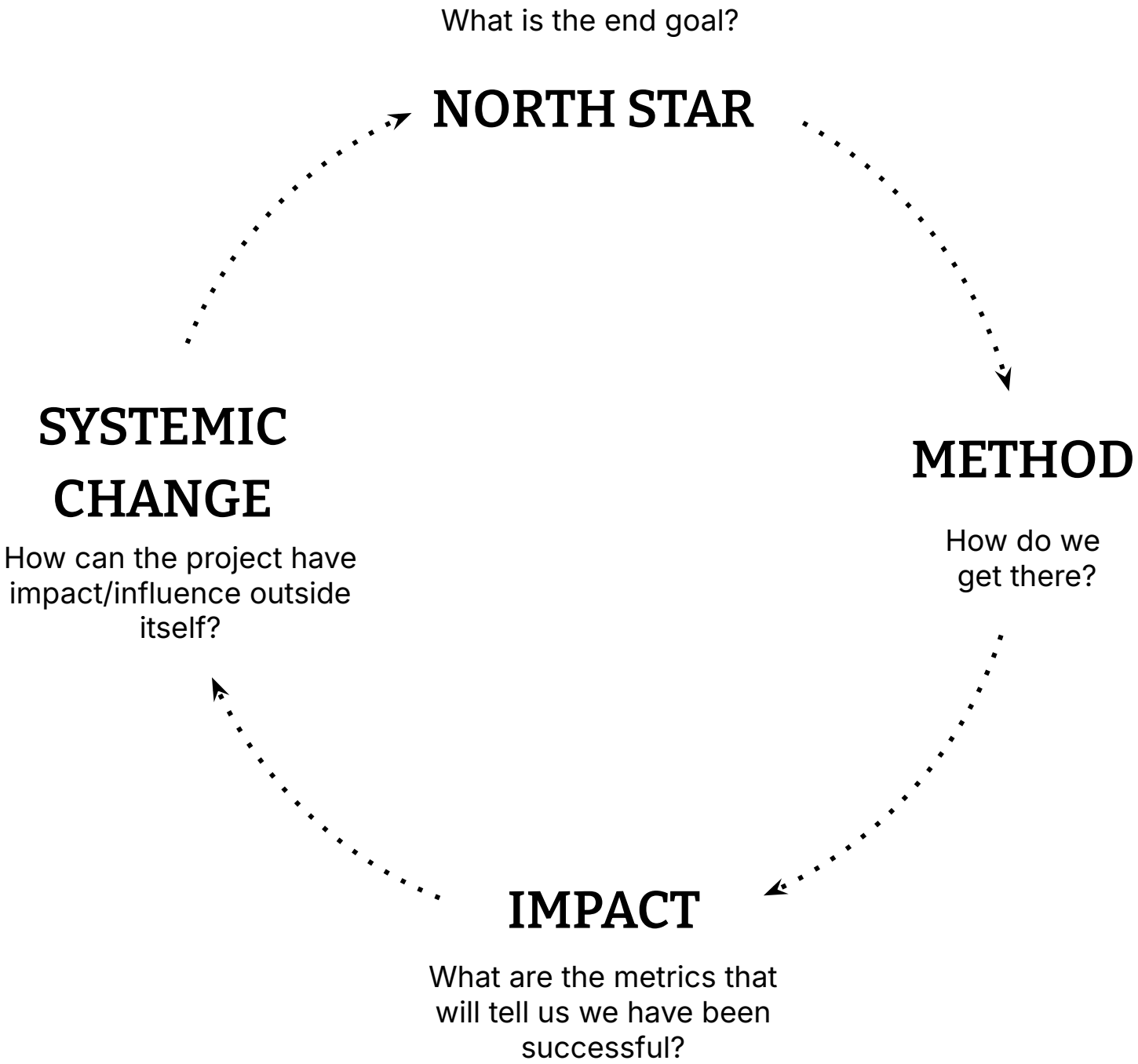
- +Create a shared understanding of **needs** and **goals**.
- +Encourage **realistic** expectations for what the project can do.
- +Identify ways to **measure** our impact

IDM Framework

The City of Albuquerque’s Office of Equity and Inclusion began these conversations in partnership with MASS Design Group, using MASS’s Impact-based Design Methodology (IDM) exercise. This framework allows a broad group of communities and partners to develop a common language to drive the success of a project. The IDM is a living, iterative process meant to be revisited as the project grows and becomes more complex.

The language on the following pages, the output of the IDM, reflects the state of the planning process at the time this report was produced, and it outlines the direction in which the City of Albuquerque intends to steer its housing efforts. The mission, methods, impacts, and systemic change outlined in this IDM will be revisited and further developed throughout later phases of the design process.

IDM Framework



IDM: North Star

The goal of the Native Housing project is to create a housing model that honors Indigenous values by promoting equitable access to safe and culturally-respectful living spaces.

Summary

The conversation regarding the North Star (or mission) of this project centered around the goal of empowering Indigenous residents to thrive in urban environments while addressing systemic barriers to housing. The multitude of responses to address the outreach mission were combined under the following categories:

- Reframing housing affordability
- Increasing availability of housing
- Fostering cultural and ecological sustainability
- Ensuring safety and equity in housing solutions.

Each of these ideas is expanded upon on the following pages.

Workshop Input

Our team gathered the following input on the goals of the project during meetings with CABQ OEI and from Focus Group 1 participants:

Change the perception and definition of affordability	Create access to housing for urban Indigenous communities in ABQ	Provide housing for those living in tents	Counteract gentrification	Land back
Ensure that affordability encompasses more than financial aspects	Develop new model for housing affordability	Increase housing availability	Collaborate with other minorities and communities facing similar struggles	Address systemic barriers to housing
Emphasize ecological & sustainable building	Ensure safety	Advocate for land use practices that honor cultural heritage and environmental sustainability	Understand why Native Americans are disproportionately affected	Address housing shortage
Avoid development that creates concrete jungle	Develop community space	Reflect Indigenous cultural community values in project	Ensure housing solutions reflect cultural values	Ensure housing policies and programs are inclusive and culturally sensitive
Implement 7th generation thinking in planning & development	Indigenous folks can live fully as themselves in an urban setting	Combat displacement by out-of-state residents	Use Indigenous knowledge to set examples of responsible land and resource management	Consider community needs

IDM: North Star

Reframe Housing Affordability and Availability

The project seeks to challenge and redefine the concept of "affordability" to better align with the needs of Indigenous communities. The terminology needs to consider more than just financial aspects of "affordability," to include cultural and communal needs as well. This involves addressing responsible land stewardship and resource management, countering gentrification, and promoting the "Land Back" movement to ensure that Indigenous peoples have equitable access to housing.

In addition, it is critical to increase housing availability to combat the displacement caused by rising housing prices. This includes providing housing solutions for the broad range of housing needs beginning from those currently living in tents. Housing solutions should be creating new community spaces that foster gathering and cultural exchange.

Address Systemic Issues

Housing solutions must reflect cultural values and reconcile the historical and systemic inequities that Native Americans have faced. These systemic barriers include unclear financial structures, land and ownership contracts, and procedures that many Indigenous communities do not encounter in trust land land transfers. Additionally, because Native communities are not the only populations to have been systematically excluded from housing, the City should foster collaboration across racial and ethnic lines to amplify efforts in overcoming shared challenges. Systemic issues also mean avoiding a "concrete jungle" situation where new residents are located in unsafe, derelict, and under-resourced areas of the city. Lastly, housing solutions need to integrate ecological and cultural sustainability, avoiding development practices that contribute to environmental degradation and cultural homogenization.

Promote Sustainability and Safety

Participants felt that sustainability needed to be central to the project's mission, emphasizing ecological stewardship and responsible land use. The project's goal should be to develop housing that respects and enhances the environment, rather than conforms to inefficient or extractive development practices. Additionally, the project aims to provide safe housing options for a population that is subject to historical traumas, which continue to affect quality of life metrics, and then reinforce disadvantages in housing opportunities. It is paramount that housing for Indigenous people ensures that homes are secure and supportive of the residents' overall well-being.

Foster Cultural Integrity and Collaboration

The project recognizes the conflict between capitalist models and Indigenous ways, striving to create a housing model that respects Indigenous cultural values and promotes both Indigenous generational wealth and Indigenous financial wealth. By considering land impacts, ecological balance, and community needs, the project aims to set a positive example of how to integrate cultural and environmental stewardship into urban development. It also seeks to give Indigenous communities a voice in housing discussions and decisions, ensuring that they are represented and that their needs are met. Indigenous people can live fully as themselves in an urban setting with cultural community values reflected in their housing.

IDM: Method

The method defines the steps we will take to achieve our project’s North Star.

Process Considerations

To achieve the mission of empowering Indigenous residents to thrive in urban environments by addressing systemic barriers to housing, promoting cultural and ecological sustainability, and redefining affordability, the following methodologies should be employed:

Workshop Input

Our team gathered the following input on the project method during meetings with CABQ OEI and from Focus Group 1 participants:

Create design guidelines for culturally-appropriate housing

Select sites for development

Create visuals for this new model

Conduct surveys & focus groups to understand needs

Work within existing structures to ensure this is achievable

Process is rooted in Indigenous thought and community participation

Highlight the lack of wealth-building opportunities on the reservation

One-on-one with community members

More storytelling

Implement culturally accurate housing developments (e.g. 7 directions)

Avoid creating high-density, unsustainable urban environments (no concrete jungles)

Use lottery-based systems to allocate homes, but explore better alternatives

Offer personalized support to prospective homeowners to ease the process

Engage with wide range of Tribal background, income levels, ages

Ensure housing projects respect the relationship with the land

1. Utilizing Community Voice

Central to the methodology is the active involvement of community voice in every stage of the project. Engagement means deep conversation with people from a wide range of Tribal backgrounds, income levels, and ages. Further interaction is required to ensure housing projects establish clear opportunities for Indigenous community members to connect to the land. Engagement is crucial for fostering a sense of belonging and cultural continuity. The process must be rooted in Indigenous thought and community participation.

2. Promoting Financial and Individual Well-being:

Pathways to achieving financial and societal well-being will be developed through financial education and stability. Community voice should guide the creation of educational programs and resources to promote long-term financial health. Engagement is also important to establish a process that is fair, equitable, and features transparent policy sourced in community voice when allocating housing to community members. Personalized support and individual communication is an important method of ensuring success.

3. Collaboratively Designing Safe and Culturally Supportive Housing:

Creating pathways for developing safe, sustainable housing with culturally supportive design is another key aspect of the methodology. Housing

developments should emphasize time, and center cultural design by utilizing Seventh Generation, Seven Direction understandings, and ensure projects respect the relationship with the land. Considerations should include avoiding high-density, unsustainable urban environments and focusing on environmentally-responsible and culturally respectful designs. Fundamental consideration for the environmental impact and sustainability of housing projects should also ensure that they incorporate long-term, eco-friendly practices that respect Indigenous principles of land stewardship.

4. Observing and Documenting:

Observational methods to recognize current living conditions, such as community members sleeping in tents or couch-surfing, and housing conditions can highlight possibilities for innovation. Communication cannot be limited to quantitative analysis; qualitative inputs like storytelling and connections to home communities are factors that inform the present conditions and future of housing success.

5. Advancing Corporate Responsibility and Reconciliation

Engagement with corporations to appeal to their social responsibility can foster broader support for Native housing initiatives and influence corporate involvement in reconciliation.

6. Redefining Wealth and Other Economic Metrics

The project must work towards redefining wealth and economic success within Native communities beyond traditional financial metrics, to include cultural and communal aspects of wealth-building.

7. Considering Impacts on Elders and Multi-Family Housing

Special attention will be given to accommodating elders and multi-generational families, addressing cultural impacts, and ensuring that housing solutions are inclusive and supportive of diverse family structures.

8. Prioritizing Housing Allocation and Homelessness

Efforts will include setting aside a specific number of homes for Native Americans and striving towards the goal of little to no Native homelessness, with a possible measure of success within five years.

Conclusion

The methodology focuses on integrating community voice, promoting financial and societal well-being, ensuring culturally and environmentally sustainable housing, and offering personalized support. By addressing these areas comprehensively, the project aims to create a supportive, equitable, and sustainable urban environment for Indigenous residents.

The type of housing needs to be considered
apartment, condo
townhome, single family
multi-family

Habitat for Humanity
concept of the future
homeowners taking
responsibility by helping
to build the home.

Community gardens

Location: Planting is a hobby I like, so I would like more space. Deattached where I'm not convinced in.

Community: People let trash blow into yards. so I deal with that back on the reservation when going back to Navajo Housing where my mom lives.

starter: Due to working and going back to school But want a space for family

Focus Group 1
Handwritten Notes

IDM: **Impact**

The project aims to create measurable impacts in four key areas:

1. Land Back and Reclamation or Stewardship

Short-Term Impact

Case Studies and Examples:

Selected sites will be developed as case studies to demonstrate effective land stewardship practices. These initial projects will provide immediate lessons learned and establish models for future developments, systems for tracking and documenting success are critical to the advancement of successful housing models.

Increased Native Stewardship:

Early efforts will result in more land within urban settings being managed and stewarded by Native residents, enhancing their connection to the land.

Long-Term Impact

Sustained Land Stewardship:

Over time, these case studies will inform broader land reclamation strategies, leading to more extensive areas being reclaimed and stewarded by Indigenous communities. This will foster a lasting presence and influence of Native practices in urban environments and will inform all new development in the city.

2. Combating Gentrification and Displacement

Short-Term Impact

Supportive Networks and Services:

Establishing networks, services, and amenities adjacent to Native housing will provide immediate support and stability for Indigenous residents. This will help mitigate some of the negative effects of gentrification in the short term.

Long-Term Impact

Indigenous Urban Corridor:

The development of an Indigenous urban corridor or hub will create a lasting and supportive community space, reinforcing Native presence and reducing the risk of displacement. This will contribute to a more stable and cohesive urban environment for Indigenous people.

Workshop Input

Our team gathered the following input on the project impact during meetings with CABQ OEI and from Focus Group 1 participants:

Short-term impacts (1-5 years):

We have a conceptual design we can present to county and Tribal governments that reflects community input

We apply our conceptual design to specific properties in ABQ

We articulate how we can support Indigenous needs through design beyond what already exists

We get investors and designers on board

Stronger definition of environmental concerns of the housing situation in Albuquerque

With short term investment opportunities, we can encourage shareholders, public and private industries to trust and invest in communities

Present to the Navajo Nation President and surrounding Governors of the Pueblos with feedback from the community who needs support

Reserve Housing for Natives

Address concerns: urban sprawl, green building practices, sustainable housing, and water scarcity

Long-term impacts (5-10 years):

Higher homeownership rate among urban Native population in ABQ

An urban Native Hub?

Indigenous / Urban Native corridor

Bring Indigenous culture into an urban setting

There are adequate housing opportunities for all urban Native families and individuals

Increased cultural practice and resources in ABQ

Indigenous community members feel they can live as themselves in urban setting

Eliminate Homelessness Among Natives

Encourage the return of people of color to neighborhoods

Influence corporations to support through social responsibility and ethics

Redefine Economic Metrics

3. Generational Financial and Societal Well-Being:

Short-Term Impact

Redefining Economic Metrics:

Initial efforts will focus on redefining economic metrics to reflect Native values and activate collaboration with tribes, municipalities, and businesses. This will start to address immediate financial disparities and create pathways for economic participation.

Long-Term Impact

Elimination of Native Homelessness:

Over a longer period, these efforts aim to eliminate homelessness among Native Americans, fostering generational financial stability and well-being. This will lead to a more equitable distribution of resources and opportunities within Native communities and result in higher homeownership rates among urban Native populations in Albuquerque.

4. Guidelines for Sustainable and Culturally Supportive Housing:

Short-Term Impact

Increased Cultural and Sustainable Practices:

Implementation of culturally supportive design guidelines and sustainable building practices will immediately enhance the quality of housing for Indigenous residents. This will ensure that new housing developments are respectful of cultural values and environmentally responsible.

Long-Term Impact

Indigenous-Led Building Practices:

As sustainable practices become more established, Indigenous-led building practices and cultural resources will become more prominent in Albuquerque. This will create a legacy of culturally informed and environmentally conscious development and increased cultural practice in the urban environment.



Focus Group Session 1, MASS Design Group

IDM: Systems Change

Finally, Systems Change indicates the aspirations of a successful project to create influence beyond itself.

The focus group highlights a vision for systemic change, aiming to establish Albuquerque as a beacon of Indigenous Excellence. This transformation is envisioned through the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous cultures and languages, fostering healthier communities, and creating environments where individuals and communities can thrive in abundance. The following page describes key elements of this aspiration for systemic change.

Workshop Input

Our team gathered the following input on systemic change during meetings with CABQ OEI and from Focus Group 1 participants:

Replicable model for home ownership	Thriving Indigenous culture in ABQ	Communities and individuals live in abundance, rather than scarcity	ABQ becomes known for Indigenous Excellence	Preserve Culture and Language
Urban Native community is healthier, living longer	Wealth building	Bring Indigenous ways of thinking to design/building /construction	Show community input can drive successful urban development	Empower Native builders, contractors, and designers
Encourage cross-cultural shift in community	Share skills with Native Youth	Develop and support programs led by indigenous people	Emphasize the ceremonial importance of owning a home	

1. Cultural and Language Preservation

The project aims to counteract cultural and language loss by implementing preservation practices within space planning and design, creating opportunities for elders to teach younger generations, and ensuring the continuity of Indigenous cultural teachings in physical space.

2. Indigenous-Led Initiatives

The project emphasizes the importance of Indigenous leadership in all phases, from design and construction to community engagement. It seeks to empower Native builders, prioritize the hiring of Native Americans, and support the growth of Indigenous-run companies and businesses.

3. Cross-Cultural Collaboration

The initiative promotes a cultural shift within the community, encouraging cross-cultural exchange and collaboration with other minority groups. This includes integrating Indigenous practices into broader community efforts and fostering partnerships with tribal governments.

4. Skill Sharing and Training

The initiative promotes intergenerational skill-sharing, particularly the transmission of skills related to community-building projects, reminiscent of how many tribal communities have developed housing for their neighbors, family, and community. This also ties into the

broader goal of creating sustainable and replicable models for urban site stewardship.

5. Honoring Ceremonial Practices

The project recognizes the ceremonial significance of home ownership and seeks to ensure that cultural norms, ceremonies, and connections to the land are honored and preserved within the community. Multiple tribes have specific occurrences and calendar events to observe; promoting the ability to practice and maintain customs is crucial to the success of culturally-appropriate housing.

