A DISTRIBUTED ACCESS & ALLIANCE PROPOSAL

Commons in Practice

Many places to belong. Small commitments that connect.



Hospitality. Learning. Rest.
Shared responsibility, in many places.

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Discussion edition 0.1 / October 28, 2026

An invitation to co-design.

Proposed for co-design. No named organization has endorsed this proposal or committed space, funding, staff, or participation. No events, overnight stays, or service appointments are available through this proposal.

Read together

Room to Belong develops a Davis housing and care commons. This companion turns the wider network into a practical series of small, bounded commitments. The named Davis groups are an illustrative starting network, and new communities can use the role-based pilot structure.

What this edition contains

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Sources checked October 28, 2026. Legal and operational notes are starting points for site-specific confirmation; permissions, fees, capacity, and organizational commitments can change.

Let support travel toward people.

A distributed access and alliance network can connect small, trusted places with the people, resources, and responsibility needed to sustain them.

The idea

A neighborhood room, cooperative common area, community center, faith-community hall, garden, or other suitable place could offer a bounded piece of a larger commons. Each host keeps its identity. Guests can choose among settings, with clear access information and dependable follow-up. The vision is accessible, meaningful and adequately supported work, essential needs, resourced options, and hospitable spaces where people can move through transitions with choice.

A useful beginning

Start with one funded daytime gathering and one confirmed visiting-provider session. Listen with older adults, disabled adults, people living in vehicles or without stable housing, and people whose needs are missed by existing settings. Make the next step smaller than the capacity available to carry it.

The long horizon

Connect lasting cooperative housing, practical support, hospitality, learning, and stewardship. The Room to Belong chapbook develops the housing and shared-governance proposal. This companion develops events, distributed guest hours, and a template other communities can adapt.

A person should be able to find a useful next step without having to gather in one crowded place or repeatedly retell their life.

Start with relationships. Leave room for others.

The Davis network is an illustrative starting configuration. Its roles can be filled differently elsewhere.

Possible Davis conversations

Invite Safe Heart / HEART of Davis to discuss continuity and trusted introductions; SCHA to explore cooperative housing and resident stewardship; DCMH to explore funded service and food-access roles; IHJD to explore convening, property, and resource relationships; and H4AD to explore public education and dialogue. Each proposed role requires its own agreement.

A wider circle

Invite mutual-aid groups, independent neighbors, groups that have not chosen a name, community centers, operators, artists, and research-minded friends. A contribution might be two room-hours, paid coordination, transport, interpretation, or a listening session. No organization is expected to represent everyone.

Roles that travel

Every local pilot needs guest and resident representatives, a responsible host, an accountable operator, a coordinator, a resource steward, and any authorized service partners. One group can fill several roles if capacity and conflicts are addressed. Participation does not merge organizations or transfer their authority.

Named here means invited to explore. Only an explicit, authorized commitment makes someone a participating partner.

Give people a say in the places they use.

Joint governance needs paid participation, a real decision boundary, and an accessible route to challenge a decision.

A starting council

Room to Belong proposes equal resident and organizational representation: five seats on each side, consent-seeking first, then at least three votes from each side for shared decisions. Other communities can adapt the numbers while preserving meaningful resident power and an agreed quorum.

Keep authority legible

The council governs only the work and funds delegated to it. Property owners, operators, provider supervisors, and organizational boards retain their own duties. Record who can approve an event, commit money, change a house rule, or respond to a safety concern. Set recusals and an independent review route.

Make participation possible

Budget for resident time, access support, interpretation, transport, and alternatives to long meetings. Offer written and remote input. Housing, services, rest, and basic hospitality should not depend on volunteering, research participation, personal testimony, or agreement with the group's beliefs.

The unit of growth is a reliable commitment with a named owner, a limit, and a review date.

Invite providers into the commons.

The proposed model brings an authorized provider to a suitable host space at a predictable time, with a route to follow-up.

