



# Okanogan County Community Action Council Resource, Event and Training Center

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## At the heart of the project -- Community Need

### Counseling and Administrative Offices

Okanogan County Community Action Council (OCCAC) is leading a revolt on poverty through education, empowerment, and engagement. Our counseling services provide case management for qualifying veterans, youth, and families to immediately stabilize their situation with emergency assistance for housing, food, and utilities, while setting goals to work toward sustainability. Housing First is our motto. Referrals to partnering agencies for services including medical and mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, and other social supports often begin by talking with an OCCAC case manager. All together, our weatherization program, counseling services, and food programs support about 25% of Okanogan County residents.

Currently OCCAC doors are open to the public, but the current building is in dire need of structural and cosmetic repairs. The repairs of the building include replacement of structural joists, new flooring, roofing, ceiling, HVAC system, and communication systems updates. Even with these updates, the 40+ year-old building, which was originally a grocery store, offers inadequate space for client services, food delivery and distribution, and ADA accessibility. The list of deficiencies is long and the building is in a state of deterioration.

A modern building will offer more efficiency with space for private counseling and administrative offices to support OCCAC operations. The current building would either be sold or remodeled for a food distribution center to support Okanogan County's nine food pantries that currently feed about 8,000 residents annually.

### Community Training Center

To meet the county's needs, training programs in food service and construction will operate out of the new building. Although the COVID-19 pandemic created job losses and an economic downturn for Okanogan County, the state's economic forecast estimates a 1.3% growth rate in jobs over the next ten years in our area. Trained food service workers are needed to support a healthy tourism trade and construction workers are needed to help address the county's need for rehabilitating and building new housing. In recent years, the high school population in Okanogan School District alone rose 8%.

To keep high-school graduates and other workers in the area and meet the county's needs for a productive workforce, the new building will feature a commercial kitchen and classrooms for weatherization/construction training. The two training programs will utilize the county's existing rich resources by bringing stakeholders together to build systems that would benefit agricultural, tourism, housing, education, and workforce needs, while creating a path to sustainable living-wage jobs and financial security for families. OCCAC's Training Center would support economic stability and growth in Okanogan County.

### Community Event Center / Emergency Transition Space

Community event space is limited in Okanogan County. The new OCCAC building would provide space for meetings, classrooms, and a large public space that could be utilized for emergency sheltering during natural disasters like wildfire. Showers and laundry facilities will be located near the event center which will feature moveable walls to expand or reduce event space as needed.



COMMUNITY ENTRANCE

Theorem ARCHITECTURE



PUBLIC ENTRANCE

Theorem ARCHITECTURE



## Return on Investment

### Ideally Located to Serve the Community

The new building project already earned endorsement at the local and state level as an investment that will provide great returns to support the county's economic development and address unmet community needs.

Thanks to the efforts of our legislators Sen. Shelly Short and Rep. Jacqueline Maycumber, OCCAC received \$400,000 from Washington State's capital budget to purchase the land. Furthermore, the Okanogan County Economic Alliance Infrastructure Committee and Okanogan County Commissioners ranked the OCCAC building project their #1 Community Project.

The Board of Directors for the Okanogan County Community Action Council named the building of this new facility their first priority in supporting the agency's long-term strategic goals to:

1. Provide community access to emergency support to stabilize lives.
2. Make tools available to break the cycle of long-term poverty.

### Location

The new building will be located on a parcel of land that sits north of the Dalton Klessig Memorial Park in Omak, across from Apple Springs and behind the Okanogan Behavioral Health Care and Family Health Centers buildings. This creates a central campus for services available to county residents.

