

# PROJECT: Compassion In Design

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## **Saint John's Program for Real Change**

*Transformation Space: Gateway Community Room*

### **About Saint John's Program for Real Change**

Saint John's is for the woman who wants to make the leap, who will fight the pervasive influence of homelessness, poverty, and abuse, will make an empowered decision to rise up and become a productive community member; who understands, unequivocally, that the decision to create a better life – for herself and for her family – rests entirely on her.

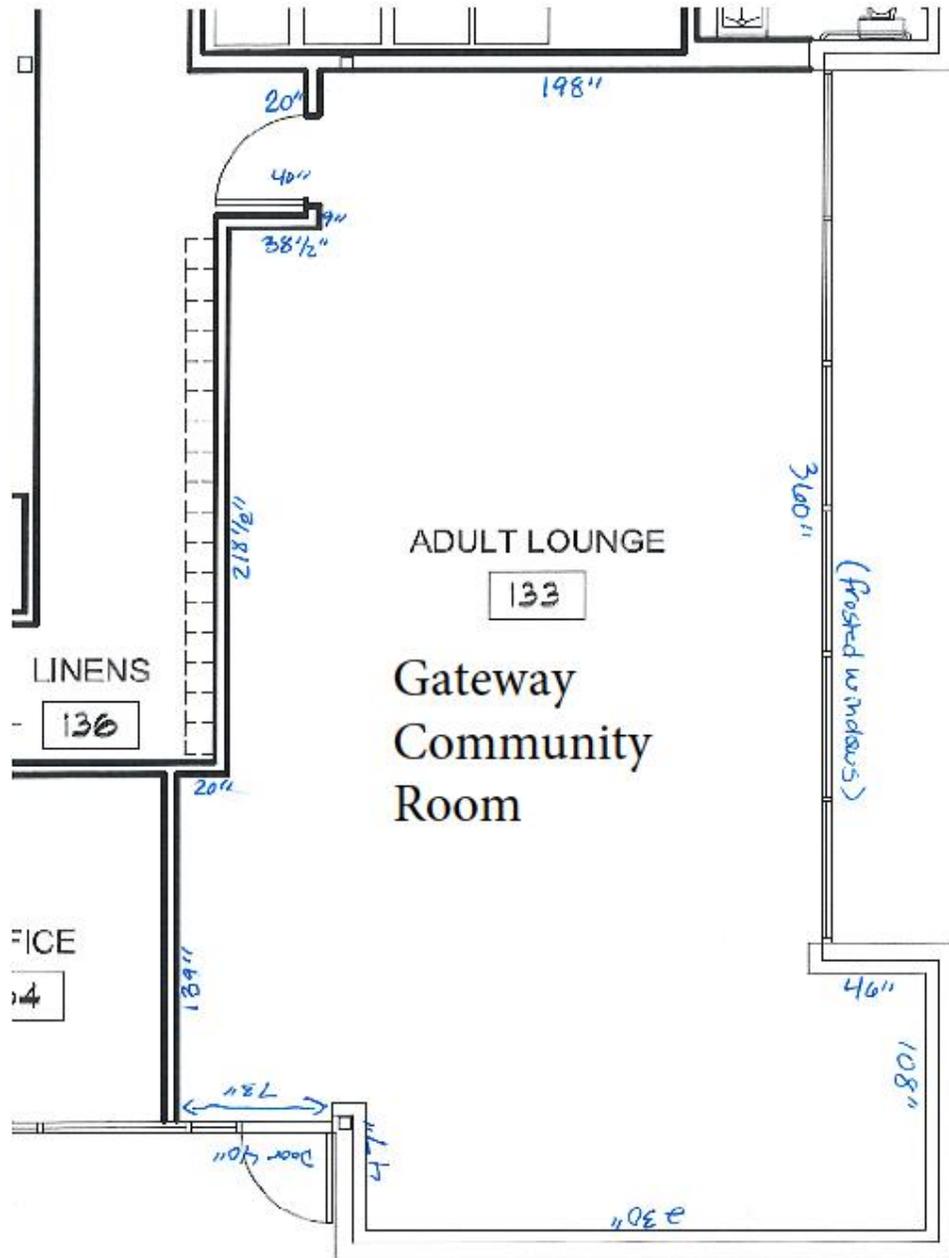
When a family enters Saint John's 12- to 18-month rehabilitative program, they are immediately encircled with structure, with mental health therapy, with alcohol and drug counseling, with parenting education, with budgeting classes, with healthy relationship training, AND with hands-on employment training. All services are onsite and required. The program is designed to support women in taking responsibility for themselves and their families. Each family receives an average of 675 hours of services each month. 96% of women are placed in non-subsidized employment upon completion of our employment training!

### **Description of the proposed workspace**

Gateway Community Room is used daily, all day as a place for the women to congregate as their rooms are locked during the day. It is a place for community-building. It is also a place for the families to gather to play games, watch TV or just be together in a larger space than they have in their rooms. Gateway Community Room is used every evening for a Community Meeting, where all of the women in the building, approximately 40, gather to share their positives for the day and to support one another. It is also heavily used on the weekend by our families. As a result of the constant use this room receives, it has a very worn look and definitely needs a "face-lift."

**From the Director:** "The flooring is in rough shape, many of the kiddos lay on the ground for family movie nights on Friday's we would love to see something to make that fun time together more comfortable and space that invites that is inviting for community meetings, time to relax, do homework with their kiddos and read in here. It would be wonderful to create a space that truly embraces the families and makes it feel like home."

### Dimensions of Proposed Space -



**Photographs of the proposed workspace:**





