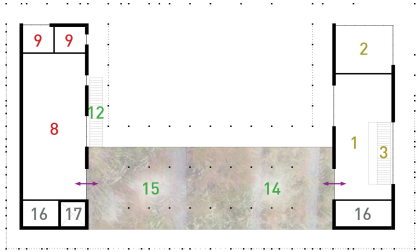
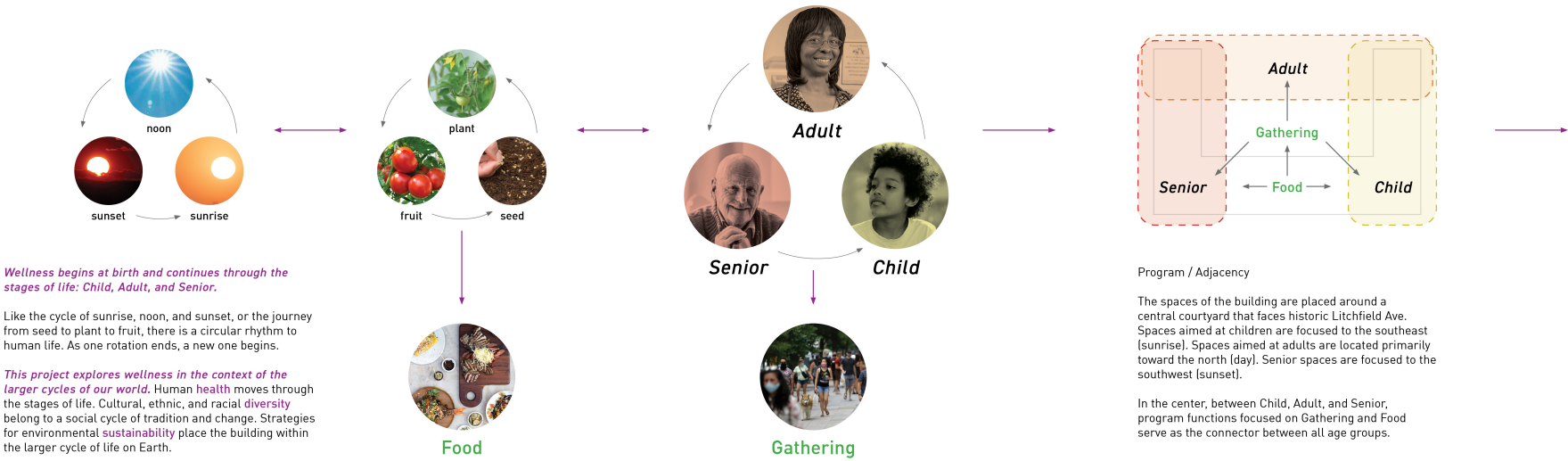
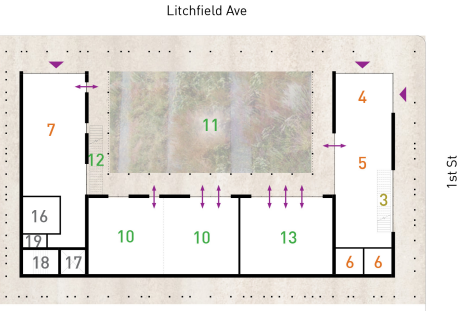


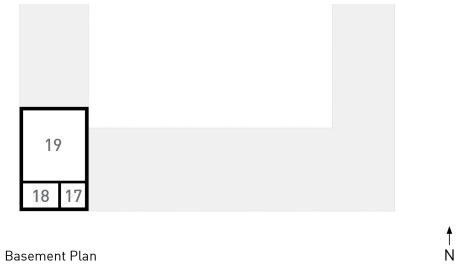
Wellness Through the Ages



Second Level Plan



First Level Plan



Basement Plan

- 1. Nursery
- 2. Classroom
- 3. Nursery Stair
- 4. Welcome
- 5. Staff Offices
- 6. Consult
- 7. Media Library
- 8. Seniors' Center
- 9. Exam
- 10. Event Space
- 11. Courtyard
- 12. Courtyard Stair
- 13. Community Kitchen
- 14. Play Terrace
- 15. Vegetable Gardens
- 16. Restrooms
- 17. Elevator
- 18. Stair
- 19. Utilities



WELLNESS THROUGH THE AGES.
Seniors and children garden and play together on the south roof garden.

Cultural Context

Willmar is a quickly diversifying community. Languages spoken in the community include Somali, Spanish, and Karen, in addition to English.

Architectural precedents from these areas of the world are a conceptual foundation for the project's main strategies: Earth Forms, Stepped Terraces, and Delicate Structure.

Environmental Context

These strategies also form the backbone of the project's sustainable design features.

Rammed Earth Volumes are made from local soil, allowing for a smaller carbon footprint than a steel or concrete structure.

The building volumes are carved to create a Terrace and Courtyard that have access to southern sun, allowing plants to grow in the terrace garden, and providing warmth for gatherings in the courtyard.

The Wood Screen and Trellis provide protection from the sun, with density that varies based on sun exposure and programmatic needs, and act as a growing medium for climbing plants.



S'gaw Karen. Southeast Asia



Español. Central America

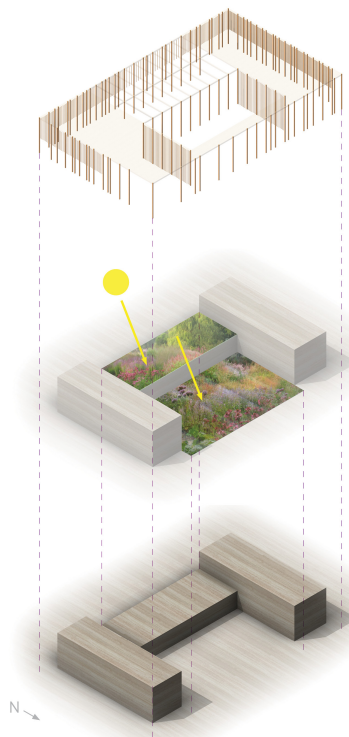


Af Soomaali. Eastern Africa

Delicate Structure

Stepped Terraces

Earth Forms



Wood Screen and Trellis

Shade and Grow

Terrace and Courtyard

Harvest Southern Sun

Rammed Earth Volumes

Reduce Carbon



DIVERSITY, GATHERING, NUTRITION. A community kitchen shared across cultures and ages.



WELLNESS AND COMMUNITY: The gathering courtyard greets historic Litchfield Avenue.



Urban Context

The current City of Willmar Comprehensive Plan identifies four recommendations for the Downtown area: 1) restore historic Litchfield Ave, 2) establish a downtown commons area, 3) urbanize 1st St, and 4) develop a connection to the lakes.

The project is sited at the intersection of 1st and Litchfield to best engage the goals of the comprehensive plan. Here, the Wellness Center becomes a gateway to downtown from the lakes and serves as an anchor for the future development of Litchfield and 1st.