

Printable Laundromat Project

Problem: Women who suffer abuse and parents who abuse or neglect their children report greater isolation, more loneliness, and less social support.

Question: How can the city decrease isolation and foster more social support, especially for parents of young children?

Proposal: A Laundromat + Baby Nap Area + Toddler Room + Kids Play Area

- A place where a parent can meet other parents and children
- A place where a parent can get some laundry done
- A safe place for babies, toddlers, and young children
- A beautiful and relaxing place.

Features:

1. Laundromat overlooking Toddler Room with

- cribs, changing table and playpen
- comfortable chairs
- children's books, parent books
- cubbies or lockers for storage
- bathrooms

2. Toddler Room designed after Explora's Baby and Toddler room with

- Climb & slide
- Several levels for practicing walking
- Toys and creative materials for exploring
- Chairs for parents
- Parenting books

4. Shaded Play Area with

- Big foam building blocks (like those in outside area at Explora)
- Picnic tables and chairs, for adults and kids
- Small garden that children can walk in and investigate
- Storage area for blocks

5. Playground with

- Climbing areas
- Swings
- Sand pile
- Picnic tables
- Trees for shade

Other Ideas:

- Create a low maintenance, low overhead building.

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- Partner with a private company to operate the laundromat if a business already serves the area to avoid controversy.
- Use privately owned food trucks to supply food and coffee as needed.
- Ask Rotary Club or other group to donate building blocks (one organization donated the blocks at Explora).
- Ask Master Gardeners to design water/garden area.
- Allow the building and events held there to evolve with desires of the community.
- Hours of operation: Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Estimated Costs:

- Capital costs: \$600,000
 - Buildings
 - Equipment
- Annual operational costs, offset by income from laundromat: \$80,000
 - wages and benefits
 - maintenance
 - liability insurance