Before anyone travels

The provider confirms scope, eligibility, cost, capacity, staffing, supervision, and a receiving contact. The host confirms accessible entry, a private conversation room, restrooms, quiet waiting space, and transport information. Publish only what is actually available and authorized for publication.

Appointments and drop-ins

Offer reserved slots and limited drop-in capacity where the provider agrees. Explain the allocation method, arrival window, cancellation process, and backup contact. When full, offer an agreed follow-up or another confirmed option rather than requiring people to queue for an uncertain chance.

A handoff with consent

Ask which introduction the person wants and what information may be shared. The receiving worker confirms the connection; a named coordinator follows up. Keep case records with authorized providers. The public commons map holds access conditions and service hours, never diagnoses, personal histories, or confidential refuge locations.

A referral is a supported connection, not a promise of a benefit, placement, appointment, or exception to lawful eligibility.

A field school in hospitality and care.

Commons Camp is proposed as an art, agriculture, and trades gathering across housing, food systems, and transit: a place for learning, rest, hospitality, and shared stewardship.

A first daytime edition

An illustrative daytime Commons Field School could include an accessible welcome, a safely prepared meal, an art-and-design studio, a garden or repair demonstration, optional provider hours, quiet rest, and a closing reflection. Use qualified supervision and site permission for tools, trades, and mobility activities. State beginning and end times; workshops and work remain optional.

A seasonal or lunisolar rhythm

Use seasons or lunar phases as an optional cultural and scheduling rhythm: a seed-and-listen gathering, a summer shade and cooling walk, a harvest exchange, or a winter care review. Co-design the meaning with participants. Spiritual practice and any particular worldview remain optional; the calendar makes no health or climate-performance claim.

An overnight edition to explore

A later proposal might add one authorized overnight between an afternoon program and morning stewardship session. Describe sleeping, sanitation, supervision, accessibility, weather backup, and departure arrangements candidly. Overnight use and each recurrence need the relevant written approvals before invitations offer a stay.

A welcoming event can include rest as a real purpose. Its name and program do not themselves authorize camping or ongoing shelter.

Art, agriculture, and trades.

Use Baile, Farmers Matrix, and AACDI as connected fields of practice within this proposal, with activities co-designed around local interests and capacity.

Three fields, many entry points

Baile brings attention to people, embodiment, choice, culture, and belonging. Farmers Matrix connects land, food, materials, and stewardship. AACDI offers a proposed field for art, culture, design, facilitation, and cooperative practice. These are working frameworks here, not claims that new organizations or credentialed programs already exist.

Housing, agriculture, and transit

Possible learning activities include a home-access design studio, a community-growing demonstration, a supervised repair workshop, or a participatory transit-access map. Link creative exploration with practical questions: who can use this, what does it cost, who maintains it, and what permission or expertise is needed?

Resourced paths through transition

Welcome people entering different life transitions without requiring a personal story. Offer ways to observe, rest, learn, create, or take a clearly scoped paid role. State compensation and qualifications before work begins; a camp is not itself a job guarantee, apprenticeship credential, housing placement, or transport operator.

Autonomous enough to experiment and create; supported enough to be hospitable, safe, and accessible. Unity in diversity, without uniformity.

Learn with people. Build from their strengths.

CBPR, ABCD, and Bahá’í-inspired consultation offer complementary starting points for a locally governed practice.

CBPR / Share the inquiry [7]

Community-based participatory research is a partnership approach. Residents, organizational partners, and researchers share decisions across the question, design, interpretation, and use of findings. Agree on compensation, ownership, consent, and publication. A guest may receive hospitality without becoming a research participant.

ABCD / Begin with community assets [8]

Asset-based community development starts with people’s gifts, relationships, associations, places, and existing resources. Map what people want to offer and what institutions can support. Community leadership and mutual support guide the work; recognizing strengths does not erase unmet needs or justify unpaid essential labor.