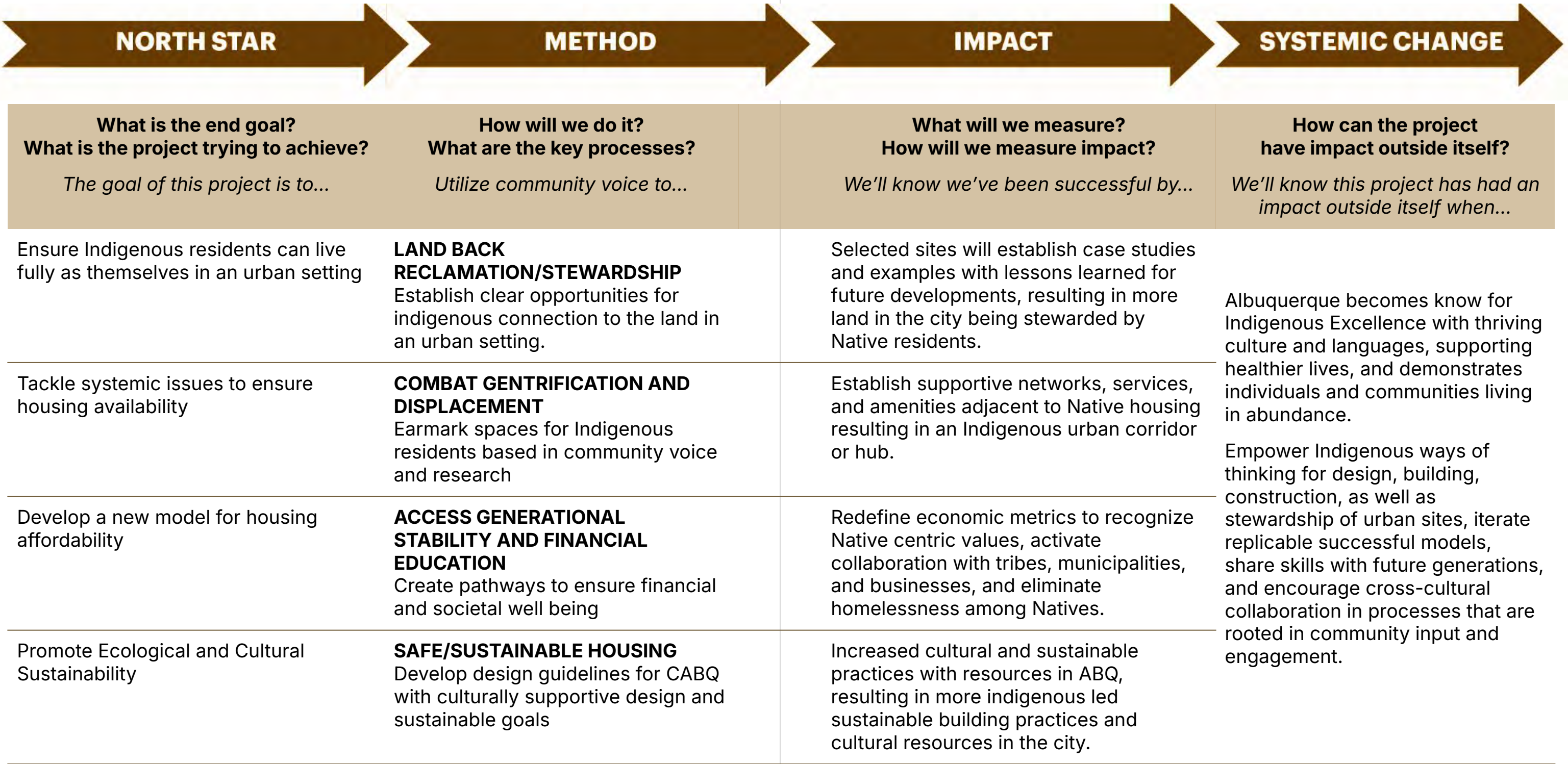
6. Wealth Building and Community Prosperity

The project defines wealth building beyond monetary metrics, to include the wealth derived from caring for family, maintaining a connection with the land, and ensuring spaces for cultural practices. The project seeks to create opportunities for Indigenous wealth building that align with traditional values with intergenerational stability.

Conclusion

The overarching aspiration is a systemic shift in housing that not only preserves Indigenous culture but also empowers the community to lead, innovate, and thrive in a way that is deeply rooted in their cultural identities and values.

IDM: Summary
CABQ OEI - Housing Study



Key Takeaways

Meeting the housing needs of Indian communities in Albuquerque requires more than simply building more units of housing; it requires that we learn from and apply Indigenous values and practices to how we plan, design, build, and use our homes.

Many of the original stewards of the land on which Albuquerque was built continue to live in the City and its surrounds. Although much of the land base of the city in the valley recognizes the cultural influence of the region's original inhabitants, little is done to foster their inclusion in shaping the region's housing, planning, ecological, and economic future.

Among these gaps is an understanding of “wealth.” Wealth typically refers to possessions or money. However, most Indigenous respondents cite wellbeing, health, culture, and ties to family and ecology as primary indicators of wealth. Creating stability in housing for Indigenous families helps to foster these broader ambitions in ways that have yet to be realized in Albuquerque housing programs.

Formalizing a support structure to enhance the welfare of Indigenous peoples – as they define it – requires thinking beyond units of housing. It requires positioning amenities adjacent to communities, and encouraging connections to the ecology of land and place. It requires reevaluating policy with the perspective of the Indigenous community in mind, and prioritizing relationships with Indigenous-serving organizations, including tribal leaders and heads of households. Individual and one-on-one dialogue is important to better understand the complexities of the Indigenous experience and to ensure effectiveness of support-system investments.

Building for Indigenous welfare means connecting with Indigenous practices and re-establishing service-based, bartering, or other skill sharing opportunities for community members to expand their capacity to give and receive capital. It means incorporating tribal, municipal, and business enterprises into the welfare of these communities to expand the communal wealth available to Indigenous citizens.

The work to establish a region, district, or housing community to serve Indigenous residents should be informed by the rich data and perspectives that Native people offered in this – and, hopefully, in ongoing – engagement efforts. Indeed, in order to hold true to the values offered by Indigenous people, the City should establish, maintain, and iterate new guidelines that recognize the goals, needs, and practices of the urban Indian population that can be applied to its housing efforts.

Creative Tensions

The creative tensions activity asks participants to state preferences about various aspects of their housing on a spectrum, from one extreme to another.

Responses on one end of the spectrum suggest a strong preference for an approach. A more centered position can reflect ambivalence, neutrality, or a desire for balancing the two extremes offered. We asked for participants' preferences on six spectrums:

1. Starter Home or Forever Home

Participants were asked whether they were seeking a "starter home," or their "forever home." Participants challenged the framing, suggesting that these terms were open to multiple interpretations. Responses ranged from, "every home is a forever home - we are not promised tomorrow" to "the home in my village is my forever home, and urban home can not be considered a 'forever home.'" The differing views highlight the need to establish homes that are, first and foremost, resilient and accommodate residents' culture; they may not need to be viewed with the lens of temporary or permanent.

2. Support Needed or Minimal Support Needed

We asked participants how much support they would need to access housing. Responses varied, with very few participants indicating a desire for only 'minimal' support. Overall, housing processes are infrequently accessed and, in some ways, antithetical for Indigenous communities. Forms of 'ownership' and financing models are seen as extractive and cumbersome, requiring support in navigating.

3. Host Frequently or Rarely Hosting

Participants across all tribal backgrounds reported that it is important for their homes to be able to accommodate visitors. This need extends to needs for transportation, access, and dwelling spaces.

4. Open To Attached Layout or Reduce Yard for More Bedrooms

In order to recognize the limitations of land in cities, detached housing was seen as more favorable than large yards. However, the majority of the responses did not prioritize one extreme or the other. Participants were willing to compromise on the scale of the interior and exterior space and adjacency to neighboring dwellings if higher priority spaces are demanded.

5. Independent Maintenance or Communal Maintenance

In general, participants did not like the idea of relying on communal maintenance in an urban setting, but there was diversity in the responses. The question of if the communal maintenance required a HOA fee or membership with responsibilities was explicitly left to each individual's interpretation. Informal communal maintenance (inherent in many regional Indigenous communities) was not raised, and is likely understood differently in the context in an urban community.



Sample Response Sheets

6. Close to Community or Separate Community

The question of proximity versus dispersion sparked intense dialogue. Many expressed a wish to have immediate and extended family nearby, but disapproved of the co-location of others, even if a tribal affiliation was present. Many of the responses hinged on this definition of 'community'. Similar conversation regarding the mixing of age groups (elders, young professionals, and children) did not reach a consensus. However, it was generally deemed favorable to foster place based community in the arrangement of housing.

Conclusion

The terminology used to describe the various aspects of housing preferences can be problematic. A write-in response to the post focus group survey (see appendices) noted that if you ask colonized questions, you get colonized responses.

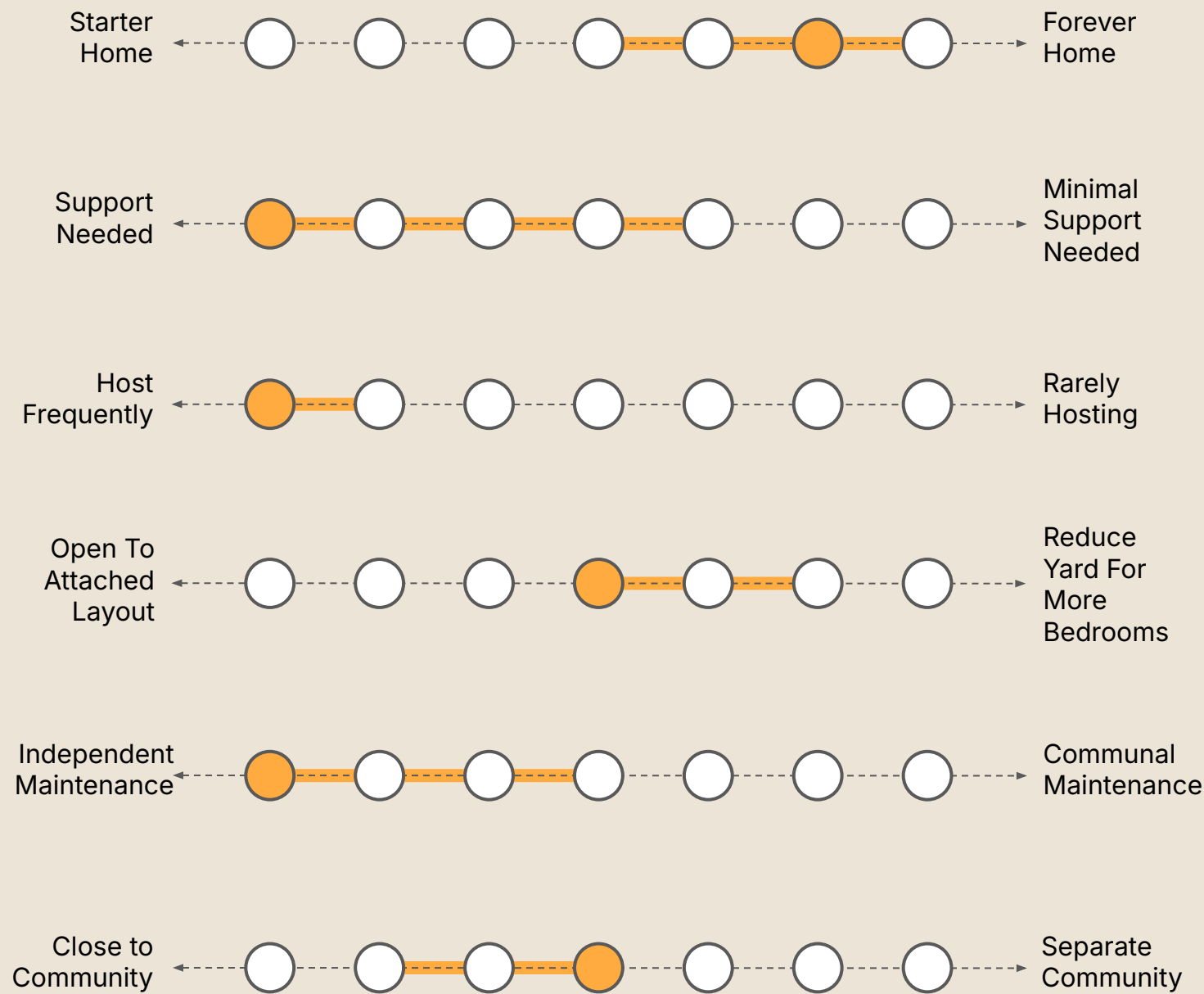
Moving forward it is important to provide opportunities for non-industry or plain language description to focus on the question at hand. The activity did yield some strong opinions regarding the need for a home environment to provide adequate space to accommodate larger family and social groups, but had more diverse input in the space considerations, shared maintenance, and community adjacency questions. The responses

are more valuable with the clarifying comments and conversation that accompanied the results.

Ownership is a big variable that factored into how participants responded to the tensions. It was clear that many responses assumed the 'forever home' would be owned by the occupants, and were therefore less likely to share responsibility, and define adjacency to community or accept tradeoffs in space. Part of the consideration should be that the majority of homes in the City of Albuquerque are stand-alone single family houses, and that arrangement predetermined many of the responses asked in the tensions exercise.

It should be noted also that the tribal communities that focus group attendees came from have very distinct settlement patterns and in many ways, are dramatically different. Pueblo communities are traditionally centered around a large public open space and shared walls are common between family dwellings. Whereas, Dine housing was traditionally spread out geographically with mostly immediate families being co-located on large plots of land. Much has changed in the ways these patterns fostered agriculture and herding, but those proximities could play a role in determining appropriate block scale planning for housing in an urban context.

Workshop Input



Focus Group 2: Agenda

Our second focus group session consisted of a single activity – Journey Mapping – in addition to a group share-back conversation.

Break-out Group Activity:
Journey Mapping

Participants arranged themselves into groups of three to six members were asked to share the daily and weekly journeys of the following hypothetical urban Native personas:

- Adult with No Children
- Elder
- Youth
- Non-Regional Tribal Member
- Spouse + Children
- Multi-Generational Family
- Single Parent
- College Student
- Caregiver
- Veteran

Each group was then asked to:

- Describe two personas with more detail, making sure to ground the details in a widespread understanding of that population (avoiding outlier examples) and informed by lived experience

- Describe the roles, challenges, support systems, and financial situation for these two hypothetical personas
- Describe considerations for the personas’ weekly schedule, specifically related to how the building, planning, and home environments factor into their lives

Share back conversation

- Participants were then given the opportunity to share back their discussion with the full group
- Additional space was given for expanded discussion of other fields related to the housing considerations for the city

Focus Group 2 - Agenda

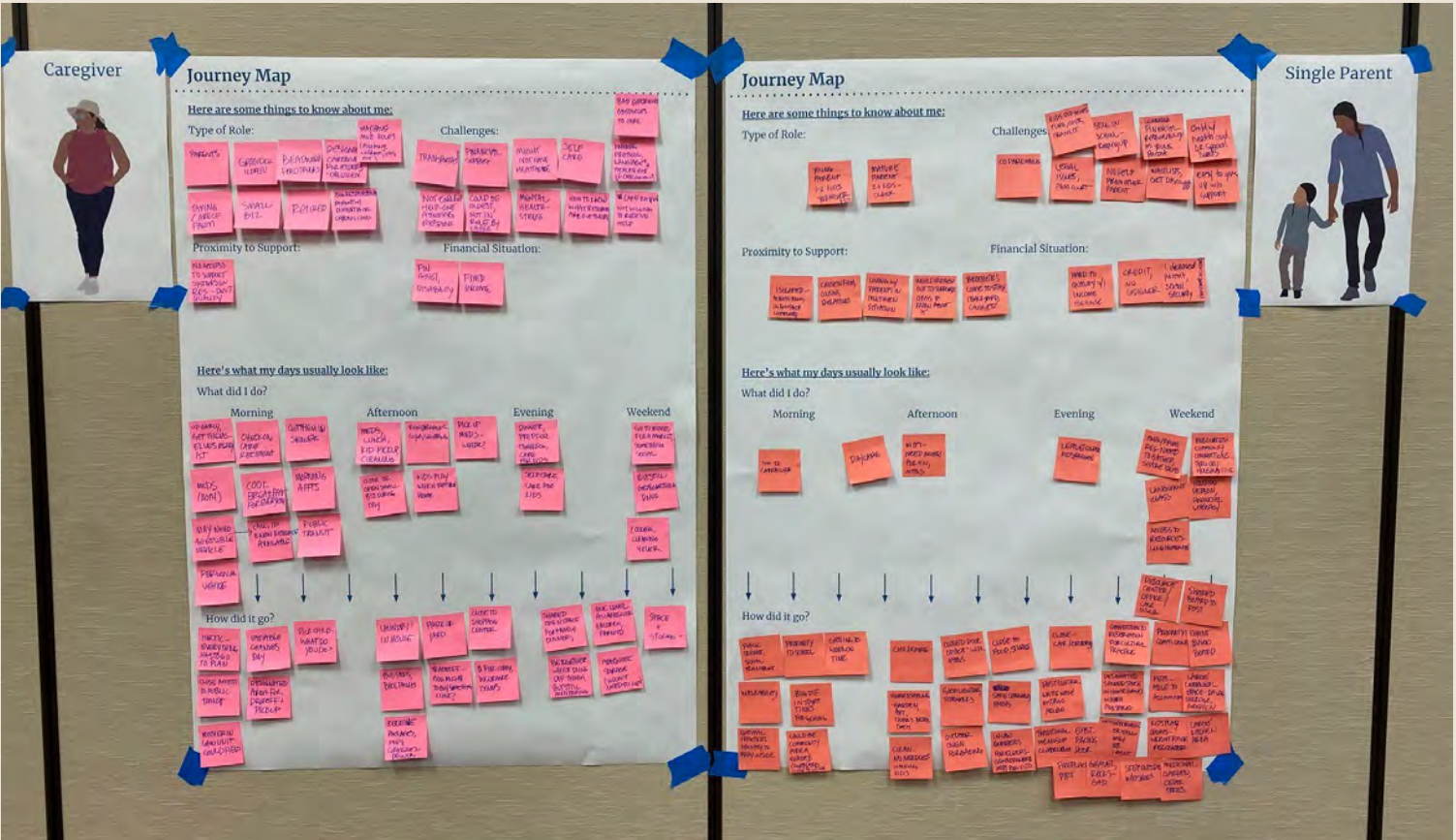
Date: June 11, 2024
Location: Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Chaco Meeting Room
Number of Participants: 23

- 5:00 - Dinner, Childcare check-in
- 5:30 - Introductions
- 5:45 - Break-out group Activities
- 6:45 - Break
- 7:00 - Share back conversation
- 7:30 - Conclude



Focus Group Session 2, MASS Design Group

Journey Mapping: Activity Description



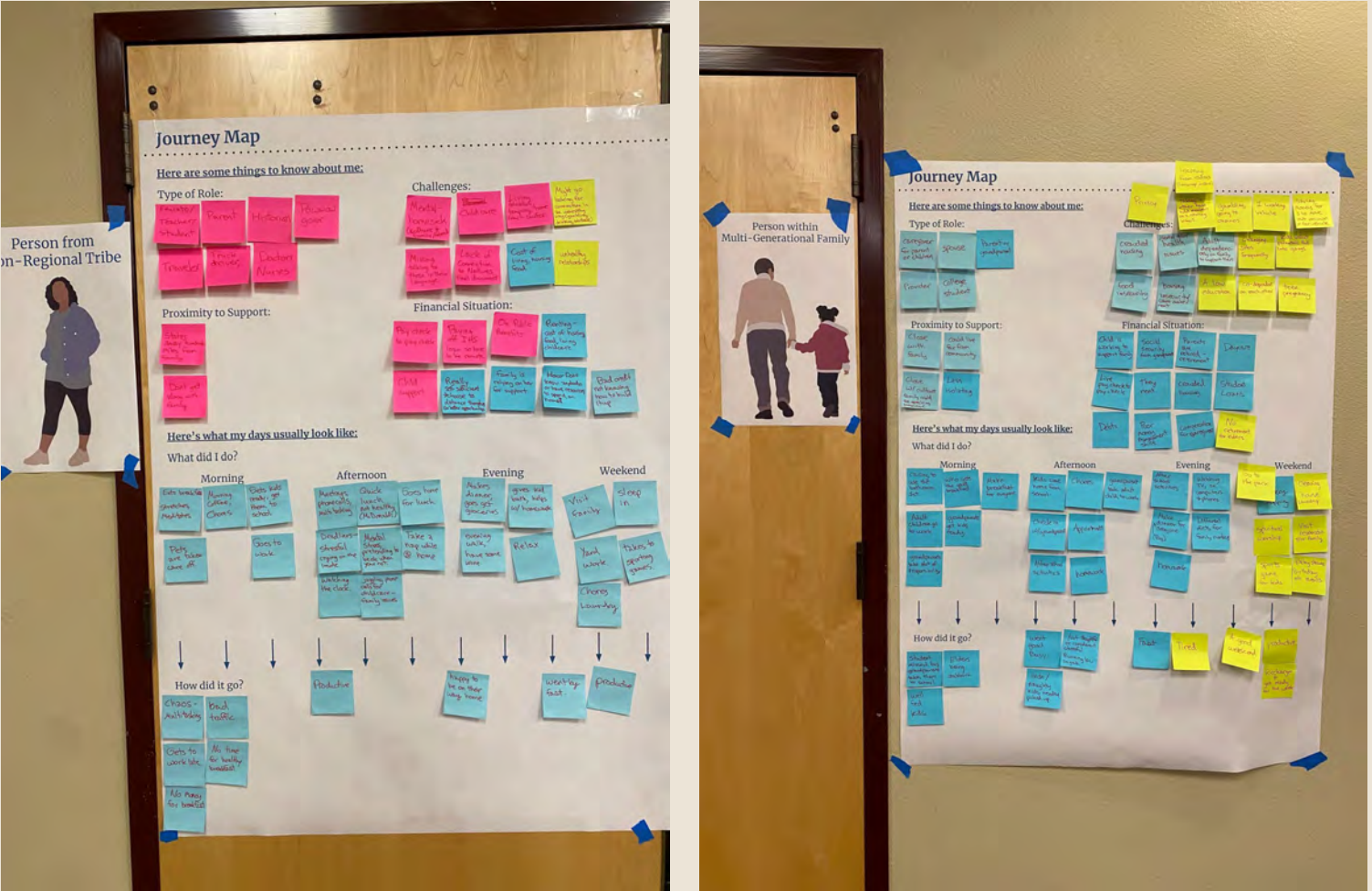
A Journey Mapping exercise sets a foundation for housing programs by identifying hypothetical residents and what they are likely to need and value in their homes. These hypothetical personas are selected to embody a wide swath of the Indigenous population in Albuquerque.

