



THABAAT HOME · DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

Four years of roots. Now, a home.

A home for prayer, learning and community.

A former medical office in Dearborn, becoming Thabaat's first home. This brief walks through the vision from our programming meetings and the plan that brings it to life.

DESIGN & PROGRAMMING BRIEF

September 30, 2026 · schematic design

LOCATION

Dearborn, Michigan · about 14,100 sq ft finished

GIVE

thabaat.org/home

The campus at a glance

≈14,100 sq ft ¹ finished space	19 rooms	3,631 SF flex hall
2,297 SF musallah	74 classroom seats	6 wudu stations

What this brief covers

The space today	3	Materials: a sample palette	9
Our vision	4	Color directions	10
Planned layout	5	Renderings	11–12
Room schedule	6	Building in phases	13
Gathering & prayer	7	Build with us	14
Parents rooms	8		

Highlights

A complete community campus. A flex hall, a musallah, a coffee shop, a babysitting room, two parents rooms and two restrooms with wudu, plus a 74-seat classroom and a media studio.

A true musallah. 2,297 sq ft of prayer space for 150–170 worshippers, with rows set to the qibla, opening straight onto the hall for Jumu'ah.

A hall that adapts. About 200 seated for a lecture, in chairs, on floor seating or both, with a removable screen between brothers' and sisters' seating.

Built around families. A babysitting room by the sisters' entrance and two parents rooms with one-way glass looking onto the speakers' corner.

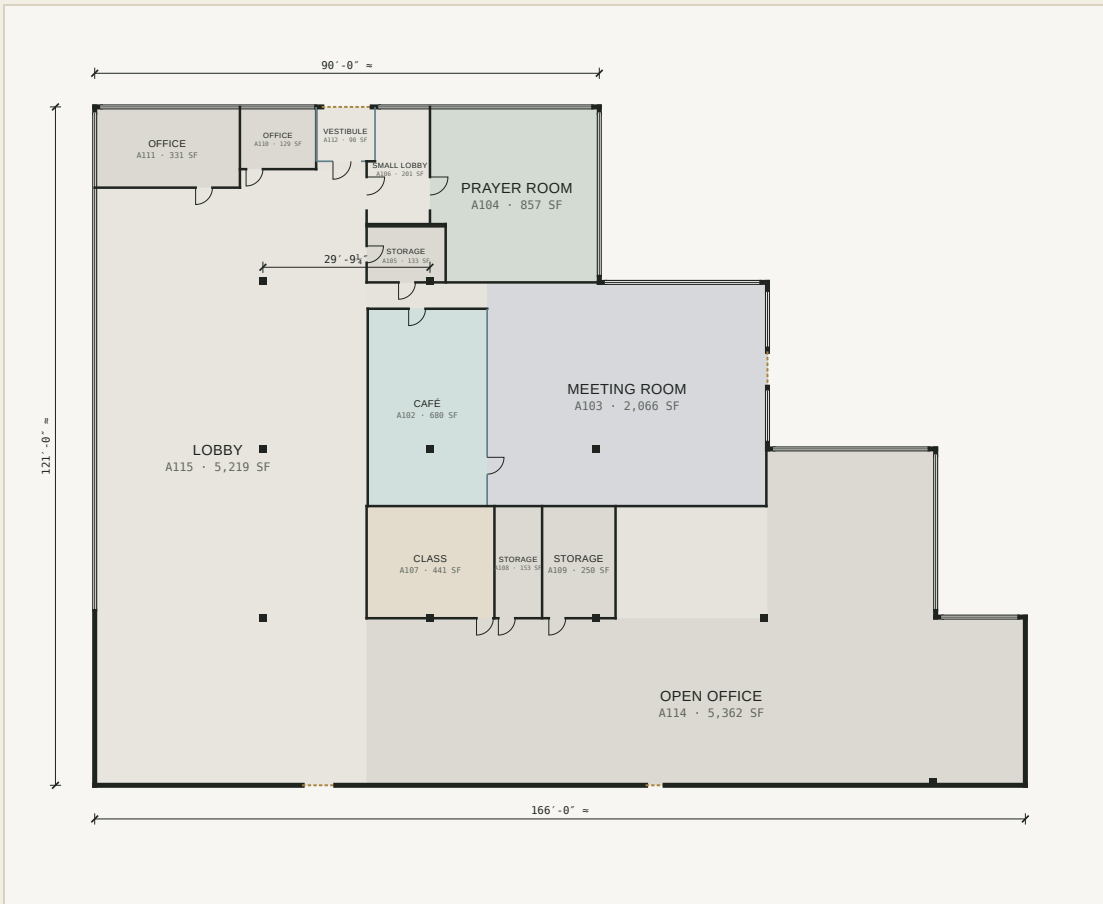
Room for weekday learning. A classroom and media studio give Thabaat space for halaqas, workshops, classes and recorded lectures.

