Reimagining the Community Center for the 21st Century: Habitat for Humanity New York City Partners with QUADRA to Modernize Brooklyn Community Center

Brooklyn-based Quadra, a Designer Furniture Rental and Real Estate Staging company, kicked off its first Habitat for Humanity New York City project to enhance the lives of thousands of New Yorkers.

December 12, 2017—Brooklyn, NY—Today Habitat for Humanity New York City (Habitat NYC) and Quadra celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly outfitted Wyckoff Gardens Community Center in Boerum Hill, Brooklyn.

The fifty-five year-old center provides valuable services to their ethnically and generationally diverse community of preschoolers, young adults, and senior citizens. Habitat NYC and Quadra’s partnership will modernize the center’s space in order to accommodate the range of interests of their residents. Wyckoff Gardens Community Center also supplies hot meals daily and prides itself on their reading and nutritional education programs in addition to seasonal community celebrations and cultural events hosted onsite.

Quadra’s interior spatial design experts led a comprehensive assessment of the facility after evaluating input from residents regarding current and forecasted space utilization. Next, Quadra’s team developed a bespoke design plan to revamp four rooms in the community center: the library (modified into a computer room), the lounge (modified into a creative entertainment space) and two classrooms (outfitted to embrace flexible, multigenerational learning environments). Drawing from their 12+ years of experience designing and staging some of the City’s premier properties, Quadra was determined to make the space more flexible and modern to live up to the needs of the Wyckoff Gardens residents.

“We are so thankful for our partners at Quadra for their generous donation of new furnishings to the Wyckoff Gardens Community Center and for volunteering their time to help improve a cherished neighborhood meeting place,” said Karen Haycox, CEO of Habitat for Humanity New York City. “A habitat is more than just a home environment. Providing a safe place where residents, from kids to seniors, can gather, learn and relax is essential to the longevity of every community.”
“Youth learn a lot about who they are and what they deserve from their environment,” said Regina Mitchell, Director, HSVS Wyckoff Gardens Cornerstone Program. “With Quadra’s donation, our children and teens will want to spend more time at Wyckoff Gardens after school and during summers. They can be proud of the community they belong to, and feel even more encouraged to reach their academic and personal goals.”

Quadra has a long history of community partnerships and supporting organizations like Habitat NYC. With its ongoing donations of designer furniture and décor, Quadra has become the top contributor to the Habitat NYC ReStore, where proceeds of donated furniture, etc. support Habitat’s work to build and preserve homes for hard-working, low-income families. Quadra is positioned to expand its partnership with Habitat NYC to outfit even more community centers in 2018.

“We always press ourselves to create intelligent spaces that inspire. Today, the people who live and who’ve grown up in these spaces inspire us. An amazing multigenerational tapestry of Brooklyn lives here and we enjoyed helping them reimagine their space to serve generations to come,” said Robert Sablic, Founder & CEO of Quadra. “We want people to fall in love with the places they live, work and play. Wherever you call home.”

In addition to donating furniture, colorful décor, new mobile Swiftspace workstations, and tech enhancements like flat screens and the latest gaming system, Quadra drew from its longstanding relationship with the non-profit arts organization Chashama to bring original art into the mix. The artist Kristin Reed, with her distinct expressionistic use of light and color juxtaposed with graphic geometrical symbols, painted a mural that will surely inspire everyone who walks through the halls of the Wyckoff Gardens Community Center.

About Habitat for Humanity New York City

Habitat for Humanity New York City transforms lives and communities by building affordable homes with families in need - and by uniting all New Yorkers around the cause of affordable housing. With the help of thousands of volunteers each year, Habitat NYC builds and preserves homes for families across the five boroughs. Learn more at www.HabitatNYC.org and connect with us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and Instagram.

About QUADRA

Headquartered in Brooklyn and founded in 2005, Quadra creates smart spaces for people to live and work better by providing end-to-end bespoke and pre-designed furniture rental collections. Learn more at www.quadrafs.com and follow us on Instagram or Pinterest or email us at mydesign@quadrafs.com.

About HSVS Youth Development and Community Programs

HeartShare St. Vincent’s Youth Development and Community Programs educate and nurture over 3,600 youth into successful adults. The HSVS Cornerstone Programs offer tutoring, recreational activities, creative arts and sports. For more information, visit www.hsvsnyc.org. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @hsvsnyc.
Wyckoff Gardens Community Center Classroom, reimagined by QUADRA
Wyckoff Gardens Community Center new mural by Chashama artist Kristin Reed