Participants were asked to articulate:

- what type of roles each persona is obligated to fulfill, such as their career, family position, and/or community involvement.
- the challenges the individual faces and what may be holding them back
- what types of support is available to the persona
- the persona's financial situation

The group then described the persona's typical day and week, and their most frequent activities. The day-to-day evaluation allows the group to expand on how the perceived context informs the subjects choices and decision making. Weekend activities also double as cultural and family events.

The assumptions are not fully static and multiple variations were encountered for the 10 personas worked on by the full team. With no wrong answers the activity yielded a wide variety of challenges (also labeled considerations) and recommendations. See appendices for full responses for each of the groups.



Journey Mapping Responses

Journey Mapping: Urban Issues

When imagining the challenges that urban Indigenous residents might face day-to-day, focus groups highlighted needs for transportation, self care, and flexible space.

Participants cited numerous concerns that their Indigenous personas would likely face in an urban environment.

Transportation and Access

- Barriers to transportation and modes of transit that are accessible, safe, and reliable.
- Distance from services, retail, church, schools and jobs.
- Walkable pathway connections that are safe, clean and relevant to the household.

Safety and Comfort

- Providing outdoor space that is safe and accessible.
 - Space to pray and be in contact with the earth
 - Distance from noise and traffic
 - Ability to house pets

Health & Mental Health

- Having a place for self care and to focus on mental health
 - Accommodating others with addiction and/or mental illness
 - Creating trust in a home and neighborhood environment
 - Socializing and connecting with community
- Establishing and maintaining a healthy reliable routine
 - Limiting stressors at home including but not limited to domestic violence, bullying, food insecurity, crime, and drug use.
 - Support with childcare, especially in the case of injury or sickness.
 - Housing insecurity limits the ability succeed in school and mature socially

Financial Constraints

- Cost of living and ease of access to the following:
 - Housing cost (including maintenance, parking, fees, insurance, and mortgage/rent)
 - Essential services like laundry
 - Medical insurance
 - Groceries and healthy food options
 - Medications and Costs associated with disabilities
 - Technology, including WiFi, cell phone, and laptop/computer

Flexible Uses of Space

- Space considerations for everyone's belongings, especially for multi generational homes.
 - Hosting larger gatherings for the purposes of cooking, feeding, and cultural practice.
 - Living quarters for day-to-day needs for multigenerational households and roommates
- Ability to make a living from home, whether it's a business, art, cooking, etc.

Journey Mapping: Urban Opportunities

Topics that are seen as opportunities or recommendations for urban indigenous residents relative to access and scale

Participants also shared a range of recommendations and opportunities to address the concerns their personas would likely face.

Provide Access to Essential Services

- Transportation
- Food
- Laundry
- Supportive resources (financial health, case management, family counseling, healthcare, tutoring/mentoring etc.)
- Accessible connections
- Community recreation centers
- Cultural centers

Design Sites with Purpose

- Designated areas for drop off and pickup
- Walkable and accessible neighborhoods
- Safe spaces for children with supervision
- Community-centric shared space for families and friends to gather and make stronger community:
 - Meals
 - Cultural practice
 - Ceremonies
 - Dance
 - Receptions
 - Exercise
 - Bingo
 - Recreation/sports
 - Share boards
 - Co-locate families with children for shared youth services

Pick Locations Carefully

- Prioritize safety and parts of town with no crime or drugs
- Close access to the outdoors and parks, including shaded place for morning prayer
- Open site lines and trauma informed design
- Areas to support mental health
- Outdoor oven and cooking spaces
- Community garden
- Accessible Parking

Design Homes/Units for Specific Needs and Uses

- Open floor plans that allow for heads of households to multitask
- Open space for family to gather
- Large kitchen
- East facing door
- Fireplace
- In-Unit Storage
- Accommodates pets
- Wifi access
- Homeschool resources, room for study and play
- Space for small business
- Single level for accessibility
- Fixed lease
- Mother In-law suite for extended family
- Community oriented multi-family housing options

Closing Conversation

There was a period of reflection at the end of the second focus group. The discussion raised larger questions facing the Indigenous community:

Directly Related to Housing

New Mexico, particularly Albuquerque, is an impoverished state, and **housing options are very limited**. Many families live in inadequate spaces, especially in affordable or lower-rent apartments. The affordable options are incentivized to follow bare minimum guidelines considerations.

These spaces often do not accommodate the needs of transitional families, as relatives frequently move in and out, such as grandchildren, nieces, or parents. This situation leads to people sleeping on couches or floors daily. The lack of space makes it difficult for individuals to find a place to do homework or study. Expanding footprints to exceed minimums and offering workspace that can be utilized throughout the life cycle of the dwelling could prove to be a valuable asset to the success of the occupants.

In addition, it is helpful to have the **flexibility to accommodate variations based on family size**. Incorporating cultural elements into daily routines can be significant, as these practices often contribute to a sense of identity and community. Universal design for accessibility is important, as it ensures that spaces are usable for everyone, regardless of their physical abilities. However, single young adults can stray from this concept in design.

An open floor concept is also beneficial because it allows parents to see their children while preparing meals and provides visibility to common areas where family members might gather.

Larger spaces, such as communal grounds, clubhouses, or large rentable areas for cooking and recreation, are valuable for accommodating families and fostering a sense of community.

In New Mexico, many people have a strong sense of identity, but those who are not from the area might have different needs due to **varying cultural traditions**. Ceremonial activities often involve tasks such as prepping food, butchering, hunting, maintaining yards, and caring for one another. The spaces should reflect those activities and be allowed to be reconfigurable by residents.

Adjacent to Housing

Living in two worlds—balancing financial responsibilities with community and cultural obligations—can be challenging. This includes caring for children and elders while trying to support extended family members. Much of society does not recognize or support this aspect of tribal responsibility and kinship and additional pressures are contended with alone. Typical objectives like life savings, retirement, vacation, and freetime activities are not as prominent.

Mental health is a crucial concern, especially in chaotic situations. Regardless of who you are, it's important to take care of yourself and seek peaceful moments, like a calm morning, when possible. Unfortunately, there is a lack of access to mental health resources. Many urban Indians

are distanced from their support circles and can struggle with isolation, otherness, and pressures to succeed to support their extended family.

Healthy food access is crucial for wellbeing. Food deserts are a large factor in stresses that plague the communities. There is a strong tradition of Indigenous foods and connecting indigenous food options to indigenous peoples in cities is rare and arduous. Poor nutrition coupled with an overworked, overstressed lifestyle leads to an aging population that is limited in its ability to support their families, and often families must adjust their lives to care for their elders.

For the unhoused community, **access to faith-based support** can be distressing and uncomfortable. There is a need for better-connected housing options or structures for the unhoused community, along with a closer connection to cultural centers and support resources. There is little or no understanding of what programs and resources people qualify for. The closest programs are often far away, which is a significant barrier. Common themes include challenges related to transportation, access to healthcare, and food. These basics are essential for maintaining well-being and stability.

Focus Group 3: Agenda

The final focus group consisted of two activities:

Reporting Back

MASS Design Group presented early findings from the first two focus groups for group discussion:

- IDM
- Journey Mapping
- Trends in the Survey
- Scales of Impact

Breakout Discussion Topics

The group discussed two additional topics:

- Conversations discuss ways in varying scales can support successful native home ownership:
 - City/Neighborhoods
 - Block
 - Unit/Home
- What are some additional areas of focus that could support the mission of the project?

Focus Group 3 - Agenda

Date: June 25, 2024
Location: Los Duranes
Community Center
Number of Participants: 15

5:00 - Dinner, Childcare check-in
5:30 - Introductions
5:45 - Reporting Back
6:15 - Q/A
6:30 - Break
6:40 - Breakout discussions
7:15 - Wrap-up
7:30 - Conclude



Focus Group Session 3, MASS Design Group

Review of Earlier Findings

Participants were asked to react to findings from earlier focus group activities, including the IDM, Creative Tensions, and Journey Mapping. Participants noted:

Impact-Based Design Methodology

- The impact-based design methodology should establish health as a barometer of success. Housing is deeply connected to the environment people are immersed in, and an important goal of the design field should be to limit the factors that make the resident unhealthy.

Design Tensions

- A starter home is a forever home, there is no such thing as a starter home. A 'starter home' uses terminology from the real estate industry which does not resonate with tribal members in search of housing in the city.

Journey Mapping

- Design should differentiate cultural from ceremonial space.

The group then offered thoughts on conversation topics that had not been previously raised:

Sawmill Example

Sawmill is a great model to recognize how trust land can be leveraged by indigenous people for the purposes of community building and housing.

- A nice continuum of housing options for various folks starting at different levels.
- The trust land communities feature community gardens, daycare, and other community-based amenities. Right sized and appropriate resources should be dictated by the residents. Community ventures should be embraced and utilized to be successful.
- The layout of the community is also very pleasing and seems relevant to the scale and density of potential urban indigenous communities.

Finally, the group offered general comments to the design team:

General Comments

- We're still here. We are resilient people and are making livings by locating ourselves proximate to job markets that have employment availability. Tribal communities lack the resources to support breadwinners.
- Take a comprehensive review of the policies associated with home purchasing and identify all of the 'loopholes' that could be used to benefit the indigenous homebuyer.
- Community rideshares would be beneficial as transportation is a major challenge and hurdle for many. Reliable transportation is more important than public transportation because errands and destinations in Albuquerque rarely have efficient public transportation routes.

- We need to focus on increasing opportunities for our people in the trades. The city yields more opportunities for specialized trades people and education ensures employment.
- The largest single regional tribe is the Navajo Nation. They should consider establishing a chapter house in Albuquerque to serve, connect, and incorporate tribal members who are living and working in the city.
- Nepotism is a valid concern. Systems that arise from this work should generate policies that ensure decisions and support structures are transparent and fair.
- Are there other cities doing this work? This should input be shared at a National and Tribal level?

Closing Conversation

In the closing conversation of the final focus group, participants revisited general themes for how the City could support successful Native home ownership at varying scales. They highlighted needs in four areas:

Location

Location is capable of adding new challenges for people to moving here especially when coming from violent situations. The location should be healing immediately. Do not place the community in the international district. Families need to be able to walk kids to school and not have them step on needles.

One of the most important adjacencies is access to affordable healthy food options. If a mixed use development is necessary, a strong recommendation is to place a grocery store at the ground floor. Accessible, affordable, healthy food is a primary driver when considering a location in the city.

Community considerations include ways to allow for collaborative use of land and building communal systems rooted in culture. For example, one participant suggested removing fencing in yards, to encourage shared space to create a stronger community amongst neighbors. The community should

prioritize self sufficiency, and should be open to vegetable gardens and chicken coops.

Participants also encouraged generating communities of self care, noting their desire to “take care of our own people.” Programs like Habitat for Humanity resonated in their systematization of community support.

Unit or home considerations apply to scale and adjacencies. Tiny homes and studios are too small for many of the housing candidates. There was a clear direction to avoid different tenants living on top of one another. Instead, participants suggested models like narrow row houses to allow for a small yard or private garden space. This was deemed important for a baseline of indoor and outdoor space. There is a need for open space adjacent to housing to allow people the ability to recharge.

The overwhelming response to space allocation within the city is relative to the predominant settlement pattern which is a suburban scale or single family stand alone housing. Participants were asked to expand on multi-family and/or attached housing for urban Indians. Smaller two-bedroom housing, which could be appropriate for these communities, are currently lacking.

Systemic challenges included recommendations to:

- Re-evaluate policies that are making it hard for people to access housing and provide support for navigating bureaucracy, including federal programs
- Streamline the process to increase housing stock for candidates for the federal and local programs that are intended to place people in housing
- Explore opportunities to create rental units at the cost of development to combat the profit based models.
- Prioritize Native communities for housing sales and rent to combat displacement and gentrification.
- Work upstream for rental assistance without the need for an eviction to justify support.
- Provide for ceremonial/cultural space, such as shade structures, sweat, gathering, and cooking communally
- In conclusion, the goals of housing for more indigenous residents should be located in safe neighborhoods, with access to grocery stores and limited density. The connection to land is crucial for the success of a community in Albuquerque created for Indigenous residents.



03

Design Recommendations

Urban Life at Scales
Unit
Block
City

Urban Life at Scales

During the focus group sessions, we received input on individual and family housing needs at three different scales: the **unit**, the **block**, and the **city**.

Introduction

When designing housing to meet the needs of a specific population, it is important to consider location, relationship to community, and design in all stages of planning. Our team has organized input into three scales: the unit, the block, and the city, in order to support the City in a planning and development process guided by community voices at all stages.

In this section, each scale contains two charts. The first, labeled **NEEDS** describes the functions that the home needs to support. The second chart, labeled **SPATIAL INPUT** describes the features focus group participants expressed needing access to within the home.

The final page of each section lists **DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS**, which synthesizes the input we heard into a concise list of planning and design guidelines.

Unit

Focus group input at the unit scale speaks to individual and family needs within the home. This input should inform decisions around the layout and features of the individual home or unit.

Block

Focus group input at the block scale references needs and desires associated with landscape, amenities, and immediate neighbors. This input should inform decisions around housing typology, shared versus private amenities, and how best to facilitate desired interaction between family and close community.

City

Focus group input at the city or neighborhood scale reflects the needs of individuals and families in the context of the larger community. This input should inform the location of housing developments based on access to transportation and key services.

Unit



Block



City



Urban Life at the Unit Scale

Unit-scale feedback reflects the needs of community members within their homes or individual dwelling units.

NEEDS within home or dwelling unit	TOTAL references*
Ample space and layout for storing belongings, family gatherings, cultural practices, and accommodating friends/family	10
Essential child care and support are needed for balancing duties, tending to multiple generations, and managing daily responsibilities	7
Stability and support are challenged by elevated stresses, unstable home locations, difficulty seeking help, and the impact of changing variables	7
Balancing affordability, limited income, and the need to manage side hustles or small businesses from home	5
Guardianship and legal access	5
Mental health and self-care practices	5
Access to healthcare and the cost of care, including insurance and copays	4
Reliable Wi-Fi and managing technological costs for cell phones, laptops, and access codes are essential.	4
Need to multitask	3
Essential items like groceries and medications need to be easily deliverable/attainable	3

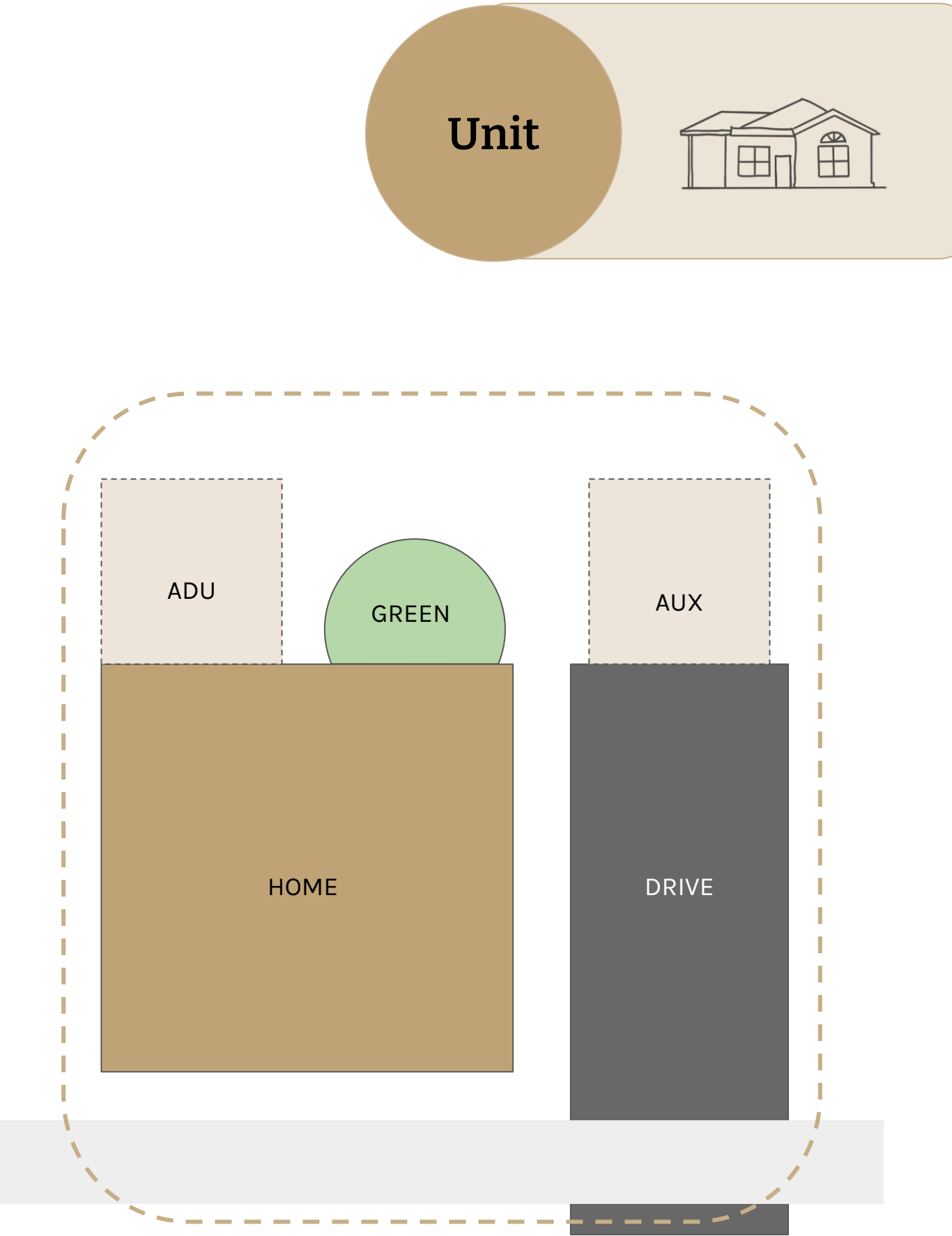


SPATIAL INPUT within home or dwelling unit	TOTAL references*
A culturally significant space (fireplace, close outdoor access, an east-facing door, outdoor oven)	13
Access to spaces for multigenerational family gatherings, meal preparation, and shared dining for cultural practices and ceremonies.	10
Wifi access	6
Parking	5
Accommodate pets	4
ADA accessible, single story	4
Storage	4
Mental health / ability to practice self care	3

**references* relate to the number of times each subject was brought up in the Journey Mapping exercise in the second focus group. The tabulations were re-presented to the final focus group for further discussion.