### Size

Lower Floor: 10,997 sf

Upper Floor: 10,997 sf

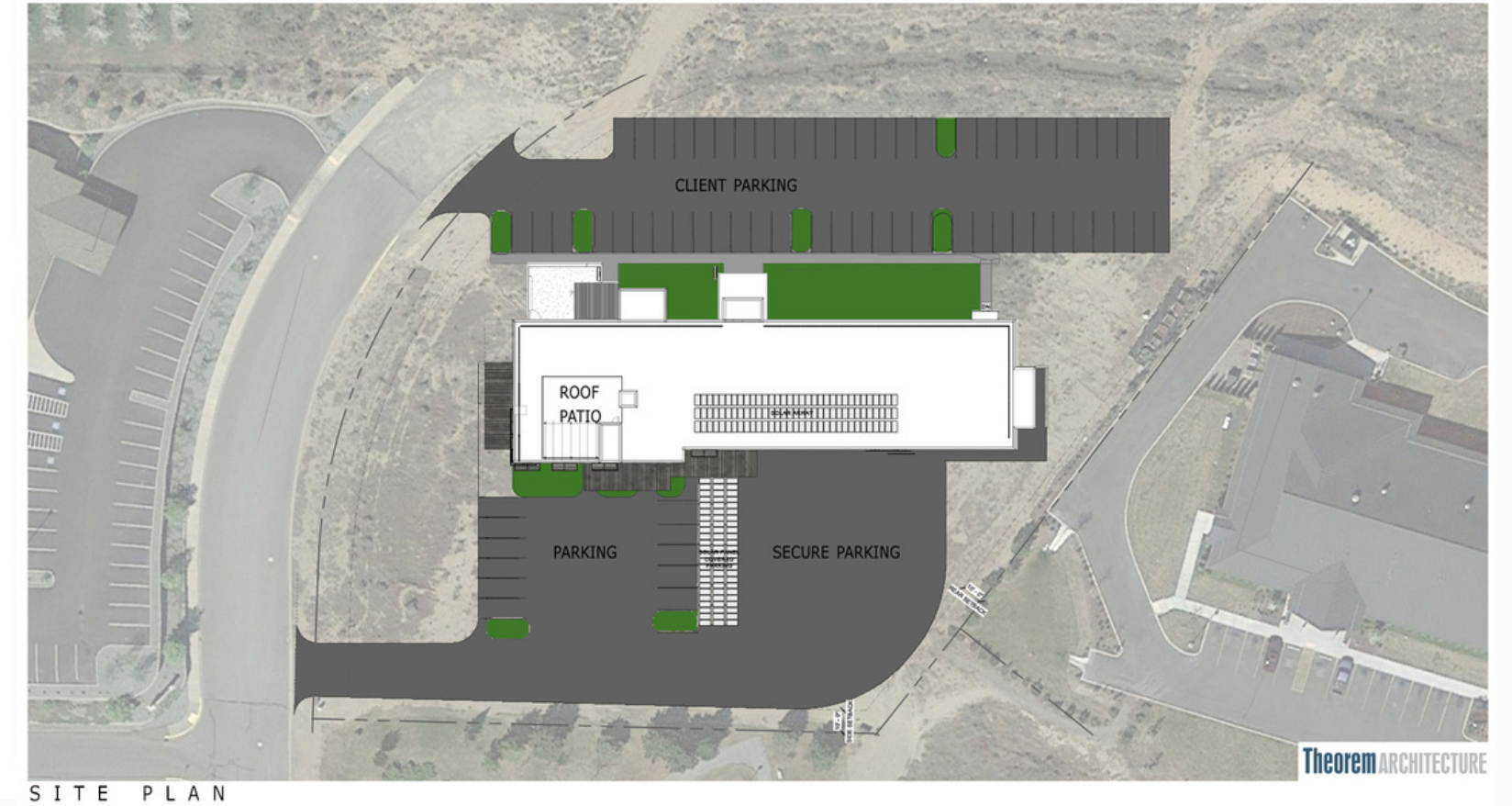
Building Total: 21,995 sf

### Capital Campaign

Funding for the new building will come from a variety of sources. Local fundraising through a Capital Campaign effort will demonstrate commitment to the project and pave the way for private philanthropic support and government grants. State and federal allocations will make up the majority of the funding needed for the project.

### Community Support

New supporters for the Capital Campaign are welcome. If you would like to support the project in some way, please contact a board member or staff at OCCAC. Financial contributions can be made to the project by mail, in person, or online at [www.occac.com](http://www.occac.com).





# Okanogan County Community Action Council Resource, Event and Training Center



**OCCAC Mission:**  
Leading a revolt on poverty through education, empowerment and engagement.

## Upper Level Floor Plan:

- Community Resource Center with removable walls
- Outdoor court yard
- Showers for construction crew and use during emergency sheltering
- Private counseling offices for case management
- OCCAC administrative offices
- OCCAC board/conference room
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## Lower Level Floor Plan

- Day Care Facility
- Office administration and counseling space for partners
  - (The Support Center, DSHS, WorkSource, Colville Tribe)
- Training center for weatherization
- Event Space / Emergency transitioning space
- Service elevator to upper level
- Storage

## Roof Top Plan:

- Solar panels
- Partially covered patio for outside events and maintenance