Built in phases. Phase 0 is under way now: \$200,000 by the end of October brings on the architect and interior designer and starts the groundwork for Ramadan 2027.

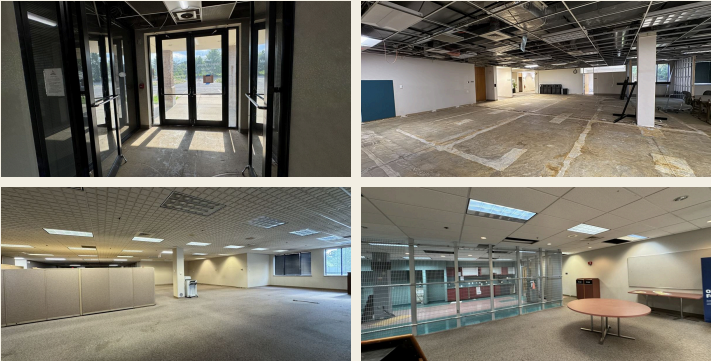
¹ Finished area in the new plan. Room areas on the plan add up to 13,467 sq ft, net of walls; the lease covers about 17,000 sq ft in total.

A former medical office

Today it is mostly open lobby and open office: a blank canvas with good light and a generous footprint. The new plan turns it into about 14,100 sq ft of finished space.¹



TAG	EXISTING ROOM	SF
A115	Lobby	5,219
A114	Open office	5,362
A103	Meeting room	2,066
A104	Prayer room	857
A102	Café	680
A107	Class	441
A111	Office	331
A109	Storage	250
A106	Small lobby	201
A108	Storage	153
A105	Storage	133
A110	Office	129
A112	Vestibule	90



Site walk, July 21, 2026: entry vestibule, open floor, open office, break area.

¹ The lease covers about 17,000 sq ft of the first floor, measured before the new walls; the rooms on the new plan add up to 13,467 sq ft, net of walls.

What we set out to build

The central idea from our programming meetings: the hall is the heart of the campus. Prayer and gathering spaces open out from it, so the same floor can host a Tuesday halaqa, a weekend workshop and Friday prayer.

1 Everyday The hall on its own for halaqas, workshops and classes	2 Lecture into prayer The hall and musallah together, with no need to move people	3 Community gatherings The whole campus opens up for dinners and conferences
--	--	---

Principles that guided the design

- **Hall first.** Every other room is placed around the flex hall.
- **Family rooms with a view.** Mommy & Me and Daddy & Me rooms stay enclosed, with a view of the hall.
- **Room to set up and reset.** Chair, table and AV storage right off the hall.
- **New restrooms and wudu.** Both are built from scratch: a major undertaking and expense, and essential for the space to work.
- **Wudu close to prayer.** Keep wudu near the musallah and away from the lobby and café.
- **Coffee as a front door.** The café sits on the street side, welcoming neighbors in.
- **Children away from noise.** Babysitting sits by the entrance, with an easy drop-off.

Phase 1 · The Heart

The event hall, the musallah and both restrooms with wudu come first. They are what the community needs on opening day, and our target is Ramadan 2027.

Design ambitions

- A signature finish level: warm wood, a dedicated prayer carpet and a carved mihrab wall.
- Quiet, durable materials that hold up to heavy weekly use.
- Natural light in the classroom, café and hall, with windows kept open wherever the plan allows.

A place to learn

A 74-seat classroom and a media studio give Thabaat a permanent home for halaqas, workshops, classes and recorded lectures.

The schematic plan

The architect's schematic plan, colored by use. Gold lines mark the new parents-room windows toward the speakers' corner.



Every room on the plan

Areas and capacities for each room in the plan. Together the rooms total 13,467 SF, including circulation.

