

“We're beginning to think about a new nursing home.”

EUGENE: But I'm really glad to see the nursing home has survived all these years, you know. To the point where now, it's quite apparent that, you know, that we probably need a new nursing home. So, we're beginning to think about a new nursing home, I don't know how long it's going to take.

MIKE JON: This facility is getting old. It's past its prime now. So yeah, it's a nice little place but... looking forward to the new one. I came in when this was kind of new, and I'm watching it close down. So, I think I've been here quite a while.

ELIZABETH: And the residents are really excited, because this home was built in, like 1972. And it's old, the corridors are small. Some of the bathrooms on the west side are like, like, just in the hallways and the entrance.

EUGENE: I don't know how far we are along with that subject. I do still feel that the government is going to resist all they can because it's a huge undertaking, you know. So, I don't know how far we are away from it.

TERRY: I think is going to be great. I've seen the diagrams. I didn't go to opening ground ceremony. But the diagrams are bloody awesome. It's going to be huge. Each person gets their own room and their own bathroom, which will be a godsend. A little more privacy. But everything's going to be so much more spacious. And I'm yeah, I'm looking forward to it.

JAMES: Well I've seen pictures of it, it looked very nice. Yeah, they've got a plan and it's... when I've seen it, it's all glass out in the front like the courtyard. So that looked really sharp.

ELIZABETH: Yeah, it's a lodge style. But if you look from the top downward it's supposed to be shaped like an eagle. And they got it facing the south side where the sun's gonna shine and facing the sunshine, which is kind of a traditional thing for, you know, our culture and making sure that, you know, we, we face the south side.

MIKE JON: Yeah, different. It will have six different wings and we'll be able to close the unit off in case somebody gets ill. We'll have all the resources and services in that facility so.

ELIZABETH: We want to change our new nursing home into like a lodge setting where it's not institutional, like, just because of their past experience they had with residential school. Because the minute they look down the hall and have it looks like a school hall, and it looks like a corridor- they just get traumatized all over again.

We're telling the residents that you're going to get a new home and the hallways are going to be bigger, and it's not going to be so compressed. They're gonna have one room each and their own private space. So, they're actually really happy about that and so are we all. It's just going to be a more modern home.

FRED: They're really selling the idea that the new nursing home is going to be better, but I'm kind of content so I'm not too overly enthusiastic about the new place. We have our own rooms and here we have to share but I don't mind the other guy.

MATTHEW: This memory always comes to mind; the architect team was here. And the residents were excited that they're going to have their own room. I remember one was like, "Really, I'm not gonna live with anyone, stay with anyone?" They can bring their guitars in. Just have more space, right? And you know, family comes over, they don't have to feel like they need to go to another room. They can visit with their families there. Make it more personal, right, their living space.

I hear there are going to be courtyards, several of them, planting our traditional medicines, especially just the tobacco and the sage because we have cedar and sweet grass that grow naturally here, right we can just go pick those. My hope is that they can just freely walk out whenever they want. Just to get outdoors more and to do more of their stuff they used to do at their home. I mean, it is their home, right so.