Unit Scale - Design Recommendations

- Ample Space and Layout:**
Ensure sufficient storage and multi-functional spaces for gatherings and cultural practices.
- Childcare and Elder Support:**
Include dedicated areas for childcare and flexible spaces for multi-generational needs.
- Stability and Support:**
Promote mental well-being with natural lighting and quiet zones; ensure access to support services.
- Affordability and Income:**
Design cost-effective homes with shared amenities and workspaces for side hustles.
- Mental Health and Self-Care:**
Incorporate private spaces for relaxation and access to mental health resources.
- Technological Needs:**
Guarantee reliable Wi-Fi and tech-friendly spaces.
- Multitasking:**
Design adaptable spaces with open layouts for opportunities for various uses.
- Essential Deliveries:**
Create secure and accessible delivery points for groceries, medications and household supplies/support.



Urban Life at the Block Scale

Block-scale feedback reflects needs of community members that extends beyond the individual unit to shared amenities and relationship to neighbors.

NEEDS within Block or Community	TOTAL references*
Community Support and Facilities: Access to fitness centers, libraries, childcare facilities, and other communal services.	5
Social Interaction Challenges: Navigating peer pressure, loneliness, bullying, and trust issues	5

SPATIAL INPUT within Block or Community	TOTAL references*
Ensuring safe and clean streets, well-maintained environments, secure parking, and safety to and from class, especially at night	4
Outdoor space that is safe and accessible	3



**references* relate to the number of times each subject was brought up in the Journey Mapping exercise in the second focus group. The tabulations were re-presented to the final focus group for further discussion.

Block Scale - Design Recommendations

Community Support and Facilities:
Ensure access to resources, fitness centers, libraries, and childcare facilities.

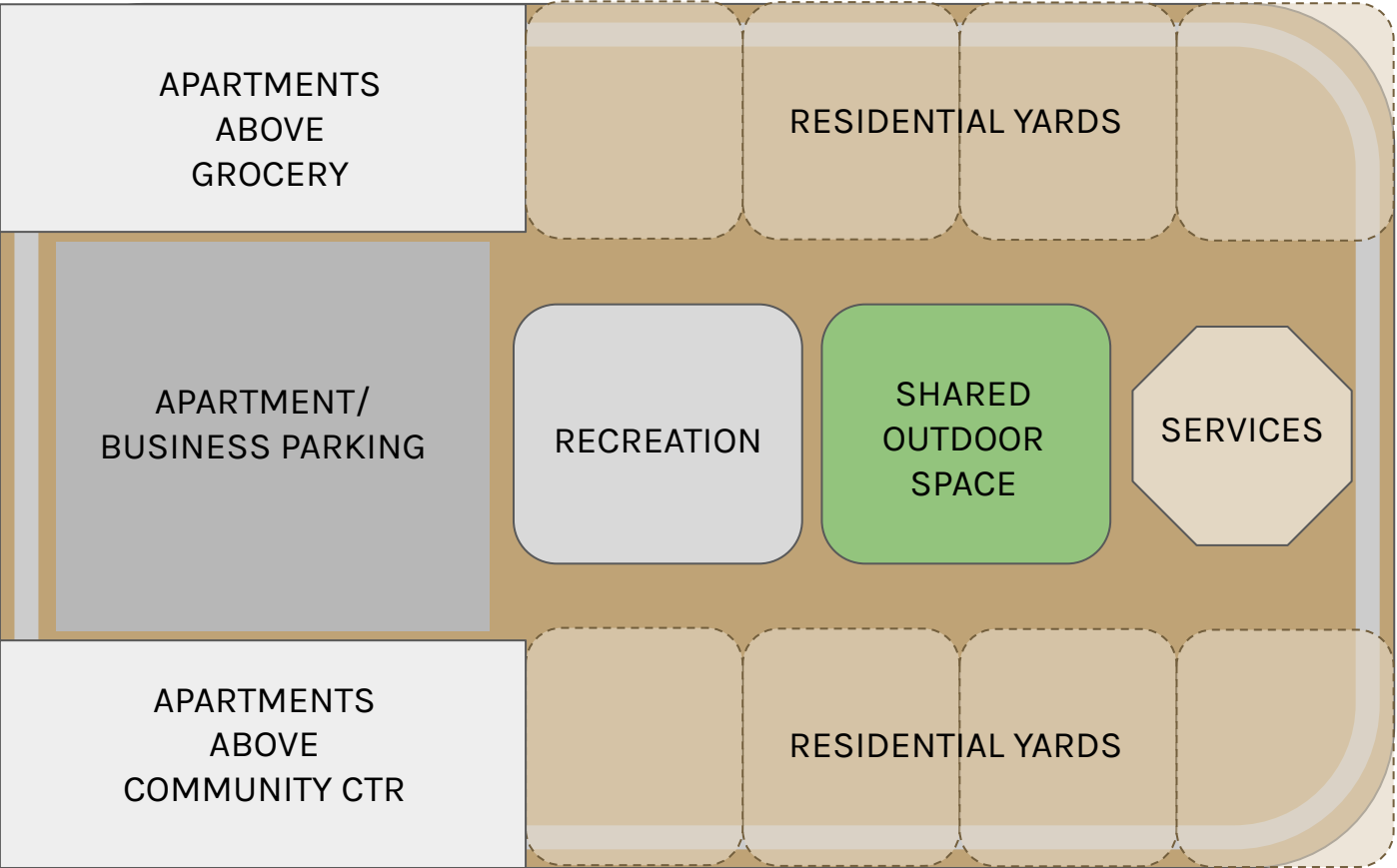
Social Interaction:
Provide safe communal areas, and have access to support networks and programs.

Safety and Cleanliness:
Maintain clean streets, secure parking, and well-lit pathways for safety.

Outdoor Space:
Create safe, accessible outdoor areas and green spaces for recreation and relaxation.

Guardianship and Legal Access:
Ensure proximity to community centers offering guardianship education and legal support.

Healthcare Access and Costs:
Ensure proximity to healthcare facilities and resources for managing care costs.



Urban Life at the City Scale

City-scale feedback reflects the needs of community members related to access and connectivity.



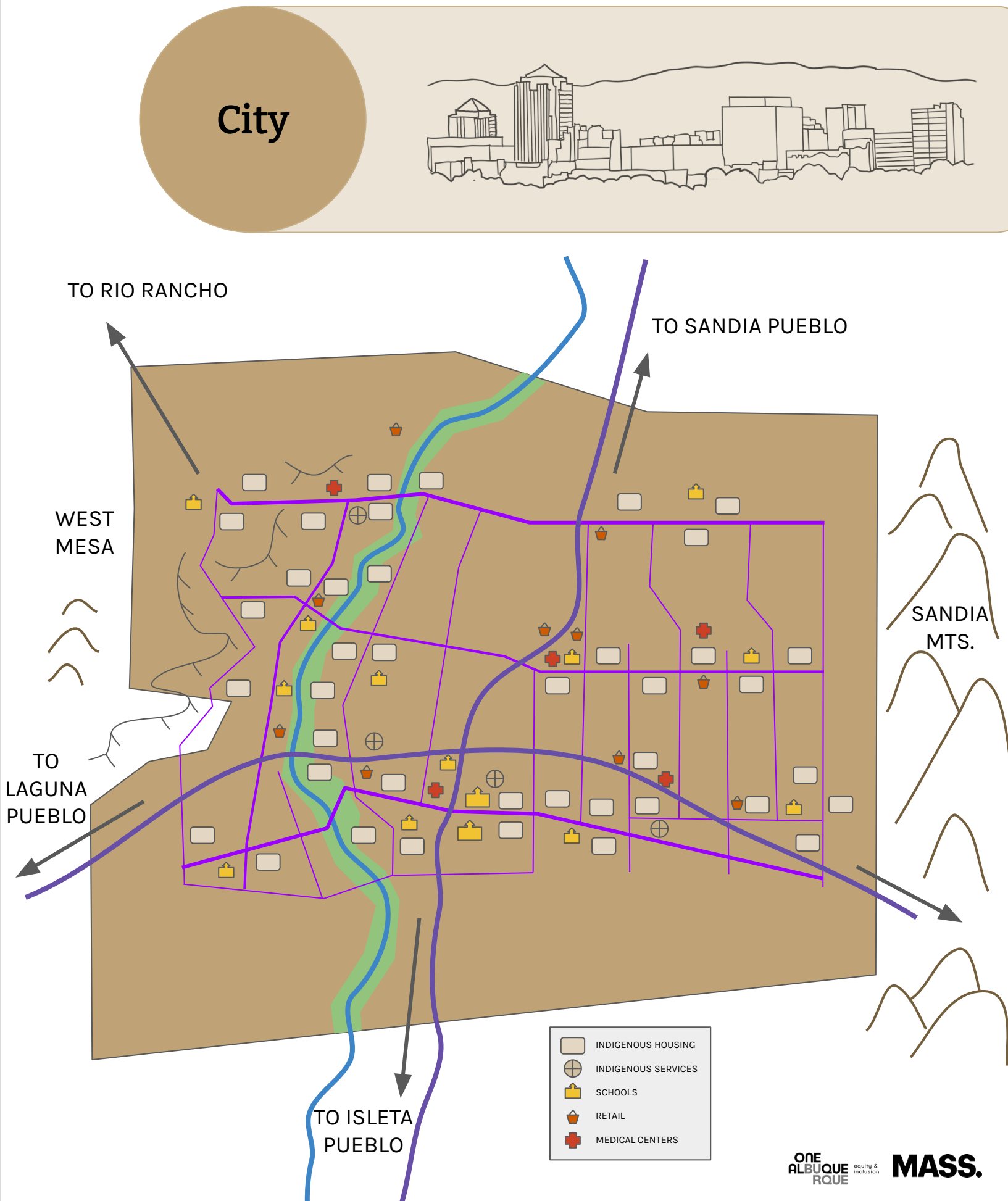
NEEDS within City or Neighborhood	TOTAL reference*
Proximity to essential amenities and clear resource information.	10
Neighborhood safety, cleanliness, walkability, and secure transit to and from class or campus.	6
Proximity to quality schools and workplaces to ease commuting challenges and accommodate varying schedules.	5
Strong community ties and cultural connections.	4

SPATIAL INPUT within City or Neighborhood	TOTAL reference*
Access to food, schools, healthcare, parks, green spaces, and recreation centers.	10
Access to reliable transportation	8
Walkability and safety with well-lit, clean streets and sidewalks.	7
Access to information on support programs (housing, financial, health, etc.)	6
Safety, good air quality, outdoor access, and strong community and cultural connections.	4

*references relate to the number of times each subject was brought up in the Journey Mapping exercise in the second focus group. The tabulations were re-presented to the final focus group for further discussion.

Urban Life at the City Scale

- Access to Essential Amenities:**
Consider proximity to shopping, healthcare, and services.
- Safety and Environment:**
Ensure well-lit, clean, and walkable neighborhoods with safe transit routes.
- Proximity to Schools and Work:**
Place homes near quality schools and workplaces with flexible transportation options.
- Community and Cultural Connections:**
Create community spaces that support social interactions and cultural practices.



Resources Resulting from Engagement:

- Missing Middle Housing: Thinking Big and Building Small to Respond to Today's Housing Crisis by Author Daniel Parolek with Arthur C. Nelson. The resource highlights a missing group of housing types that recognize the regional and city amenities necessary to support housing with smaller footprints to increase density, affordability, and community success. <https://missingmiddlehousing.com/>
- 7 Directions Clinic, 36 affordable housing units above a clinic with the Native American Health Center (NAHC) Oakland, CA. <https://www.nativehealth.org/>
- Sawmill Community Land Trust, a 501(c)3 nonprofit membership organization with a mission of developing vibrant, prosperous neighborhoods through the creation and stewardship of permanently affordable housing. The 34 acre site founded 1996 touts 3,000 happy homeowners. <https://sawmillclt.org/>
- Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership
External resource to contextualize pathways of strengthening and transforming local relationships. movementstrategy.org



Focus Group Session 3, MASS Design Group



04 Appendices

Impact Based Design Methodology

- Mission/Method survey additions*

- Short-Term/Long-Term Impact survey additions*

- Systems Change survey additions*

Design Tensions

- Tensions

- Comments

- Tabulated Results

Tension Summary

- Comments, survey additions*

Journey Mapping

- Personas

- Group Responses

- Group Considerations/Responses

- Collective Word Clouds

 - Considerations/Concerns

 - Opportunities/Recommendations

- Persona survey additions*

Compiled Handwritten Notes

*All survey mentions are in reference to follow-up surveys issued immediately after each focus group. Participants were given the opportunity to expand and reflect on the focus groups subjects.

Mission:

Do you have any comments to add to the listed mission statements (what are the end goals)?:

Initial Summary Statements:

- + To create access to housing for urban indigenous communities in Albuquerque.
- + Develop a new model of housing affordability.
- + Indigenous cultural community values are reflected in the project.
- + Indigenous folks can live fully as themselves in an urban setting.

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "This is a very "city/urban" focused and does not address needs of Indigenous peoples who have livestock and consider them part of their home needs."
- + "Develop a place for gathering, a "home base"."
- + "By offering equal opportunity resources and real time strategies to increase community involvement to encourage growth to directly impact transitional services provided by city, state and federal entities."

“Continuing education for our Indigenous community.”

- Direct Survey Participant

Method:

Please comment on how we will achieve our goals with missing information, revised terminology, or general comments:

Initial Summary Statements:

- + "A process rooted in Indigenous thought and community participation."
- + "Create design guidelines for culturally-appropriate housing."
- + "Create visuals of this new model."
- + "Work within existing structures to ensure this is achievable."
- + "Select sites for development."

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "One key thing that is not been addressed is environmental impact and sustainability of proposed homes. These are fundamental considerations of Indigenous people who consider future generations in their long term decision making such as home/house creation."
- + "These are all good methods."
- + "By utilizing existing resources, we can create a innovative and welcoming environment with an equal opportunity for all voices to be seen, heard or read."

“Encourage continuing education.”

- Direct Survey Participant

Short-Term Impact (18 months):

Please comment on measurable short-term impacts of our engagement and representation process:

Initial Summary Statements:

- + "We have a conceptual design we can present to county and Tribal governments that reflects community input."
- + "We apply our conceptual design to specific properties in Albuquerque."
- + "We articulate how we can support Indigenous needs through design beyond what already exists."
- + "We get investors and designers on board."

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "There should be a stronger definition of the environmental concerns of housing situation in Albuquerque as well, such as urban sprawl, green building practices, and sustainable housing. Not to mention water scarcity in the Rio Grande valley."
- + "Impact1: add "to present to local county, tribal and state governments."
- + "By offering short term investment opportunities, we can encourage shareholders, private and public industries to trust and invest in communities sharing the growth and development interests of all involved."

“Present to the Navajo Nation President and surrounding Governors of the Pueblos with the feedback from the community who need support.”

- Direct Survey Participant

Long-term Impact (5 years):

Please comment on measurable long-term impacts of our engagement and representation processes:

Initial Summary Statements:

- + "Higher homeownership rate among urban Native populations in Albuquerque."
- + "The development of an Indigenous/Urban Native corridor."
- + "Indigenous community members feel they can live as themselves in an urban setting."
- + "There are adequate housing opportunities for all urban Native families and individuals."
- + "Increasing cultural practice and resources in Albuquerque."

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "Facilitating an environment that is reflective of the region and the people of the region, such as increased incorporation of native plants in the landscaping of the city as well as community gardens, featuring native plants such as corn, beans and squash."
- + "Add: increased educational opportunities to learn about housing options in Albuquerque."

- + "Looking at the current trends involving financial success and indigenous values, it would be wise to encourage the youth and families to look into a long term investment into their immediate needs that will extend into the unknown future. With a solid plan, safety will follow, decreasing the need for emergency resources during transitions."

“Single mothers/fathers will have a home.”

- Direct Survey Participant

Systems Change:

Lastly, we appreciate all feedback on how this work might have influence outside of itself:

Initial Summary Statements:

- + "Who how community input/engagement can be the driving force of successful urban development."
- + "Establish a replicable model for Native homeownership."
- + "Thriving indigenous culture in Albuquerque."
- + "Communities and individuals live in abundance, rather than a scarcity mindset."

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "Contribute to a sense of pride and dignity. Also an increased interaction with Genizaro relatives in the Albuquerque are."
- + "These are good."
- + "Encouraging all to be involved, seen and heard will always help the voiceless and want to be involved. Being "Indigenous" is hard and in this day and age, many cannot "afford" to be Indian."

“Coming together as one through family, education, and culture”

- Direct Survey Participant

Any other input regard to the mission, metrics, and impact this work can achieve:

“Education is the key to success to understanding.”

- Direct Survey Participant

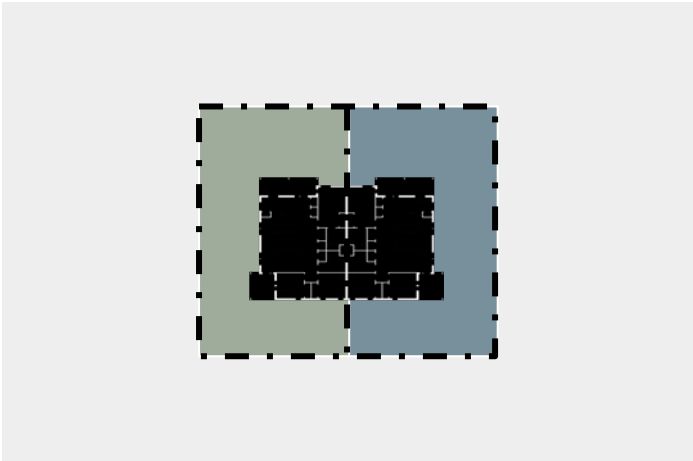
Survey Participant Comments:

- + "The terms wealth (them=money, us=family), ownership (them=control, us=stewardship), tribal (them=differences, us=relatives) etc. are all colonizer based words that are not necessarily reflective of the Indigenous people you are seeking to serve. This makes this type dialogue problematic at best and frequently results in misunderstanding and miscommunication between groups."

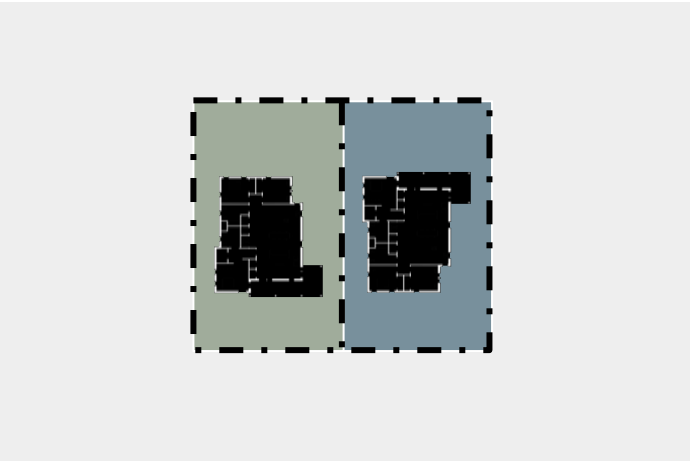
- + "Offering a virtual option and/or work environment to allow attendees to take notes, and platform to share resources to take home to share with "reservation" families. With the thinking that we also live within "reservation" boundaries with ideals and family disruptions that come from the homelands, adding that dialogue would be helpful."