TAG	ROOM	SF	CAPACITY	NOTES
N165	■ Flex Hall	3,631	≈200 seated	Organizing space for lectures, halaqas, dinners and events; speakers' corner in the southwest.
N179	■ Musallah	2,297	150–170 in prayer	Saff lines square to the qibla (52° off grid); opens to the flex hall.
N180	■ Circulation	2,026	—	Lobby, corridors and the shoe-free spine.
N173	■ Classroom	1,496	74 adults	20 net SF per person; 3 windows north, 3 east.
N164	■ Coffee Shop	1,029	36–40	Bar counter, window booths, sofas; 18–20 SF per person.
N161	■ Babysitting Room	472	13 children + staff	35 SF per child; kitchenette and lockers; by the sisters' entrance.
N177	■ Women's Restroom & Wudu	359	—	Stalls, three wudu stations, sinks, diaper station.
N166	■ Sisters' Parents Room	313	≈30 floor seating	Mommy & Me. New wide one-way glass toward the speakers' corner.
N168	■ Men's Restroom & Wudu	281	—	Stalls, three wudu stations, sinks, diaper station.
N171	■ Storage	235	—	Chairs, tables, AV and event storage.
N167	■ Office	204	—	Meeting table; interior window to circulation.
N169	■ Brothers' Parents Room	193	≈19 floor seating	Daddy & Me. New west window plus south glass panel toward the hall.
N172	■ Brothers' Shoe & Coat	191	—	Shoe racks and coat hangers by the brothers' entrance.
N174	■ Sisters' Shoe & Coat	155	—	Shoe racks and coat hangers on the sisters' side.
N176	■ Coffee Shop Storage	148	—	Back-of-house for the café.
N175	■ Media Studio	125	—	Recording studio for lectures and media.
N163	■ Sisters' Office	122	—	Beside the main entry vestibule.
N170	■ IT Server	113	—	
N181	■ Janitor Closet	77	—	Mop sink and service sink.

Flexible by design

The flex hall and musallah sit side by side, so a lecture can flow straight into prayer. Both rooms are set up to welcome brothers and sisters, whatever the occasion.



Flex hall, set for a lecture. Floor seating on rugs up front and chairs behind, so everyone can sit the way they're comfortable. A removable screen runs down the middle between brothers' and sisters' seating. N165 · 3,631 SF, about 200 seated.



Musallah, facing the qibla. Saff lines square to the qibla and a mihrab set across the corner. A knee-high screen four rows from the back marks a weekday sisters' prayer area, and lifts away for Jumu'ah. N179 · 2,297 SF, 150–170 in prayer.

Keeping parents connected to the program



From inside the sisters' parents room, looking south through the new window to the hall and the speakers' corner.

The idea

Parents with young children are a big part of our community. These rooms let them settle a child and still see and hear the program. The speakers' corner sits in the southwest corner of the flex hall, in view of both rooms.

The design

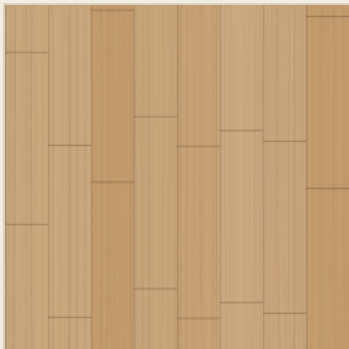
- **Sisters' parents room:** about 10' of one-way glass, 2'-6" to 7'-6" above the floor, looking straight down the hall to the speakers' corner.
- **Brothers' parents room:** about 9' of one-way glass on the west wall, facing across the corridor into the hall, plus a glazed panel to the south.
- **Both rooms:** a speaker and a screen fed from the hall's AV system, so parents can hear clearly with the door closed.

Next door to what families need

The sisters' room sits between the babysitting room and the women's restroom. The brothers' room is beside the men's restroom.

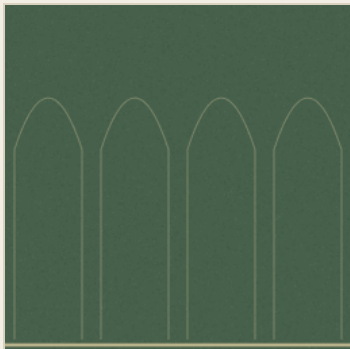
A sample palette

One way the campus could look and feel: warm, durable and quiet, suited to prayer and heavy weekly use. Final selections come later in design.