Bahá’í inspiration / Consult, act, reflect [9, 10]

The proposal draws inspiration from Bahá’í administrative principles and the connected work of community building, social action, and contribution to the discourses of society. Adapt consultation, service, shared learning, and unity in diversity into explicit local agreements. This is an independent proposal, not an official Bahá’í program or adoption of religious authority.

People of every faith and none can participate, question, disagree respectfully, decline a practice, and leave. Shared purpose does not require shared belief.

Lanterns for one another.

A collective attention and strategy practice: enough light for the next responsible step, followed by a return to learn.

Observe → Name → Map

Notice lived conditions and what is worth protecting. Name the need, harm, hope, or transition in the affected person’s own terms. Map people, assets, authority, constraints, and existing commitments. Ask whose perspective is missing and what may be shared. Naming a concern never obligates someone to fix it.

Design → Act together

Choose one bounded experiment, repair, boundary, referral, or pause. Confirm a willing steward, resources, site permission, support, backup, and return date. Record who may decide, who may represent whom, and who has actually accepted a role. An invitation remains proposed until accepted; no one assigns labor by listing a name.

Document → Return

Record only agreed information: the intended step, accepted responsibility, effort and cost, result, unresolved issue, credit, and return decision. Ask whether it served the person’s intention. Continue, adapt, repeat, pause, route elsewhere, or stop. Private reflection stays private unless its author explicitly chooses to share it.

One method. One situation. One consented experiment—or a clear pause. One return date. Rest, refusal, and a dignified exit remain available.

Who holds what, and with whose permission?

Use these roles as a discussion map. People and organizations accept specific responsibilities; Lanterns itself grants no authority.

People, representation, and decisions

Each participant speaks for their own interests and chooses what may be shared. A collective delegate represents only an agreed constituency and mandate. The resident-and-partner council decides shared matters expressly delegated to it. Its decisions do not substitute for individual consent, provider authority, or property permission.

Steward, host, and specialist

The Lantern steward coordinates the agreed step and follows up. The host or operator holds site access, readiness, conduct procedures, and closure responsibilities. A provider or trades lead holds the authorized specialist work and supervision. Each role records its limits, support, compensation, and named backup; unfilled roles remain visible gaps.

Resources, return, and memory

The resource steward tracks funds, restrictions, and actual costs. A Return & Reset steward plans cleanup, maintenance, and handback. A documentation steward keeps a minimal consented learning record and credits contributions. A storage steward accounts for equipment and access. Roles may be combined explicitly, with capacity and conflicts checked.

Every agreement records: offer and need / scope / permission / accepted owner / resources and pay / backup / evidence / return date / step-back or exit route.

Match the actual use to the actual approval.

Davis provides a discretionary special-event camping route. A Commons Camp proposal would still need City review for a specific site and activity.

The current Davis starting point [1]

Article 26.11 allows the Parks and Community Services director to permit temporary camping connected with a special event on public or private property. Conditions can address duration, occupancy, sanitation, safety, and insurance. Its residential friends-or-family exception is limited to two consecutive nights; it is not general permission for public host matching.

Bring a concrete event brief [2, 3]

Ask the City which permissions cover the site, overnight use, recurrence, meals, structures, and activities. City park special-use guidance lists a 60-day minimum lead time; facility-rental guidance lists 30 days. Confirm the applicable route and timing directly. A room reservation alone does not establish overnight permission.

Separate routes and jurisdictions [1, 4]

Safe parking has a separate host-permit framework. Unincorporated Yolo County and UC Davis require their own jurisdiction checks. Do not treat an event permit as authorization for continuous residential use, or rotate events to avoid use limits. Keep policy research separate from claims about what is allowed today.

Track: proposed → site and operator identified → permissions under review → approved with conditions → ready to invite → reviewed. The status changes only when evidence supports it.

Test what makes a place more usable.

Climate resilience can be a careful learning question shared by neighbors, hosts, and research partners.

Choose a small question

Could additional shade make a waiting area more comfortable? Do people reach a cooling room during its actual hours? Is drinking water easy to find? Could an accessible route, communications plan, or supply-sharing agreement improve readiness? Choose one question with participants before buying equipment or collecting data.

