



Village Life Outreach sends trained doctors & nurses to northern Tanzania on brigades twice a year. Other than at these times, most people in the region have no access to healthcare. The establishment of a permanent health center for the region is critical for the future health of the residents of the region. The challenge of this project involves the lack of power and clean water in the region as well as the limited availability of materials & resources.

emersion DESIGN partnered with Village Life Outreach, The University of Cincinnati and ARUP Engineers in developing a clear understanding of the climatic conditions of the villages, the construction skills & available materials in the region & architectural expectations of the Kamegata people. During this analysis we realized that Roche Village needs more than a health center; they need a community center. The Roche Village Health Center will become the center for community education, commerce & healthcare for the population of Roche & beyond.

Regionally responsive, culturally appropriate & sustainable design solutions require extensive research. The research methodologies have included extensive climatic analysis using climate & energy modeling and thorough assessment of climatic conditions. There was

extensive research of the history of design & construction in this region which led to the development of new opportunities for construction using the existing materials for more durable construction.

Goals for this project included the assessment of needs for a healthcare facility for the region, to develop a hub for the Roche Community, to offer a healthcare center for ongoing wellness & health of the people, & to present a facility that will provide opportunities & spaces for healthcare education to local villages & medical personnel. The design objectives were to offer a building that exemplifies contemporary opportunities for effective construction utilizing local materials & skills, to grant a flexible health center that can expand & adapt as the community develops, & to provide a health center that has community support & encouragement.

In addition, the plan for this project has incorporated a bioclimatic design, the vernacular & contemporary construction traditions native to the region, the local construction materials & labor skills leading to proposals for new construction techniques for the region, analysis of the site, materials, & construction in northern Tanzania, & interviews with Tanzanian architects & builders.

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**DESIGN HIGHLIGHTS**

- Net Zero Energy
- Net Zero Water
- Bioclimatic Design
- Passive Ventilation
- Integrative Design Process
- Community based design
- Non-Profit client
- Health Care
- University partner