M-01
White oak

Flex hall floor, ceiling baffles,
mihrab wall, millwork



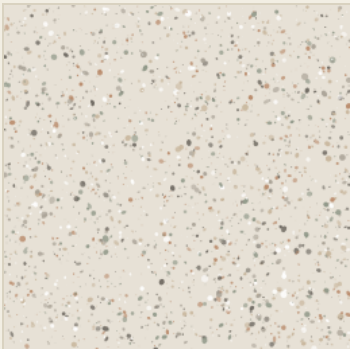
M-02
Prayer carpet

Olive wool with a woven saff line
per row



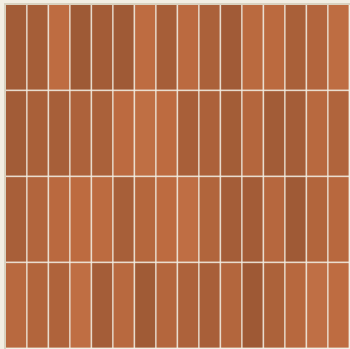
M-03
Travertine porcelain

Lobby, corridors, vestibule



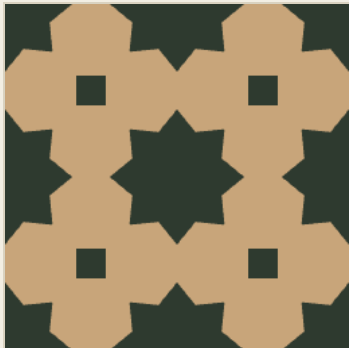
M-04
Terrazzo

Coffee shop floor



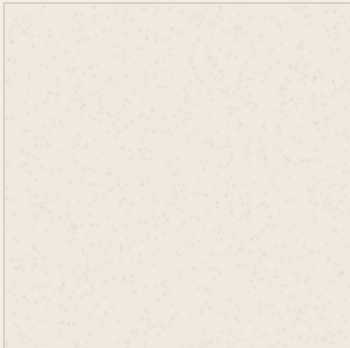
M-05
Clay tile

Coffee bar front, wudu splash walls



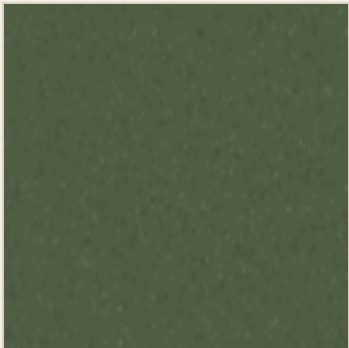
M-06
Mashrabiya screen

Oak lattice at the musallah edge



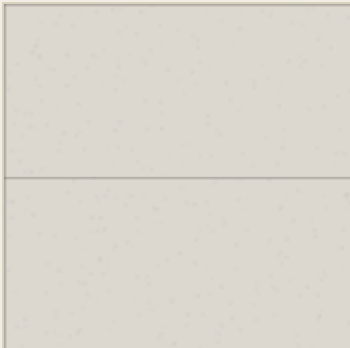
M-07
Warm plaster white

Walls throughout



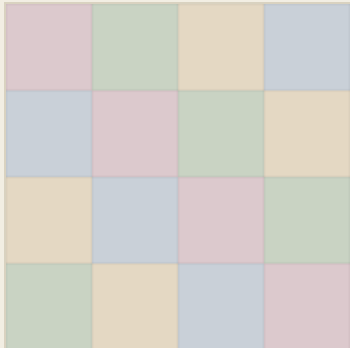
M-08
Olive upholstery

Booths, sofas, cushions



M-09
Restroom porcelain

Restroom and wudu floors, slip-
resistant



M-10
Soft play flooring

Babysitting room



Three ways to finish the campus

Each direction keeps the same durable materials and changes the color story. Each is shown in the musallah; the other renderings in this brief use Direction A.

DIRECTION A · SAMPLE PALETTE

Olive & oak

Deep olive prayer carpet, white oak and warm plaster, with clay tile and brass accents. Calm and grounded, close to a garden, and the closest to Thabaat's own olive and cream.



DIRECTION B · ALTERNATE

Navy & teal

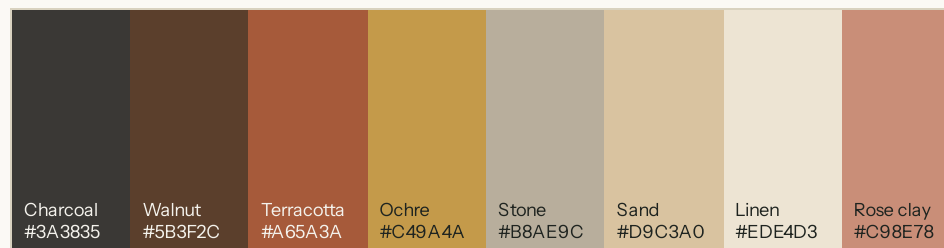
A navy prayer carpet with teal saff lines, teal upholstery and wayfinding, set against white oak and limestone.



DIRECTION C · ALTERNATE

Sand & walnut

Sand and linen walls, walnut millwork and a terracotta prayer carpet, with ochre and rose-clay accents. Warm and traditional.