Observe without extracting

Begin with site observations, voluntary feedback, and aggregate counts. Use separate, understandable consent for interviews, photographs, research, or publication. Compensate contributions where budgeted and involve residents in interpreting results. Services remain available when someone declines research.

Review before making claims

Agree on measures, limits, privacy, data retention, and who owns or can publish the work. Academic partners determine whether institutional research review is required before collecting human-participant data. A small hospitality experiment is not automatically an emergency shelter or evidence of proven climate benefits.

Publish what was tried, who could use it, what failed, and what changed. Protect the people behind the findings.

Fund the work behind the welcome.

Donations, sponsorship, shared rooms, and discounted rentals are possible avenues to investigate, with a clear recipient and written terms.

Ask for a bounded contribution

A room offer might cover one three-hour session and setup time. A sponsor might fund paid resident planning, a coordinator, transport, access equipment, or meals. Budget insurance, deposits, sanitation, cleaning, supervision, cancellation, and reserve capacity alongside program activity. Record cash and in-kind support separately.

Confirm the rental classification [3, 5]

Ask Davis Parks and Community Services about the venue, community-group classification, current fees, co-sponsorship, and any approved waiver route. Do not promise a discount for a charitable theme. The City's published July 2025 single-room schedule uses the same rate across user-group classifications except nonresidents; obtain a current written quote.

Name the receiving entity [6]

Before collecting project funds, agree who receives and controls them, how they are restricted and reported, and what happens if the pilot stops. Explore an eligible fiscal host or sponsor through a written agreement. Do not call payments tax-deductible without a qualifying recipient and applicable requirements; gifts to individuals are not deductible charitable contributions.

This proposal does not collect donations or claim nonprofit status. A transparent funding arrangement comes before a fundraising launch.

Belonging needs practical safeguards.

People may prefer different rhythms, levels of stimulation, and kinds of company. Design those conditions clearly and fairly.

Describe conditions rather than labels

Publish quiet hours, substance-use rules, food practices, animal arrangements, and accessibility. Protect people from coercion, harassment, intimidation, dehumanizing targeting, and violence through a fair, conduct-based response. “Free from extremism” is a commitment to nonviolent, noncoercive participation, not a vague test of identity, disability, religion, or lawful disagreement.

Make care someone’s responsibility

Name the on-duty host, provider lead, backup, and complaint contact. Set a practical food handling and cleaning plan. State limits on medical or personal care. Arrange a response to urgent hazards without expecting guests to investigate or mediate harmful conduct themselves.

Make endings humane

Explain the event's closing time and any overnight departure plan before attendance. Arrange agreed referrals or transport where feasible without promising unavailable placements. For lasting housing, use the separate tenancy model: benefits approval should improve stability, not automatically trigger a move-out.

Individually represented and collectively represented. Safe enough to disagree, supported enough to experiment, and free to decline or leave.

One place. One offer. A review.

Use a 90-day planning and learning cycle only after a responsible team authorizes it and minimum funding is secured.

Days 1-30 / Listen and define

Pay a small resident advisory group. Select a coordinator, potential host, and provider contact. Agree on one useful offer, access needs, responsibilities, permission route, full cost, and complaint process. Deliver a pilot card and a readiness decision; no public service promises yet.

Days 31-60 / Try what is ready

When space, staff, funds, and permissions are confirmed, offer one daytime commons gathering and a scheduled provider session. Publish capacity and backup information. Keep the housing feasibility work and any overnight permit inquiry on their own timelines.

Days 61-90 / Learn and decide

Review completed connections, missed follow-ups, participant feedback, access barriers, costs, and staff burden. Let participants help interpret the results. Choose continue, revise, pause, or stop, with owners and resources for any next commitment. Publish only de-identified findings.

Expand to a second host when the first commitment is dependable and a second team can meet the same responsibilities.

Copy the structure. Write your own agreement.

