Vancouver is a place of tremendous contrast. For some, the city is one of the most beautiful and livable in the world, but the city also has one of the highest rates of unsheltered homelessness. Vancouver government is committed to ending this crisis, but housing and income inequality mean that many people still experience long-term and persistent homelessness.

This studio asks, how do we, as architects committed to human wellbeing, create permanent supportive housing that is not simply shelter, but also designed to promote recovery from the physical and emotional trauma of homelessness?

Our Southeast False Creek site, between the Olympic Village and the Cambie Bridge, is currently a surface parking lot for the Vancouver Police. The City is actively exploring development proposals for environmentally and socially sustainable uses for this valuable site.

This studio includes a visit to Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. If needed, please apply for a visa for this trip upon selection.

You will have numerous opportunities to collaborate with teammates, but at the end of the semester you will have comprehensively designed an 80-100 unit multifamily housing building with support service spaces on your own.