The front door

Concept views from a 3D model built on the architect's plan.
Furniture and finishes are illustrative.



Main entrance. The existing brick entrance, with the Thabaat name mounted on the frieze over the doors.



Coffee shop. A bar counter and window booths in clay tile, walnut and terrazzo, right at the main entrance. N164 · 1,029 SF, seating for 36–40.

Family, learning and welcome



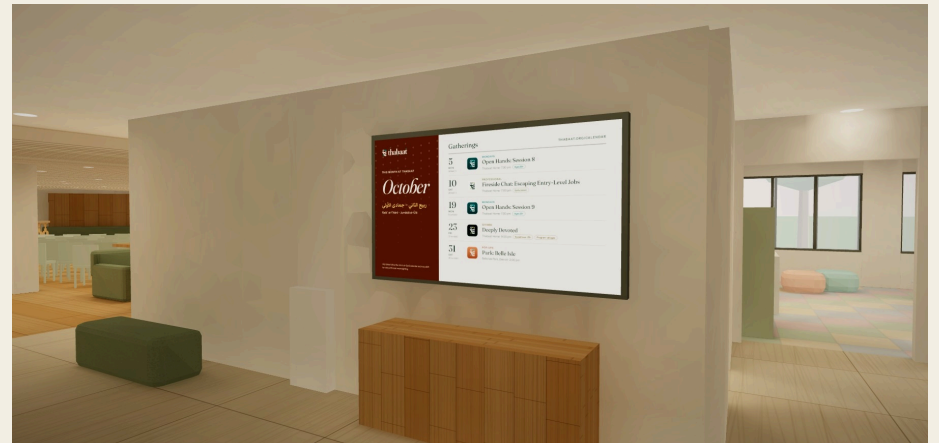
Babysitting room. Soft flooring, a kitchenette and lockers beside the sisters' entrance.
N161·472 SF.



Classroom. 74 desks, windows north and east.



Lounge & booths. By the brothers' entrance.



Entry hall. A screen with this month's gatherings greets everyone at the main doors.

From drawings to doors open

The campus opens in stages, starting with the rooms the community needs most. We are in Phase 0 today.

WE ARE HERE

PHASE 0

Foundations

Now – October 2026

Architect and interior designer on board, the whole project scoped, and foundational work begun.

\$200K by end of October

PHASE 1

The Heart

Target • Ramadan 2027

Event hall, musallah, and restrooms with wudu. A home for halaqas, workshops, classes and prayer.

PHASE 2

Family & Learning

Target • Summer 2027

Parents rooms, babysitting and the workshop room.

PHASE 3

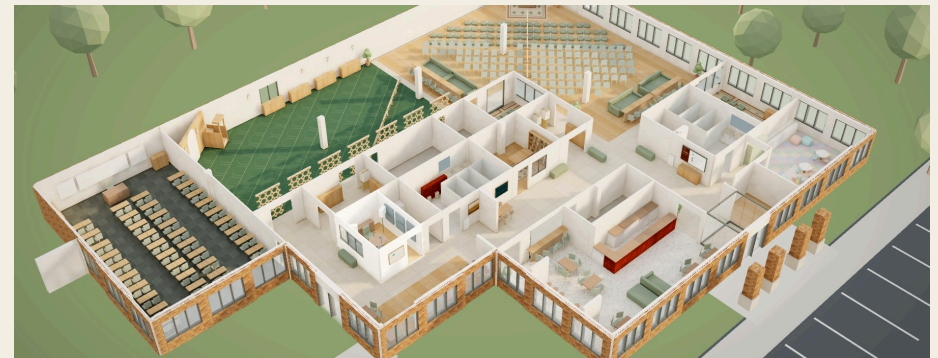
The Commons

Target • Fall 2027

Coffee shop and lounge.



Today. Lobby, open office and a small prayer room.



With your support. Musallah, flex hall, classroom, café and family rooms.

Dates are targets and depend on funding and permits.

PHASE 0 · OUR ASK

\$200,000

by the end of October

This first step lets us move now, so the heart of the campus can open in time for Ramadan 2027, even in a simple first form.

1. **Architect and interior designer.** Bring both on board this month to take the plan to construction drawings.
2. **Scope the whole project.** Price every phase so the community sees the full picture.
3. **Foundational work.** Start the groundwork now, so Phase 1 can move fast.

Plans from the architect's schematic design, September 2026. Renderings and finishes are concept visualizations; all drawings are preliminary and not for construction.



Build with us

Donate at **thabaat.org/home**



SCAN TO DONATE