Example Tension Slides

I'm open to an attached layout
I would share a wall if that meant I could have a 3+ bedroom home



I would reduce my yard
I would be willing to reduce my yard for another bedroom



Vs

Close to Community
I value living close to other members of my community

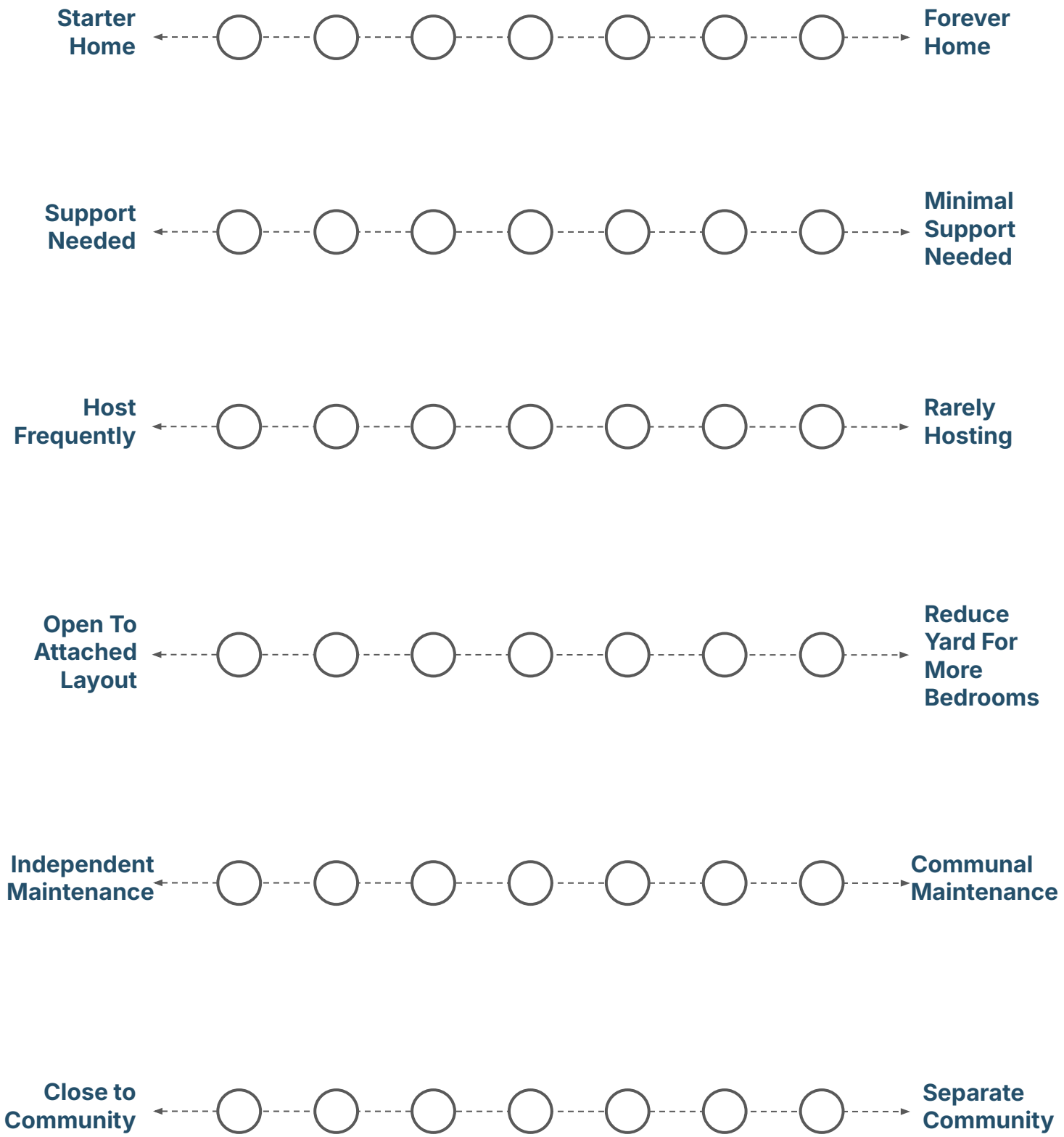


Separate from Community
I do not need to live close to other community members



Vs

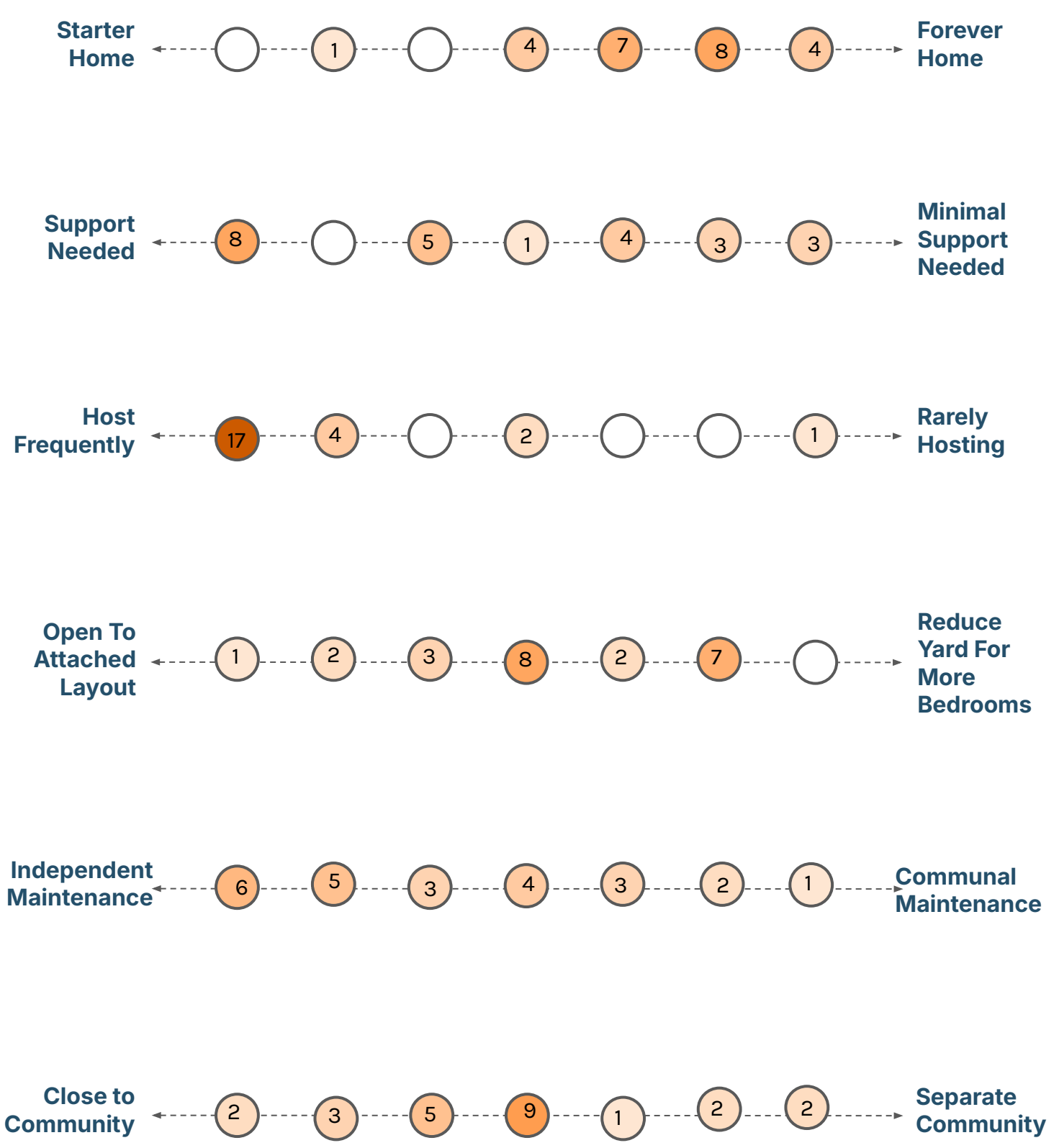
Tensions



Design Tensions Comments



Complete Tensions Data



How long do you plant to live in your next home?

I want to start building equity through homeownership immediately
This is my starter home

VS I want to start building equity through homeownership immediately
This is my starter home

Survey Participant Comments:

- + “The concept of equity is problematic because this is based on a capitalist model that is not necessarily reflective of Indigenous beliefs and practices. Starter home vs, forever home? If you die tomorrow the house you are living in today is your forever home. These are marketing methodologies propagated by capitalist system to promote debt. Is there a better way to think of these things that is more reflective of Indigenous peoples rather than forcing us to frame our thoughts in the capitalist system?”
 - + “Should it be within safety parameters within the city, it would be a forever home to build a new generational cycle for our family as well as community. In the essence of a “family house” all the kids hang out at and families help each other.”
 - + “Forever home.”
- “I want a starter home that if needed was large enough to stay in for an extended time.”
- Direct Survey Participant

What tools do you need to assist with the loan process?

I’m not sure where to start, and would welcome any and all tools
Support needed

VS I understand the loan process, and feel confident about taking it on without any tools
Minimal support needed

Survey Participant Comments:

- + “All the tools and support are needed. A trusted person to guide myself is necessary. Even with my parents having purchases a home, the markets and programs have changed since then.”
- + “Credit repair resources, funding sources for down payment, trust fee description for FMHA 184 Home Loan, collaboration with Navajo Nation Home Buying, and/or any tribal, pueblo, indigenous entities that specialize in federal trust land homesite acquisition and utility management.”
- + “Support needed.”

“More and better financial education is highly needed.”

- Direct Survey Participant

How often do you host family at your home?

Family visits me often and I like to host them VS I rarely host at my house
Want to host Rarely Host

Survey Participant Comments:

- + “Host? This one is kinda insulting, I don’t host my family they are my family and come and go as they need.”
- + “When it is my “turn” to host, we take it to a public park with restroom facilities to ensure everyone has a spot to move in. Apartment home living is not ideal for indigenous family gatherings let alone multifamily event.”
- + “Want to host.”

“I want space large enough to host my large extended family.”

- Direct Survey Participant

How should outdoor space function?

I prefer larger amounts of shared outdoor space VS I prefer a similar amount of privately-owned space
Shared Individually owned

Survey Participant Comments:

- + “We are livestock owners and require space for our animals, horse, cattle, goats, dogs, cats. They are like family members so when choosing a space their needs must also be considered.
- + “Individually owned.”

“I prefer smaller to midsize private outdoor space”

- Direct Survey Participant

- + “Shared space would entail a ceremonial space with groundskeeper, sheltered within a community garden to encourage all to attend and visit the area, encouraging healing. The “fence”

would be weatherproof free library with photovoltaic sun shelter. Offering a community space, “Comfort Station”, it could be marketed as an endeavor to increase public safety as well as offer a safe station for public employees to monitor and sanitize in real time. Also to offer a safety space for visitors, tourists, and or those needing temporary shelter, resources, or referrals. For individually owned space, it would be nice to have a raised garden area to encourage healthier eating and decrease food costs. With the lack of quality food services within the CABQ, it is harder for community to be healthy and housed.”

How important is a larger home?

I prefer larger amounts of shared outdoor space
Shared

VS I would be willing to reduce my yard for another bedroom
I would reduce my yard for more interior space

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "A town home would not be functional for my family regardless of the configuration."

+ "I would reduce my yard for more interior space."
- "If my home was a starter home I would be willing to have an attached layout but the extra bedroom is key for an office since I work remotely."

- Direct Survey Participant
- + "Having a larger home is not that important, having a safe space is the most important to sit outside and enjoy the day. Having a clean space to put down a personal pool to water plants and soak fee. If it should be a 3+ bedroom a multi layered condo feel with central suite opening would be nice as well as opening up the space within the home. A small home with old time values, single wall for kitchen, open plan for dining, living and play area with multi use room with deep sick, stackable washer/dryer and lots of storage. Having a community home service providing laundry, food, legal, and medical that moves in a stable, mobile fashion to encourage families to use service in area. The idea would be like a ice cream truck offering free services to those who seek them, always moving."

How much support do you need maintaining your property?

I care for my property myself
Independent

VS I would like to be part of a group that cares for the property
Communal

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "At my current age property management is easy as I grow older who knows. I think this is something that needs more in-depth discussion."

+ "Within the city, 24 hour patrols would be mandated as people are always on the move and communities that feel safe are often more targeted than those deemed unsafe. Neighborhood associations are a nice idea until they become a public nuisance, yet the idea would be good to build on with support from the local police unit with a shared vision to ensure Indigenous Values are upheld."

+ "Communal."

"I care for my property for myself."

- Direct Survey Participant

How close to other community members do you want to live?

I value living close to other members of my community
Close to Community

VS

I do not need to live close to other community members
Separate from Community

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "Another problematic question, where you live by definition is your community."
- + "This is a very difficult question to answer. Other members of my community I visit with back when I go home to the reservation. For greater ABQ native community a meeting space would be nice but I don't not necessarily need to live next to them."
- + "Living with the community will always be my personal goal to share family stories, support neighbors, help youth transition into adulthood and welcome them home to take care of the family home and community."

“Close to community.”

- Direct Survey Participant

Any additional feedback on tensions you feel should be understood by the city, designers, builders, and community at large?

Survey Participant Comments:

- + "I don't think that enough consideration has been given to Indigenous thought process and relationships with the land. Much of what has been presented comes from a colonizer/capitalist mindset which can be problematic for Indigenous Peoples to relate to."
- + "By helping the community understand the definitions and designations of pueblo, tribal, historically preserved, city, county, state, and federal responsibilities and public resources available would encourage many educated and involved to want to help and support issues important, yet first impressions are not often positive."

“We need both the added room(s) and the yard space. Please don't give us an option on choosing one.”

- Direct Survey Participant

Personas



Adult with No Children



Elder



Youth



Non-Regional Tribe



Spouse + Children



Multi-Generational Family



Single Parent



College Student



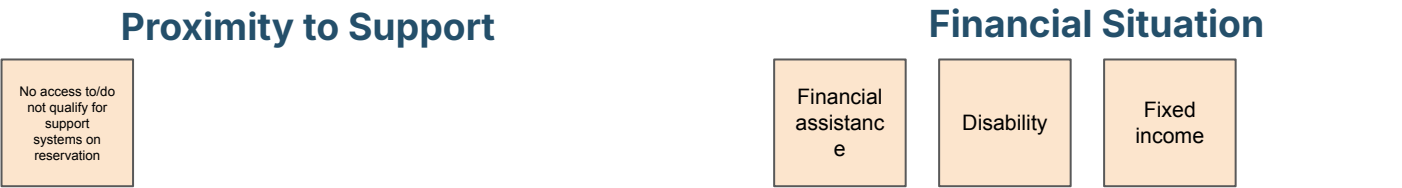
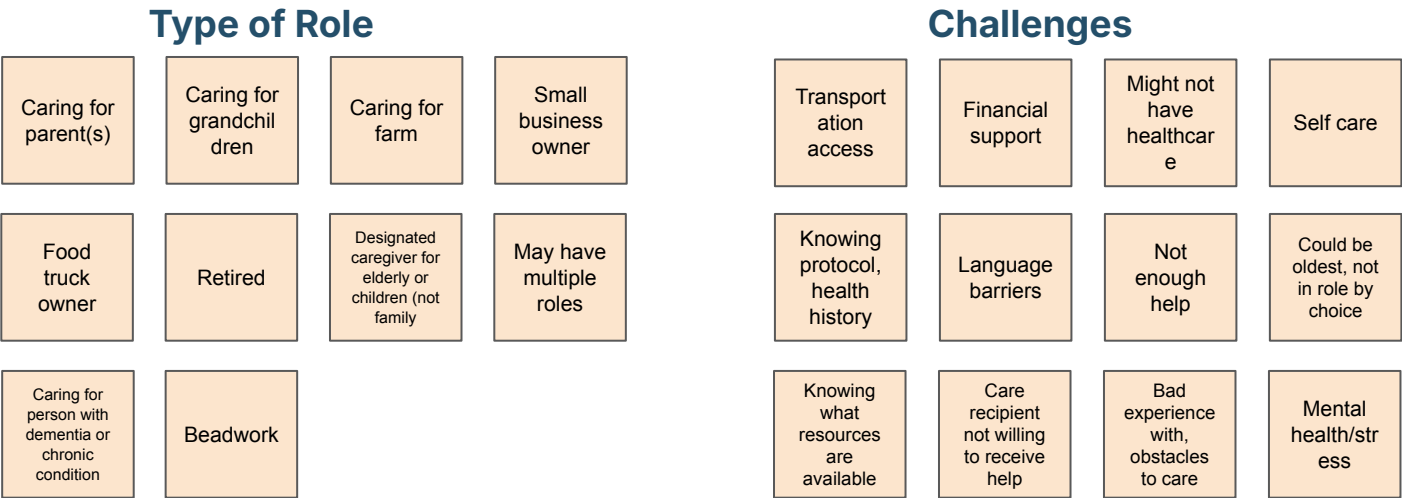
Caregiver



Veteran

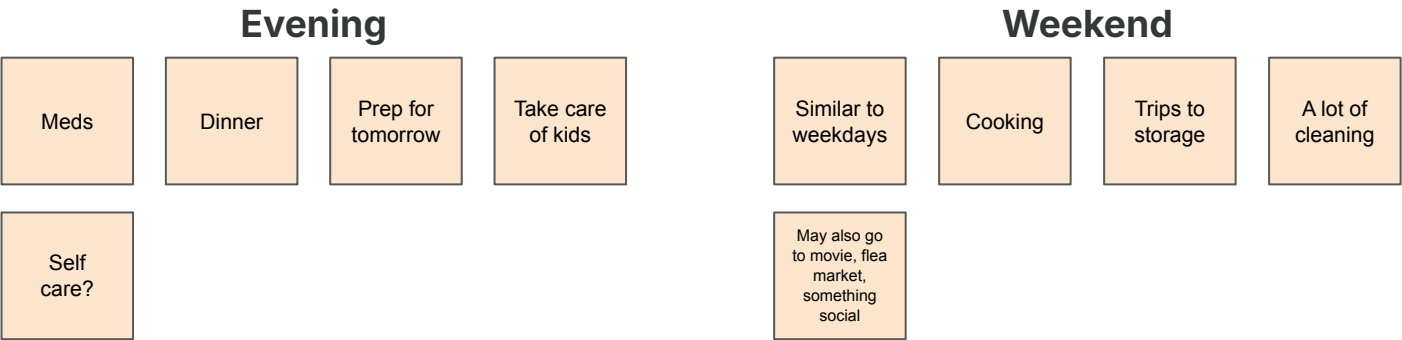
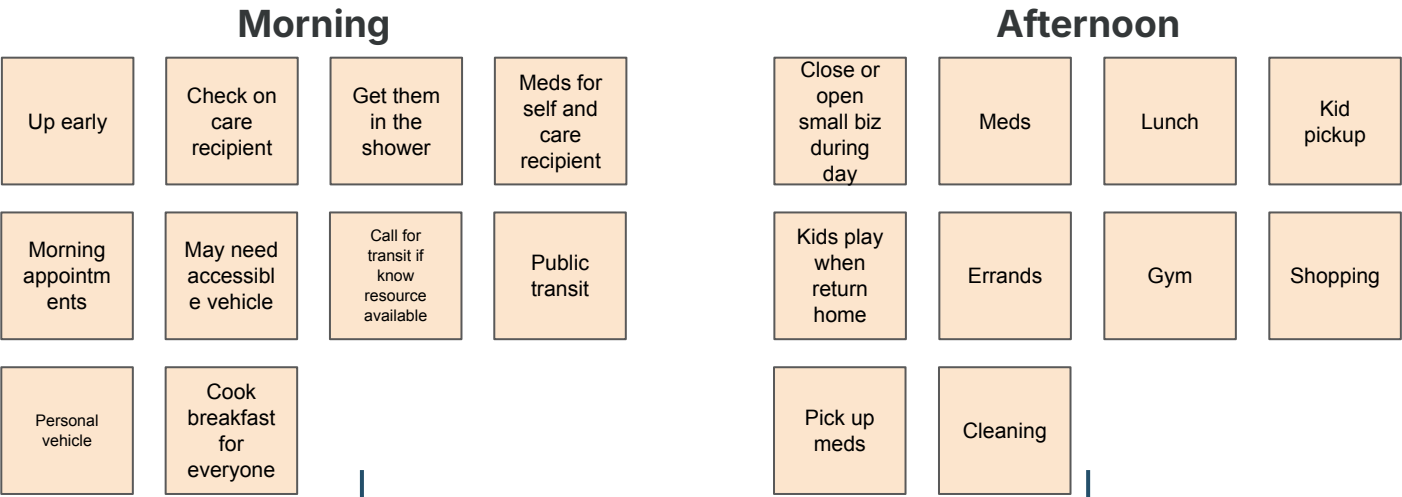
Caregiver

Here are some things to know about me...

