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Portland Specialty Design-Build Firm Creates Custom Housing for Homeless
SQFT Studios is designing and building the first two dwelling units for Multnomah County's "A Place for You" program

Portland, Ore. – SQFT Studios LLC, a Portland-based design-build company, is creating the first housing prototypes for Multnomah County's "A Place for You," a pilot project working toward solutions for homeless families. SQFT Studios has designed and is building the first two Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), which will be completed and move-in ready in early 2018.

With the number of families experiencing homelessness in Portland at a record high, "A Place for You" offers a solution by designing and installing ADUs – essentially mini houses – in privately owned yards. Homeless families will live in these units rent free for five years. At the end of that period the hosts will be able to transfer ownership of the structure for a minimal cost.

With their innovative, non-traditional building techniques and focus on creating compact and efficient accessory structures, SQFT Studios is a natural fit to design the first mini housing prototypes. Each design is flexible to fit the available space in the yard of the host properties. The structures will be about 320 square feet and will include a full kitchen, bathroom, heating and cooling, lighting, power and high-quality air ventilation system.

"As a native Portlander, I've watched the homelessness and housing problem continue to grow, and we are humbled to be part of the effort to help solve this crisis," said Schuyler Silva, SQFT Studios co-founder and Chief Operating Officer.

These mini homes are designed to house up to two adults and two children. The initial properties have been identified, and they will be located within close proximity to key services, such as public transit, public schools, and grocery stores.

"It's an honor to be selected to contribute the initial prototypes for this project," said Eli Green, SQFT Studios co-founder and Director of Design. "We've enjoyed seamlessly integrating our Home Studios and Accessory Dwelling Units onto the properties of numerous Portland residents. We know that these functional, compact designs will be ideal for the families who will benefit from the program."

Attached image(s):

SQFT Studios APFY ADU Rendering.jpg – Artists rendering of an A Place For You ADU in place.

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SQFT Studios LLC designs and builds Accessory Dwelling Units and Home Studios for a wide range of clientele. From home offices to creative spaces to guest houses, these units are fully customizable. Clients have the option of a unique design for their specific space or a customized modular, prefabricated solution. For more information, visit sqftstudios.com or find us on Facebook and Instagram @SQFTStudios.