Use this blank structure with a neighborhood, mutual-aid group, host, or alliance. Complete unknowns honestly before inviting guests.

Purpose and people

Working name; local question; intended participants; paid resident voice; responsible operator; property host; coordinator and backup; authorized provider; resource or fiscal steward. Name each role's decision authority and whether the commitment is proposed or confirmed. Link the card to one Lanterns cycle and distinguish an individual voice from an authorized collective mandate.

Place and offer

Jurisdiction; site permission; dates and recurrence; actual hours and capacity; daytime or overnight use; access and animal arrangements; privacy; food and sanitation; weather and cancellation plan; referral method; eligibility and costs; backup when full.

Resources and review

Cash and in-kind budget; confirmed funds; restrictions; insurance and permits; complaint route; optional research and consent; minimal data and deletion date; success measures; stop conditions; review date; next action, owner, and due date.

You may copy and adapt this blank pilot-card structure with credit to Möbius Refuge / Sahar Tai-Seale. This does not grant use of partner names, logos, Homeitat methods, or any claim of endorsement.

Make choices visible before building.

Möbius Refuge connects people and places. Homeitat can help people imagine, plan, and make places together.

A future project room

Homeitat is envisioned as participatory games, dioramas, adaptable designs, learning environments, and physical-space kits. Begin with one small workshop tool inside Möbius Refuge that helps people explore roles, space, tradeoffs, and a bounded project.

Learn from an actual pilot

The first commons gathering could reveal what a kit needs: a quiet-zone layout, access cards, a budget board, or a simple stewardship game. Test usability with participants before developing a separate product site, build package, or licensing arrangement.

Keep identities clear

Sahar Tai-Seale's authorship remains attached. Hosts and collaborators retain their own identities and decisions. Specify consent, credit, ownership, and scope for any Homeitat collaboration or reuse. The open pilot-card invitation is separate from permissions for authored methods and branded materials.

Start where people already are. Make the next commitment understandable, voluntary, and possible to keep.

Check the route.
Keep the evidence.

The links below support the factual notes. All operating arrangements remain proposals. Obtain a current written determination for the actual site and activity.

[1] City of Davis Municipal Code, Article 26.11: Camping

Temporary special-event camping, the limited residential exception, and permit conditions. Review for the specific proposed use.

[2] City of Davis: Special Events

City venue special-use process and published lead time; confirm the route for a private site.

[3] City of Davis: Rentals - Facilities, Fields, and Parks

Rental applications, community-group form, insurance, fees, and contacts. Registration: 530-757-5626, option 2; Registration@cityofdavis.org.

[4] City of Davis Municipal Code, Article 26.12: Safe Parking

Separate host-permit framework; an event or room reservation does not substitute for it.

[5] City of Davis: Single Room Facility Rental Fees, effective July 1, 2025

Dated published schedule, not a current quote. Confirm current fees and any approved reduction with the City.

Check the route. Keep the evidence.

The links below support the factual notes. All operating arrangements remain proposals. Obtain a current written determination for the actual site and activity.

[6] IRS: Topic 506, Charitable Contributions

Qualified recipients and limits on deductibility; no tax status or deduction is promised here.

[7] Detroit Urban Research Center: CBPR Principles

Equitable partnership, shared decisions, co-learning, and community use of research.

[8] ABCD International Network: Mission and Values

Community gifts, relationships, resident leadership, and equitable participation.

[9] Bahá'ís of the United States: Public Affairs FAQs

Community building, social action, and participation in the discourses of society.

[10] Bahá'í Reference Library: Social Action, section 5

Consultation, action, reflection, and learning. Inspiration does not establish endorsement.

Start where you already are.

One room. One conversation.
One reliable offer.
One date to learn together.

Read the full proposals and adapt a pilot card at:

Möbius Refuge / Proposals & chapbooks

Concept and framework initiated by Sahar Tai-Seale. Partner names identify invitations, not endorsements. The pilot-card structure may be adapted with credit; branded methods and other materials require their own permissions.