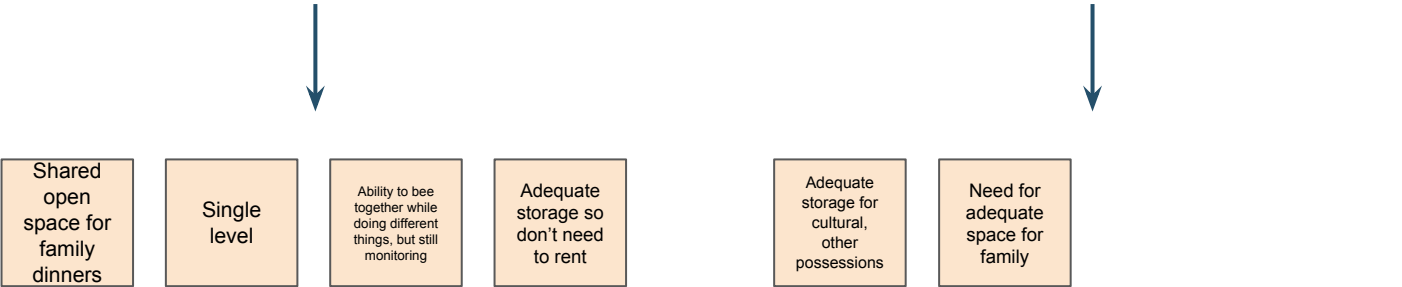
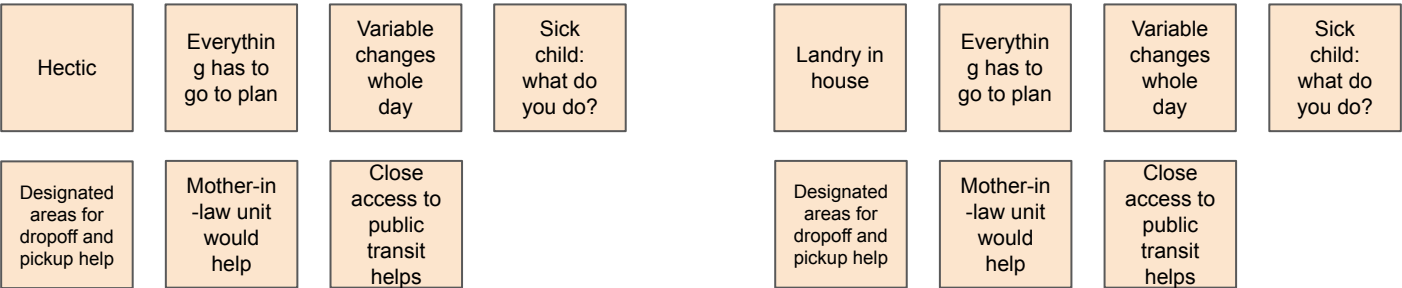


Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



How did it go?



Caregiver

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Barriers to transit access make the day more difficult
- + Everything needs to be accessible
- + Ease of pickup/drop-off impacts the day
- + Shopping centers can be far away; need to consider trade-off between time and finding the most affordable option
- + Often difficult to know what resources are available, especially off Reservation

Block

- + Finding outdoor space that is safe and accessible

Home/unit

- + Mental health / ability to practice self care
- + Difficult to uphold duties if a child gets sick
- + One variable can change the whole day
- + Cost of care (insurance, copay)
- + Groceries, meds, and other important items need to be delivered easily
- + Often need to tend to/monitor multiple generations at once (children, elders)
- + Need to multitask
- + Finding enough space for everyone’s belongings
- + Often running small business out of home



Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Access to transportation
- + Access to food
- + Access to information on support programs (housing, financial, health, etc.)
- + Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness (no needles)
- + Designated areas for drop-off and pickup

Block

- + Designated areas for drop-off and pickup
- + Shared space where family/community can gather for meals, cultural practices, ceremonies, dance, receptions, exercise, bingo
- + Shared boards for posting
- + Accessibility

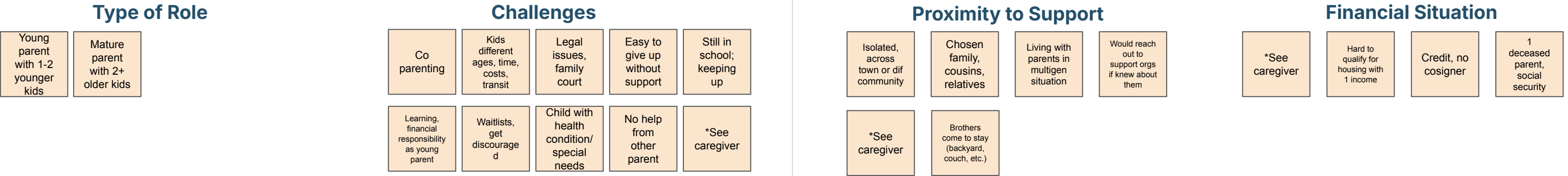
Home/unit

- + Open floor plan: allows for multitasking and caring for multiple generations simultaneously
- + Shared open dining space for entire family to gather and eat
- + Access to spaces where family/community can gather for meals, cultural practices, ceremonies- in the home for multigenerational gathering

- + Mother-in-law unit for family
- + Close access to outdoors, earth/dirt (yard ideally)
- + Fireplace
- + In-unit storage
- + East-facing door
- + Outdoor oven
- + Accommodate pets
- + Parking
- + Wifi access
- + Space for small business
- + Single level

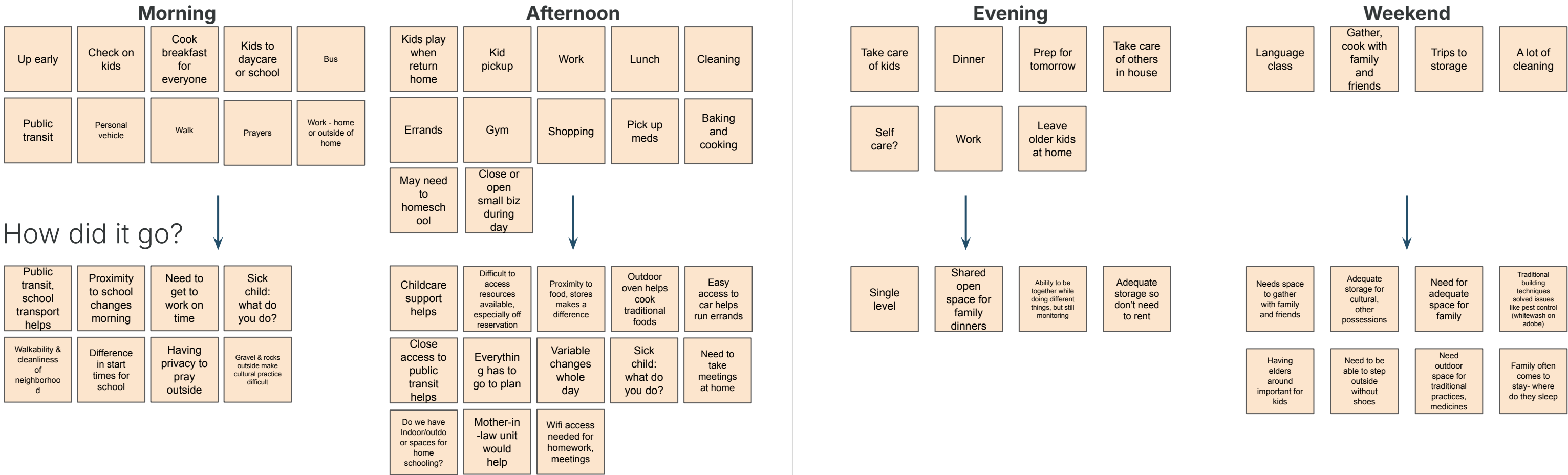
Single Parent

Here are some things to know about me...



Here’s what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



Single Parent

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Barriers to transit access make the day more difficult
- + Ease of pickup/drop-off impacts the day
- + Shopping centers can be far away; need to consider trade-off between time and finding the most affordable option
- + Proximity to school and varying start times can make getting to work on time difficult
- + Walkability, cleanliness, safety of neighborhood
- + Often difficult to know what resources are available, especially off Reservation

Block

- + Finding outdoor space that is safe and accessible

Home/unit

- + Need space for larger family to gather, cook, eat, cultural practice
- + May need to homeschool
- + Need wifi access
- + Need space for multi-generational family to gather
- + Space to pray, be in contact with earth is important
- + Mental health / ability to practice self care
- + Difficult to uphold duties if a child gets sick
- + One variable can change the whole day

Home/unit continued

- + Cost of care (insurance, copay)
- + Groceries, meds, and other important items need to be delivered easily
- + Often need to tend to/monitor multiple generations at once (children, elders)
- + Need to multitask
- + Finding enough space for everyone's belongings
- + Often running small business out of home



Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Access to transportation
- + Access to food
- + Access to schools
- + Access to information on support programs (housing, financial, health, etc.)
- + Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness (no needles)
- + Designated areas for drop-off and pickup

Block

- + Designated areas for drop-off and pickup
- + Shared space where family/community can gather for meals, cultural practices, ceremonies, dance, receptions, exercise, bingo
- + Resource center/case management office
- + Large kitchen/meals
- + Rec center, space for youth to play sports
- + Shared boards for posting

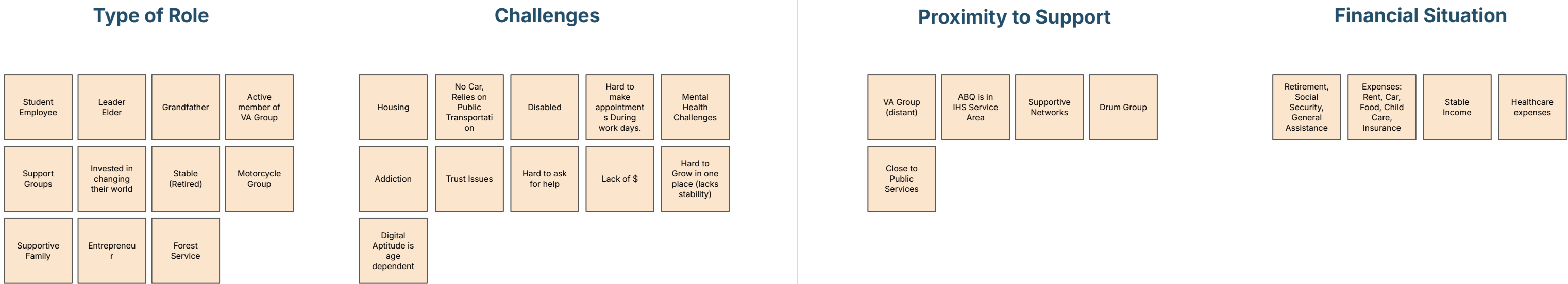
Home/unit

- + Mental health / ability to practice self care
- + Access to spaces where family/community can gather for meals, cultural practices, ceremonies- in the home for multigenerational gathering
- + Mother-in-law unit for family
- + Close access to outdoors, earth/dirt (yard ideally)
- + Fireplace

- + Storage
- + East-facing door
- + Outdoor oven
- + Homeschooling tools- garden, art
- + Accommodate pets
- + Parking
- + Wifi access

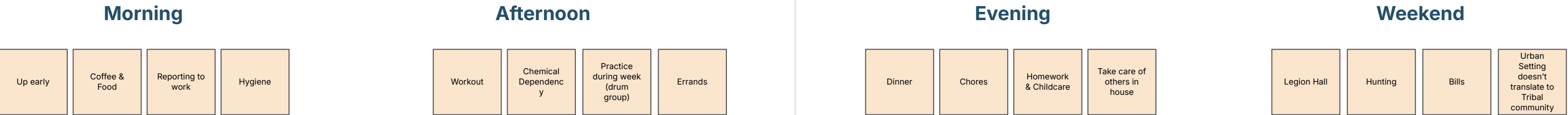
Veteran

Here are some things to know about me...



Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



↓

How did it go?



Veteran

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Challenge to find affordable housing
- + Relies on public transportation
- + Disabled

Block

- + Disabled
- + Trust Issues

Home/unit

- + Mental health
- + Disabled
- + Little stability in home location
- + Difficult for individual to seek help
- + Lack of income
- + Addiction

Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Access to transportation
- + Access to outdoors
- + Accessibility considerations

Block

- + Accessible site
- + Open site lines

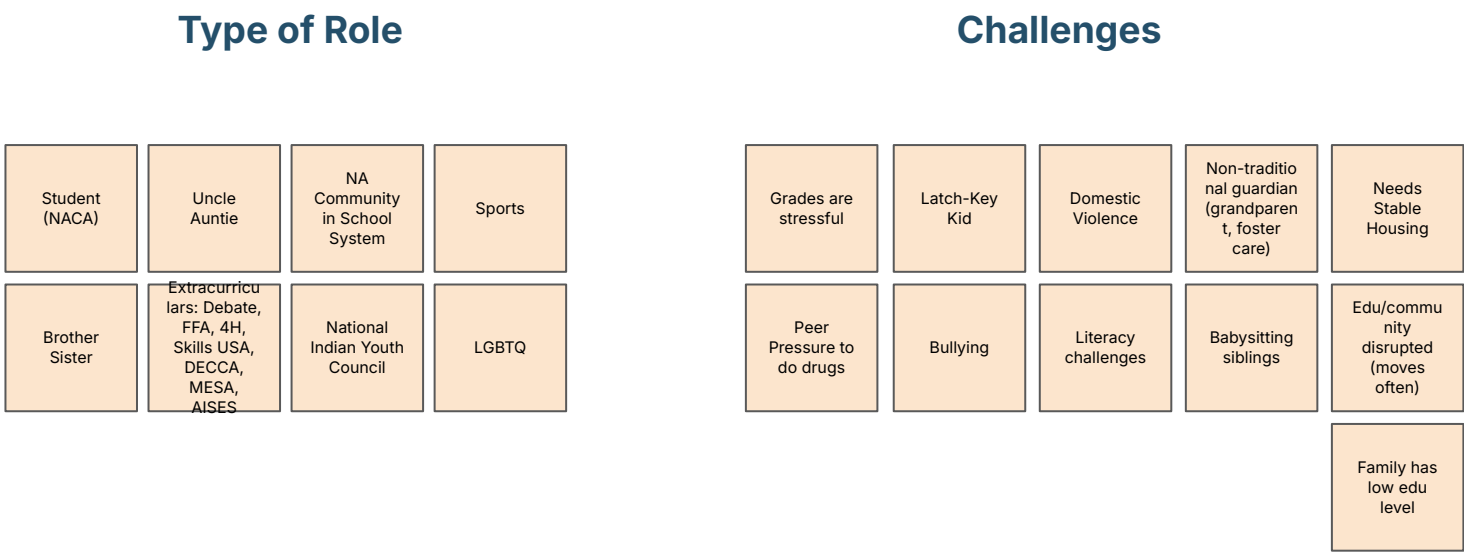
Home/unit

- + Mental health / ability to practice self care
- + Accessible home features
- + Fixed lease
- + Check-ins



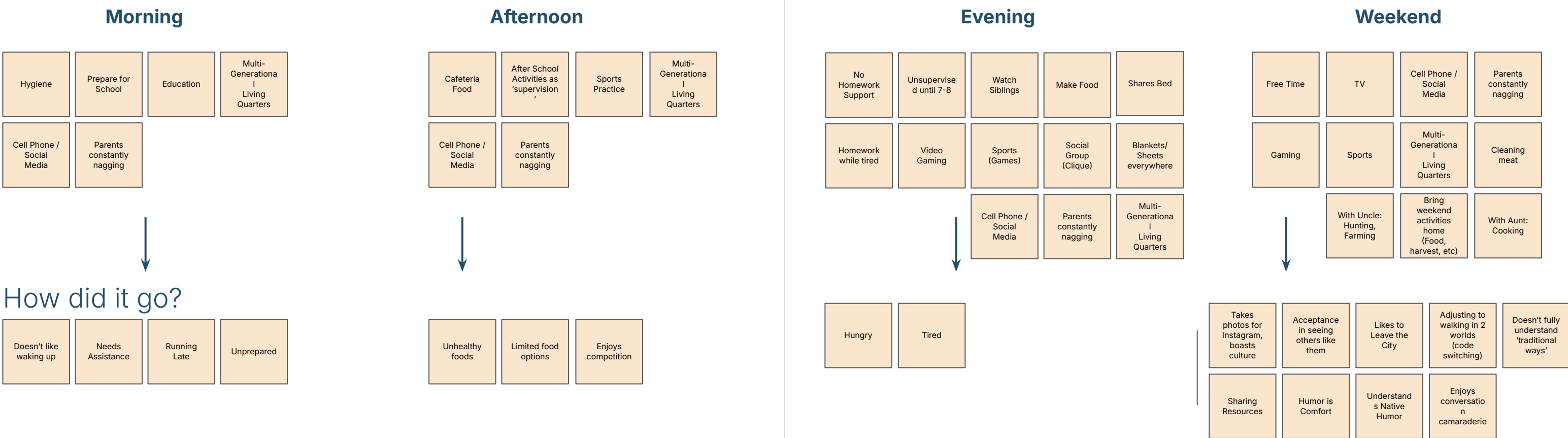
Youth

Here are some things to know about me...



Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



Youth

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Challenge to find affordable housing in safe neighborhoods
- + Frequent moving needs continuity at school and with community
- + Drugs and crime

Block

- + Latch-key children
- + Food desert
- + Peer pressure
- + Bullying
- + Lack of LGBTQ+ resources

Home/unit

- + Latch-key children
- + Domestic Violence
- + Elevated stresses
- + Non-Traditional guardianship
- + Childcare, babysits siblings
- + Poor guardianship education

Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Prioritize affordable housing in safe neighborhoods
- + Allow for students to remain enrolled in school if they prefer
- + Expand city services for drugs and crime

Block

- + Provide safe hang-out spaces for children
- + Provide multiple recreation areas
- + Establish more healthy food sources for developments
- + Create community garden for more access to healthy foods
- + Create community centers for more supervision and respectful social behavior
- + Create more LGBTQ+ resources near developments

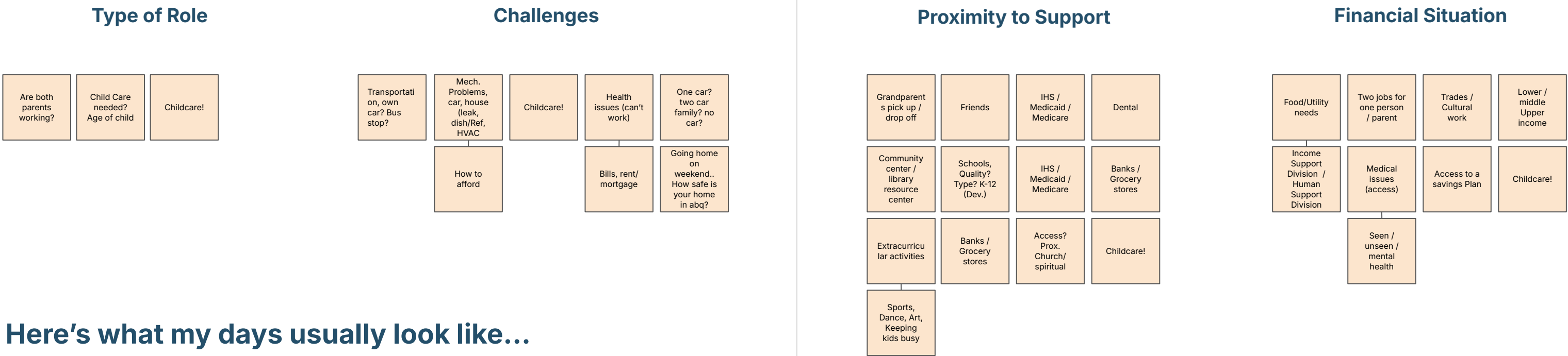
Home/unit

- + Provide safe hang-out spaces for children
- + Provide multiple recreation areas
- + Establish more social service resources for youth to engage with related to family dynamics
- + Create more areas for similar or related families to share child rearing activities
- + Create resources for tutoring and mentoring



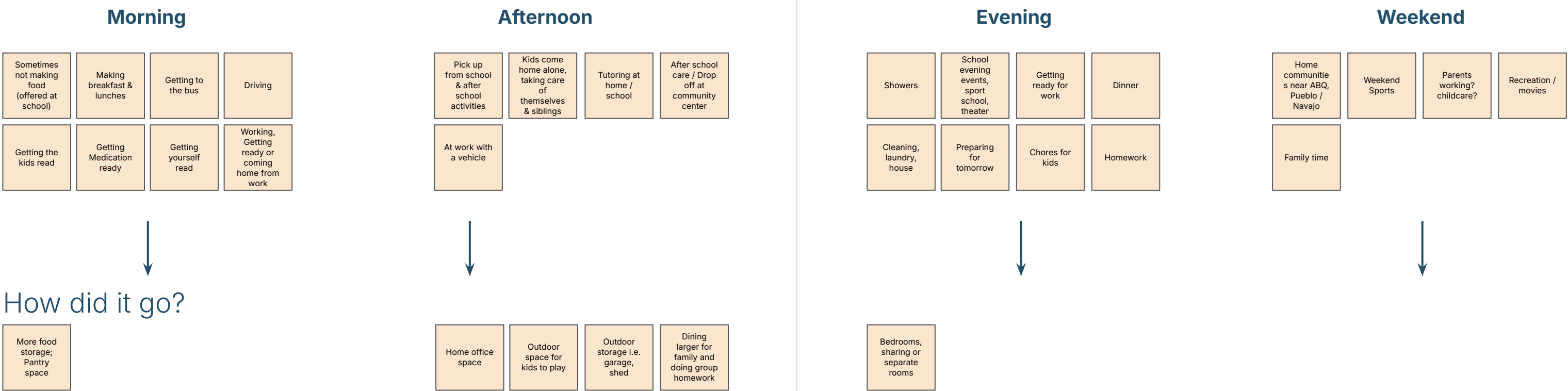
Spouse + Children

Here are some things to know about me...



Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



Spouse + Children

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Access to multiple methods of transportation
- + Ease of pickup/drop-off impacts the day
- + Proximity to school and varying start times can make getting to work on time difficult
- + School quality / proximity
- + Walkability, cleanliness, safety of neighborhood
- + Often difficult to know what resources are available, especially off Reservation

Block

- + Finding outdoor space that is safe and accessible

Home/unit

- + Mental health / ability to practice self care
- + Difficult to uphold duties if a child gets sick
- + One variable can change the whole day
- + Cost of care (insurance, copay)
- + Groceries, meds, and other important items need to be delivered easily
- + Need to multitask
- + Finding enough space for everyone's belongings

Home/unit continued

- + Need space for larger family to gather, cook, eat, cultural practice
- + Need wifi access
- + Childcare is essential and integrated through each day



Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Access to transportation
- + Access to food
- + Access to schools
- + Access to information on support programs (housing, financial, health, etc.)
- + Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness (no needles)
- + Designated areas for drop-off & pickup

Block

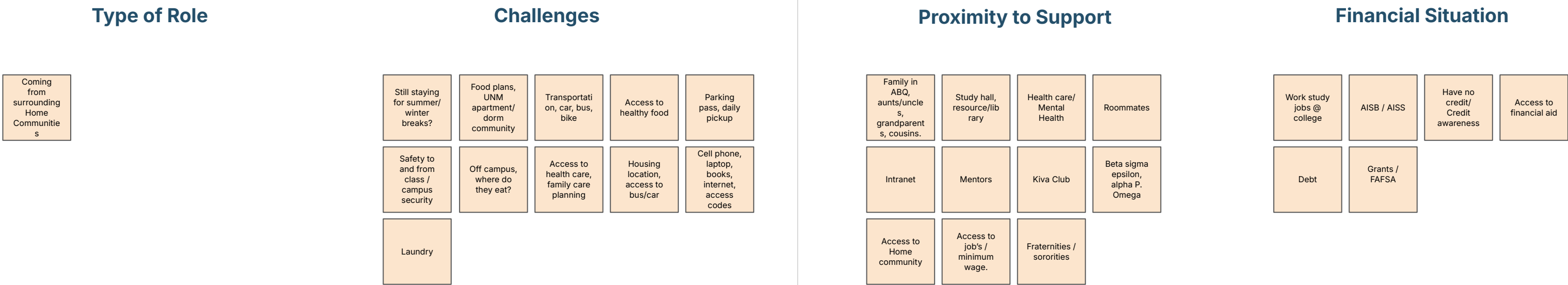
- + Designated areas for drop-off & pickup
- + Shared space where family/community can gather for meals, cultural practices, ceremonies, dance, receptions, exercise, bingo
- + Resource center/case management office
- + Large kitchen/meals

Home/unit

- + Mental health / ability to practice self care
- + Access to spaces where family/community can gather for meals, cultural practices, ceremonies- in the home for multigenerational gathering
- + Close access to outdoors, earth/dirt (yard ideally)
- + Fireplace
- + Storage
- + Parking
- + Wifi access

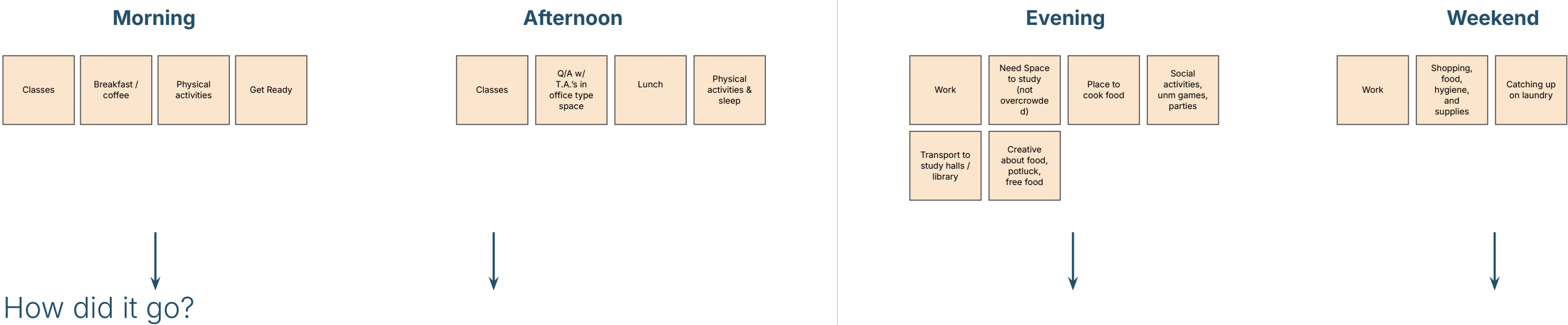
College Student

Here are some things to know about me...



Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



College Student

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Transportation, access to bus/car
- + Access to health care, family care, planning
- + Safety to/from class/campus
- + Mental health
- + Access to home community

Block

- + Safety to/from class/campus
- + Parking that is safe and near home
- + Housing conducive to roommates

Home/unit

- + Laundry
- + Access to healthy food
- + Parking pass
- + Technological costs, cell phone, laptop, access codes
- + Need wifi access
- + Accommodates pets

Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Access to transportation
- + Access to food
- + Access to information on support programs (housing, financial, health, etc.)
- + Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness

Block

- + Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness
- + Community oriented multi-family housing options

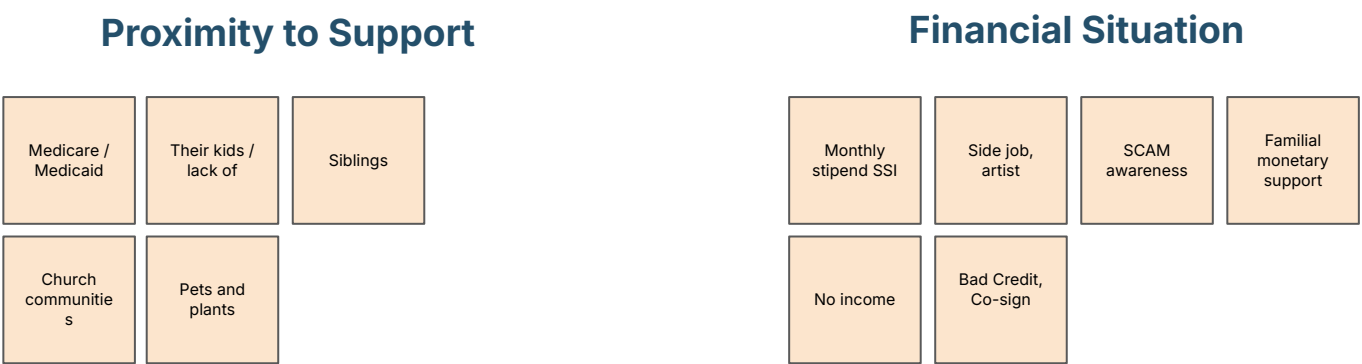
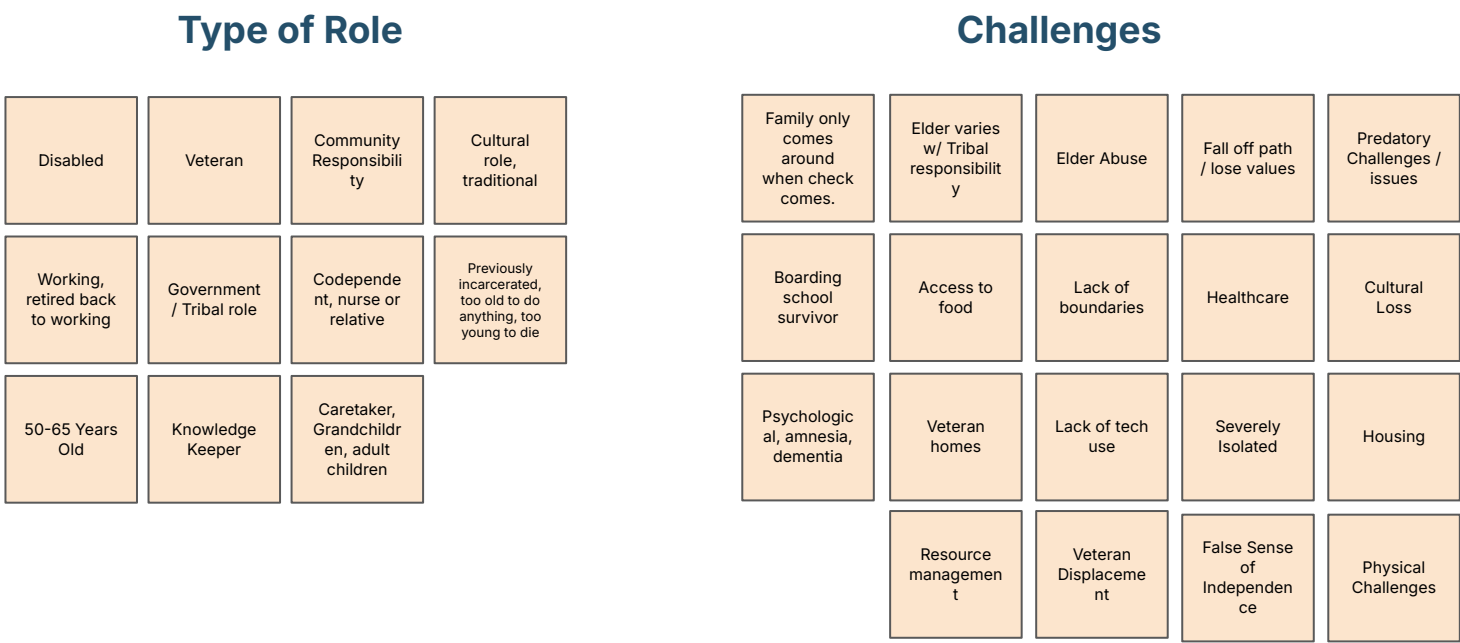
Home/unit

- + Access to spaces where Access to laundry facility
- + Wifi access
- + Space to prepare meals



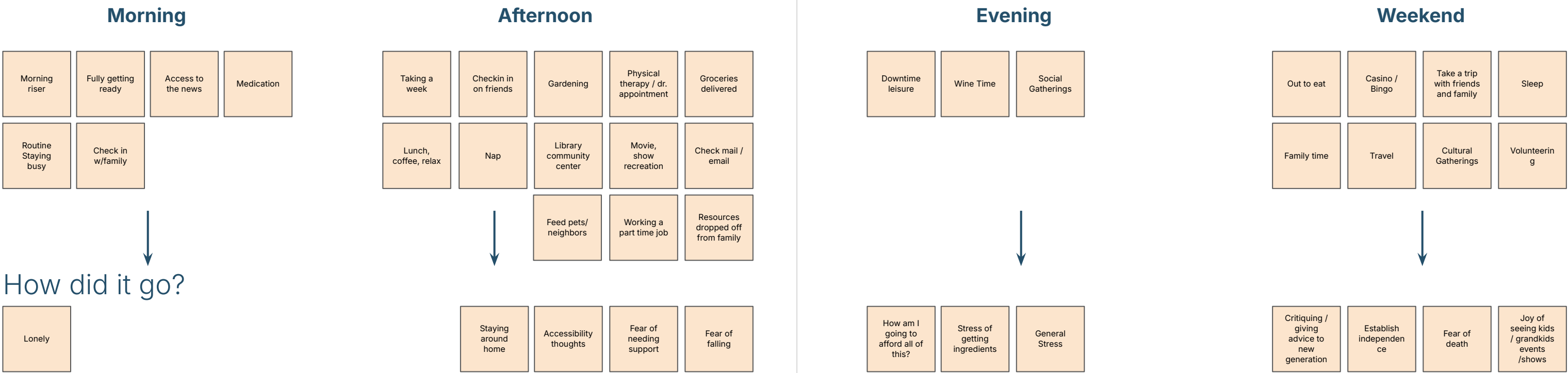
Elder

Here are some things to know about me...



Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



Elder

Considerations

City/neighborhood	Block	Home/unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Proximity to church communities+ Access to health care+ Access to resource management+ Mental health support+ Access to technological support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Accessibility, ADA unit/home+ Access to food+ Access to laundry+ Fresh air/connection to outdoors+ Cultural connection to space

Recommendations

City/neighborhood	Block	Home/unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Access to transportation+ Access to food+ Access to information on support programs (housing, financial, health, etc.)+ Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness (no needles)+ Designated areas for drop-off and pickup	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness (no needles)+ Designated areas for drop-off and pickup	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ ADA accessible home/unit+ Open floor plan+ Close access to outdoors, earth/dirt (yard ideally)+ Fireplace+ East-facing door+ Accommodate pets+ Close parking to unit+ Wifi access+ Single level



Adult with No Children

Here are some things to know about me...

Type of Role

Full time student	Dating person w/ Children	Golden Child	Church person
Family Caregiver	Firstborn with siblings, no parents	Displaced person	Works multiple jobs
Working professional	Solely dependent		

Challenges

Safety Especially at night / Public Transit	Access to quality legal representation	Drugs Substance abuse	No personal vehicle, Public transportation	Home ownership as a single person
Access to food (food desert)	Personal Relationships	Healthcare	Survival Mentality	Home ownership prep (late)
Trauma	Lack of goal making resulting in stuck feeling	Narcissistic, selfish, uneducated family system	Navigating Alone-ness	

Proximity to Support

Rez / Home	Friends	Public Services
Plants	Pets	

Financial Situation

Multiple Roommates / Renting	Financial Stability	Making ends meet	Living Paycheck to Paycheck
Rental rates / high	Debt. Credit cards, student loans, living out of means	Credit, bad/lack of	Lack of financial freedom

Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?

Morning

Sleeping	Traditional - Wake up with the sun	Indifferent no sense of urgency	Social Activity
Restlessness	No breakfast	Walk to bus stop / destination	

↓

How did it go?

Healing dreams	Bad attitude	Time! Bus... Class anxiety	Nobody is going to die
Next meal / Energy	Breakfast not a priority	Deadlines. Compliance factor	Safety! Getting to destination safely

Afternoon

Working	Unhealthy food / grab-n-go (granola bar, energy drink)	Social Activity
Personal Needs	Got a system (next bus)	

↓

Hard Work, getting it done.	There to do the job	Exhausted
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Evening

Contemplate Expenses	2nd Job	Addicted to Hustle culture / societal norms
Night Classes	First Real Meal	Social Activity

↓

How am I going to afford all of this?	General Stress	Stress of getting ingredients
---------------------------------------	----------------	-------------------------------

Weekend

3rd Job	Host Family + Friends	Physical activity (hike, bike, fish)	Social Activity
Stay in ABQ	Decompress	Hangout with nieces/nephews family	Addicted to Hustle culture / societal norms

↓

Destress by personal ways	Punchlist, thoughts
---------------------------	---------------------

Adult with No Children

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Safety is important especially on transit
- + Barriers to transit access make the day more difficult
- + Shopping centers can be far away; need to consider trade-off between time and finding the most affordable option
- + Often difficult to know what resources are available, especially off Reservation

Block

- + Navigating aloneness
- + Safety at night

Home/unit

- + Pets are important
- + Access to food
- + Access to healthcare
- + Access to quality legal representation
- + Mental health / ability to practice self care
- + One variable can change the whole day
- + Hosts family/friends on weekends/extended stays

Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Access to transportation
- + Access to food
- + Access to information on support programs (housing, financial, health, etc.)
- + Walkability/safety - sidewalk lighting, cleanliness

Block

- + Trauma informed design
- + Community centric spaces

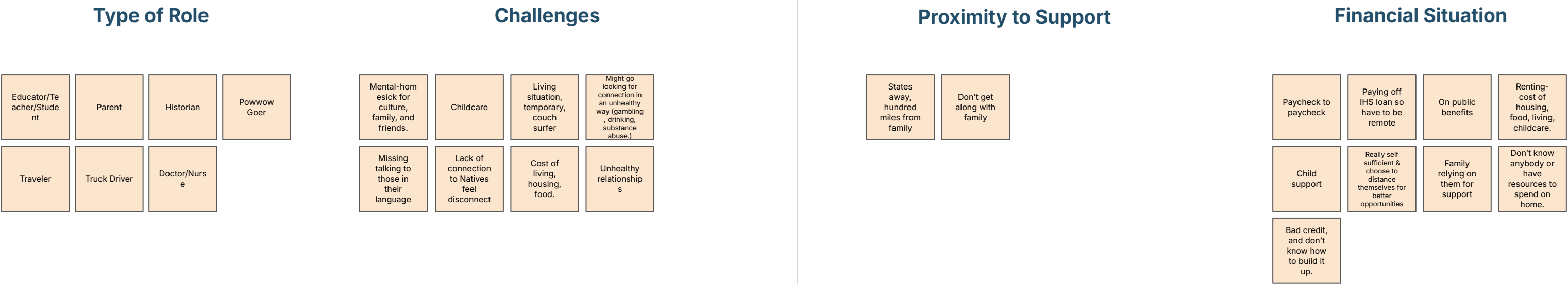
Home/unit

- + Access to spaces where family/community can gather for meals/gatherings in the home
- + In-unit storage
- + Accommodate pets
- + Parking
- + Wifi Access



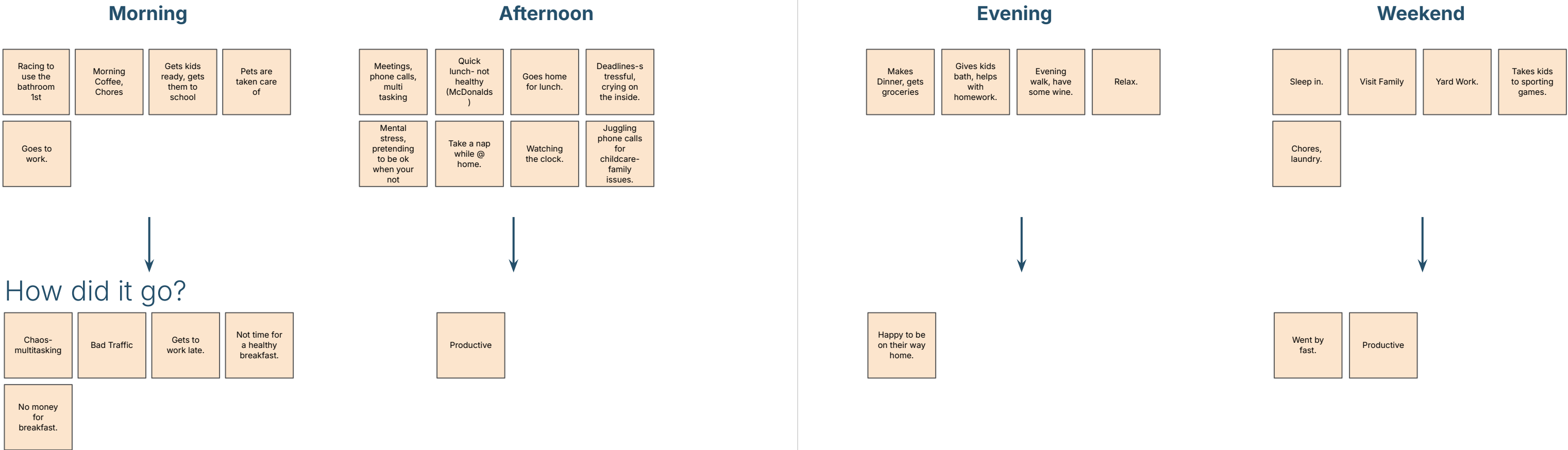
Non-Regional Tribe

Here are some things to know about me...



Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



Non-Regional Tribe

Considerations

City/neighborhood

- + Proximity to Work and Schools
- + Access to Amenities
- + Community and Cultural Connections
- + Safety and Environment

Block

- + Community Support: childcare facilities nearby
- + Facilities and Services: access to fitness centers, libraries, and other communal services.
- + Noise and Traffic
- + Safety and Cleanliness: streets clean and well maintained.

Home/unit

- + Space and Layout: enough space for family needs.
- + Affordability
- + Condition and Maintenance
- + Comfort and Personalization

Recommendations

City/neighborhood

- + Proximity to work and schools: look for neighborhoods with reliable public transportation
- + Access to amenities: easy access to amenities such as grocery stores, healthcare, parks, and recreation centers.
- + Community and Cultural connections
- + Safety and Environment: consider areas with good air quality, parks, and green spaces for relaxation and recreation.

Block

- + Community support
- + Facilities and services: nearby childcare facilities, fitness centers, and other communal services.
- + Noise and traffic: opt for blocks with minimal noise pollution.
- + Safety and cleanliness

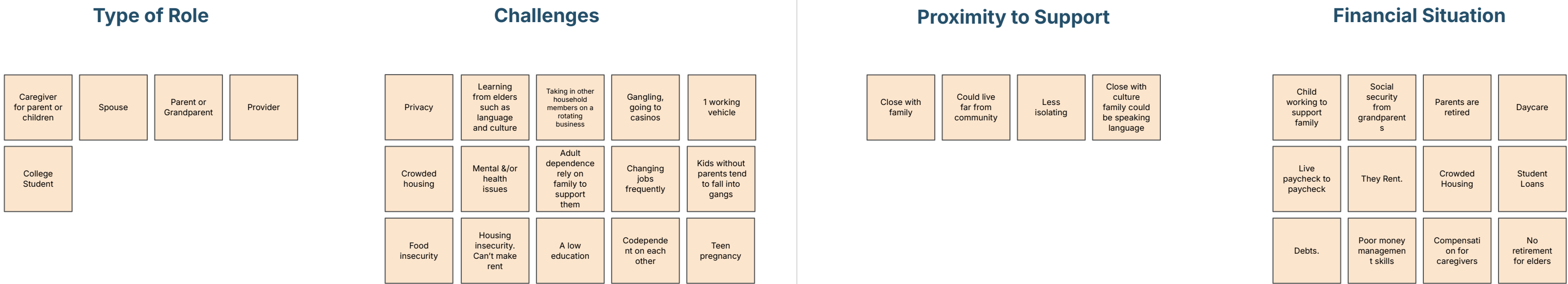
Home/unit

- + Home/unit
- + Space and layout: room for children to study and play.
- + Affordability
- + Condition and Maintenance
- + Comfort and Personalization: spaces to relax and unwind.



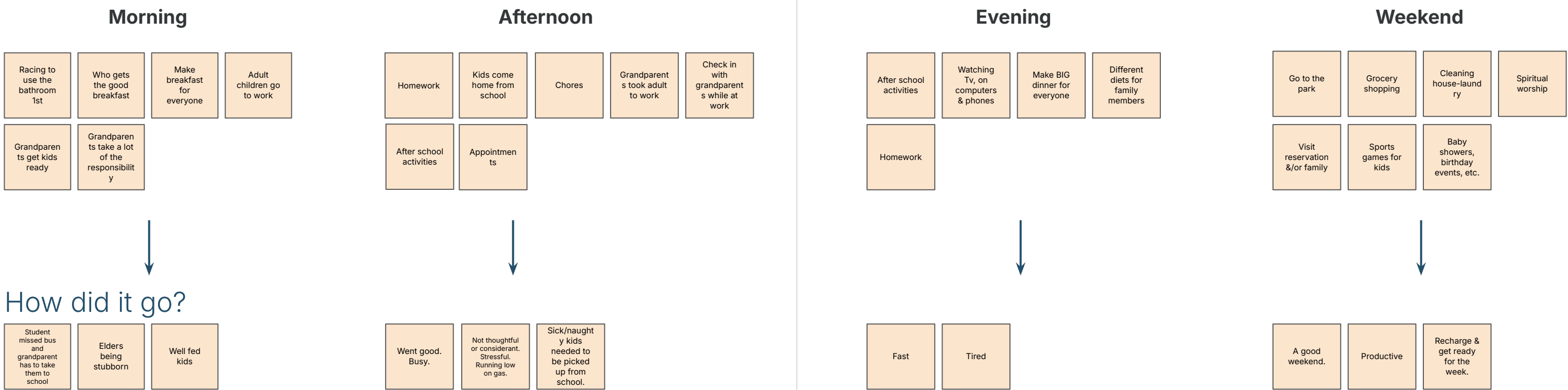
Multi-Generational Family

Here are some things to know about me...



Here's what my days usually look like...

What did I do?



Multi-Generational Family

Considerations

Home/unit

- + Space and Layout
- + Affordability
- + Condition and Maintenance
- + Comfort and Personalization

Block

- + Community Support
- + Facilities and Services
- + Noise and Traffic
- + Social Interaction

City/neighborhood

- + Proximity to Schools and Work
- + Access to Amenities
- + Community and Cultural Connections
- + Safety and Environment

Recommendations

Home/unit

- + Space and Layout: Private and communal areas. Supports multi-generational living and caregiving needs.
- + Affordability: housing assistance programs.
- + Condition and Maintenance
- + Comfort and Personalization: Areas for children to study and play.

Block

- + Community Support: support for families, caregivers, and elders.
- + Facilities and Services: playgrounds, community centers, and shops.
- + Noise and Traffic: low noise pollution.
- + Social Interaction: diverse group of neighbors to create a supportive environment.

City/neighborhood

- + Proximity to Schools and Work
- + Reliable public transportation
- + Access to Amenities: nearby parks, grocery stores, healthcare facilities, and community centers.
- + Community and Cultural Connections
- + Safety and Environment: well lit streets.



Unit scale conversation prompts



Home/Unit Scale Considerations/Concerns

The word clouds were generated from all of the city scale concerns that were expressed during the Journey Mapping exercise during the second Focus Group. All 10 personas comments were combined to generate overall comments at varying scales.

World clouds were printed and available for participates to expand on the topics raised for more detailed discussion in the third Focus Group.



Home/Unit Scale Opportunities/Recommendations

The word clouds were generated from all of the city scale concerns that were expressed during the Journey Mapping exercise during the second Focus Group. All 10 personas comments were combined to generate overall comments at varying scales.

World clouds were printed and available for participates to expand on the topics raised for more detailed discussion in the third Focus Group.

Block scale conversation prompts



Block Scale Considerations/Concerns

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Block Scale Opportunities/Recommendations

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City scale conversation prompts



City Scale Considerations/Concerns

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City Scale Opportunities/Recommendations

The word clouds were generated from all of the city scale concerns that were expressed during the Journey Mapping exercise during the second Focus Group. All 10 personas comments were combined to generate overall comments at varying scales.

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Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Veteran and youth
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	Challenges for Vets were lack of stable housing and PTSD. The Youth is food insecure and being bullied at school.
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	The vet has a lot of supports socially and health wise. Youth has goes to school and stays after school for supervision.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	The vet gets income from a full-time job, but has debt from old bills. Youth doesn't have a lot of access to funds because their parents do not have a lot of \$.
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	Vets and youth might need spares for cultural practices.

The Journey Mapping exercise was incorporated into a post focus-group survey for further comment. These are the notes that were collected from that process.

Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning: Vets get up early and do a regimen.
- + Afternoon: A vet would come home from work and decompress.
- + Evening: The vet made dinner and went to a Native Vets support group.
- + Weekend: The Vet went hunting on his Pueblo land with a bunch of cousins.

Additional Comments: This was interesting project. I'd love to see what comes out of this info.

Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Non-regional Tribe
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	Support, connection to community. Connection to culture. Time for self-care and wellness. Drinking and substance use.
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	Low support being that they are away from their tribal homelands. They may rely on local food pantries, shelters, and low income housing.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	Rents, no financial literacy or connection to resources. Check to check.
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	I think the level of education and number of dependents would be important factors to consider.

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Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning: Race to get kids to school and get self to work. Kids eat but adults skil (coffee only).
- + Afternoon: Cheap quick lunch. Stressful. Need a nap. Busy.
- + Evening: Pick up children. Do homework and chores. Go to grocery store. Go to park. Browse internet.
- + Weekend: Sports or games and events. Ceremonies or social gatherings. Goes by to fast.

Additional Comments:

- + I think being near a park with a community or basketball court would be ideal for social connection or interaction.
- + I agree. There does need to be a personal for our unsheltered relatives.

Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Truck driver, traveling nurse, single parent, adopted.
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	Loss of culture & language, loss of family connection, unsure of heritage, children miss the opportunity to grow up near family - loss of culture & language, missed opportunity to be familiar with family & relatives.
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	Minimal support from family, relies on friends, networking among others in children school - others who may be in similar situations, networking where shop or eat, isolated, takes opportunity to find events in community meet other natives.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	Struggling but self sufficient, school loan debt, lives paycheck to paycheck, difficult to save money.
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	Living space small.

The Journey Mapping exercise was incorporated into a post focus-group survey for further comment. These are the notes that were collected from that process.

Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning: Didn't sleep well & woke up tired, thinking how to make ends meet. Ready for work, quick coffee no time for breakfast. Get kids ready for school, drop kids at school, rush hour traffic to get to work;late to work. The morning was normal chaos. Or wakes up early, meditates and/or exercise, eats a healthy breakfast. Kids get themselves ready for school, drop kids off and gets to work early. A typical morning.
- + Afternoon: Deadlines, meetings, last minute work request. Takes a walk for am & pm break, eats a healthy lunch, struggles with time management, afternoon went well despite barely meeting deadlines.
- + Evening: Pick up kids, grocery shopping, after school activities, homework, make dinner, respond to vm or text messages, watch tv with kids, get kids ready for bed. Finally an hour to self before bed.
- + Weekend: Wake up early, start laundry, cleaning house, errands, kids sports activities, family/friends events-birthday, baptisms, graduation, etc. full & busy day but enjoy family time. Relax stay up late.

Additional Comments:

- + Online school.
- + Homeless persons and/or families how to keep out criminal activity.

Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Mother, companion, daughter, sister, aunt, niece, cultural care provider, provider, cook, student, teacher, listener, inquisitor, creator, scientist, bookkeeper, cowork, colleague, friend, shopper, bearer, seamstress, runner, hiker, nutritionist, organizer, communicator.
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	Bills, home repairs, car maintenance, exercising, healthy eating, savings, money management, hopes to return to school for second degree, financially supporting college student (son).
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	Employment, Phone/tablet/pc apps for money management & savings UNM, bank, library, stores, hospital.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	Full time employment (self & partner), jewelry boutique profits, mortgage, college student's (son)finances (food, car all personal insurances, personal expenses, phone clothing, hygiene, entertainment), schooling, & housing, utilities, vehicle & health/dental/vision insurance, ceremonies, entertainment, groceries, phone, credit cards, personal loan, vacation, veterinarian/pet health & expenses, work expenses, jewelry business expenses, vehicle maintenance, home repairs & maintenance, gym memberships, golf tournament fees of college student, golf equipment, running equipment, hiking equipment, fishing equipment.
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	Quality of life could use some discipline & more structure to achieve balance in all aspects of life.

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Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning: Stretches, readies for the day, reads the news, breakfast or brunch/snack, drinks tea, checks/responds to email and voicemails, schedules appointment if needed. Begins projects. Facilitating groups. Cooking for group activities if needed.
- + Afternoon: Lunch. Planning work activities & outreach. Facilitating groups. Shopping for group activity supplies.
- + Evening: Traffic. Gym or Zumba. Dinner. Bead or create. Journal. Read. Puzzles. Kids sports.
- + Weekend: Run. Camping. Hiking. Family get togethers. Kids Sports. Craft fairs for boutique business. Biking. Walking. Shopping. Trips. Restaurants. Flea markets. Garage sales. Thrifting. Museums. Zoos. Driving. Movies. Video games. Casino. Concerts. Ceremonies. Fairs. Cleaning. Yard work. Repairs. Laundry. Chores. Beading. Crafting. Creating. Pool. Bowling. Dutch bros. Fulfilling boutique orders. Mail. Reading. Journal. Photography. Golfing. Visit with friends.

Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Elder and Adult with no Children.
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	Lack of support by family and community, even with financial success, no real ties to hold onto.
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	Immediate family; siblings, guardians, elders, work, school or neighbors.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	100 - 24,000
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	Self Dependence and personal values play key to success with supporting actions by others to ensure that personal goal is met, maintained and managed by the individual affected.

The Journey Mapping exercise was incorporated into a post focus-group survey for further comment. These are the notes that were collected from that process.

Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning: They wake up late in morning due to late night activities, light if any breakfast and work through their day to stay away the loneliness of being the person to do what needs to be done. Others are also just waking up, possibly due to lifestyle choices or care for family, with duties not meant for them yet needed to be done.
- + Afternoon: The first group are finally eating a good meal, not nutritious as they want something. Easy to handle on the go: the second group is winding down the day to start the evening tasks, picking up or dropping off family. Both groups are tired yet know they have to keep going to be successful.
- + Evening: Both groups may take a small amount of time for themselves, often resorting to exploring activities in their age group, such as gaming, clubbing, school activities and/or dating.
- + Weekend: With both groups, the planned activities are priorities yet once the time is available to relax and unwind, it is take with light responsibility.

Additional Comments:

- + Providing alternate “fun” lifestyle options such as dancing area, community meal area and gazebo type areas to include all ages to engage and be involved.

Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Leader, elder, youth.
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	Housing, mental health issues, food insecurity.
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	Our person has some family involved that help when it is needed but not all the time, because they struggle too.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	This person has ssi and retirement funds and our youth person depends on their parents or guardians.
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	N/A

The Journey Mapping exercise was incorporated into a post focus-group survey for further comment. These are the notes that were collected from that process.

Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning: They take care of their hygiene - shower, brush teeth, self care. Eat breakfast. Exercise.
- + Afternoon: Errands. School. After school activities.
- + Evening:Homework. Dinner. Hygiene again.
- + Weekend: Self care. Outdoor activities. Family gatherings.

Additional Comments:

- + N/A

Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Child.
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	School, sports, need clothes, rides, money, own room.
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	Family, friends, relatives.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	No income.
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	Overcrowded housing no room or bed.

The Journey Mapping exercise was incorporated into a post focus-group survey for further comment. These are the notes that were collected from that process.

Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning: Get up early for school. No breakfast.
- + Afternoon: School lunch. Medicare.
- + Evening: Home with family. Need internet. Backyard, basketball goal, place to ride bikes. Wants a dog.
- + Weekend: Back to the rez or stay home all weekend maybe cousins come over.

Additional Comments:

- + Garden, play areas, park with basketball goals.
- + Need for multifamily units

Journey Mapping Question & Answer:

SURVEY PARTICIPANT RESPONSES:	
Question	Answer
What roles does your persona take on?	Caregiver, parent, aunt, grandkids.
Challenges. What are some challenges faced by this person?	No real break, mental focus, perhaps limited healthcare, limited assistance from other family.
Proximity to Support. What types of support and levels of engagement is our person involved?	Sometimes has other family living with them to help, sometimes further from family to help those in need.
Financial Situation. What types of income and debt does this person navigate?	Income from caregiving, additional side jobs, state assistance, perhaps credit card debt.
Is there an important quality to this person's life that will help to inform their housing situation?	If they have the housing needed to provide care to those they are caring for it alleviates pressure.

The Journey Mapping exercise was incorporated into a post focus-group survey for further comment. These are the notes that were collected from that process.

Please list what the person does and how it went (actions and experiences):

Survey Participant Responses:

- + Morning:Wake up, get others up, breakfast, lunch made, appointments, bathing.
- + Afternoon: Lunch, appointments, and errands, pick up from school.
- + Evening:Make dinner, get ready for bed, bathing, work.
- + Weekend: Same as the week but maybe some activities out of the house, park activities.

Additional Comments:

- + Having a yard allows for outside and fresh air to while still being close to home.

In the final Focus Group, participants wrote additional comments on provided notepads for facilitators to review additional responses and feedback that was not able to be communicated in the session format.

TENSION
LOCATION VS.
ACCESS - ~~TRANSPORTATION~~ - BUS -
FOOD - STORES
SCHOOLS
HEALTH CARE -
JHS
WALKABILITY FIRST NATIONS

Land Back →
Homeowner
↳ residence ;
Connection 2 land
LA WATER
♡

BANK - WHY? B. GRAY
ATM? MONEY ACCESS?

MOST OF US ARE
DISPLACED.

HOME BUYERS
↓
RENT ASSISTANCE
W/OUT EVICTION.

* Need for community
gathering places
to share in meals,
celebration, ceremony.

* we were wondering if
there is a place to
make Pueblo oven
bread.

* homes w/ work studios
history of arts ; crafts
entrepreneurship

? Do u know how many
Native homeless ppl in
ABQ?

* How 2 empower Native
people to build their own
homes.
- educate N youth.

* work studios
support small business

* How did our ancestors
build homes. Sustainable
housing. incorporate it
natural local materials Plant.
* AFFORDABLE housing

* How bout teach people to
build their own homes.
Community helps.

- ask - homeless Natives
limitations :
looking thru colonial
lens as we relate to
urban living

• Health, self care
Quality of life.
* Place for chickens ;
vegetable gardens.
- Cultural demographics
may bias info??
- One size doesn't fit
all.



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