

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of a network of white lines and small circles, resembling a circuit board or a neural network, set against a blue gradient background.

HEART OF TEXAS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NETWORK

DIVERSION CENTER

WHO ARE WE?

- One of 39 Community Mental Health Centers in the State of Texas.
- Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) for a six-county service area in Central Texas to include McLennan County (Waco) and five surrounding rural counties (Bosque, Hill, Falls, Limestone, and Freestone).
- Provider of state funded crisis services through LMHA performance contract with HHS.
- Community partner with various law enforcement agencies to provide jail diversion and reintegration services.

HISTORY OF DIVERSION CENTER

- As a result of the 80th regular legislative session, HOTBHN received specific funding for Psychiatric Emergency Service Centers (PESC).
- HOTBHN opened a 16-bed Crisis Respite facility.
- A few years later, additional funding was secured to open a Crisis Treatment Center with a triage unit, 4 Extended Observation Unit (EOU) beds, and 12 Crisis Residential Unit (CRU) beds.
- This facility was intended to divert individuals from law enforcement and/or emergency departments.
- The facility was operated in a small wing of a former inpatient hospital.

LIMITATIONS

- The small space did not allow for efficient use of beds.
- Lack of single occupancy rooms did not allow for mixing of certain populations.
- Triage unit could not serve the adolescent population.
- Limited medical clearance component greatly reduced the number of diversion opportunities.
- COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the inefficient use of the facility.

SOLUTIONS

- McLennan County Behavioral Health Leadership Team (BHLT) recognized the need for a new facility to effectively divert individuals.
- HOTBHN was identified as the lead agency in attaining new facility.
- After unsuccessful attempts to identify an existing facility, BHLT decided to proceed with new construction.
- Construction began in the Spring of 2022.
- Project was substantially completed in the 4th quarter of 2023.
- Full service implementation to begin within the next few months.

FUNDING

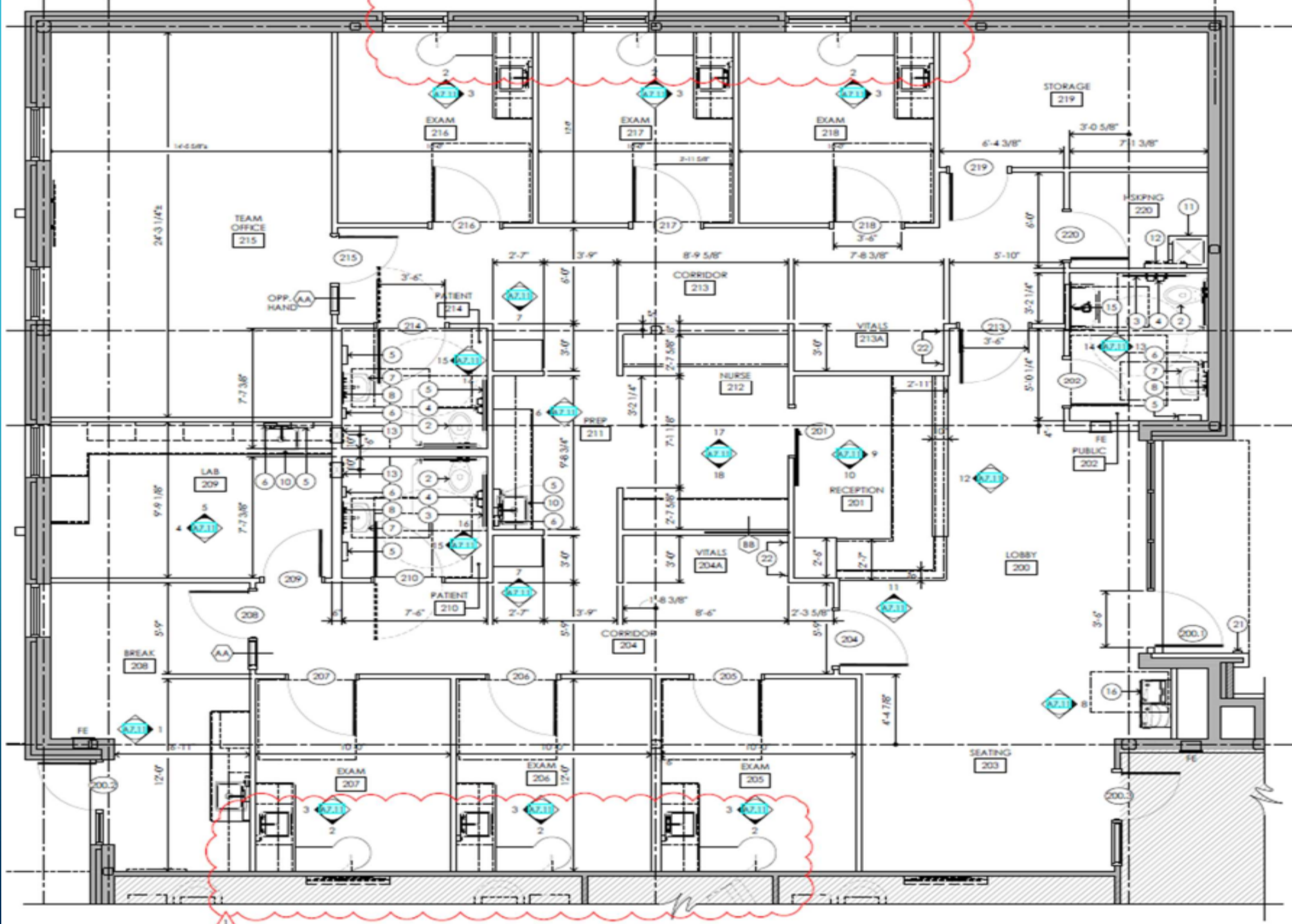
- Construction of the \$14M facility was funded through various sources
 - Contributions of ARPA funding from City of Waco and McLennan County
 - Contributions from private foundations
 - Contributions from other community partners
 - Proceeds from bond issuance from HOTBHN
- Ongoing operations will also be funded through various sources
 - Contributions from local municipal partners
 - State funding (to include legislatively appropriated funds in the 88th legislative session)
 - Reimbursement from 3rd party payers

ENHANCEMENTS IN SERVICES

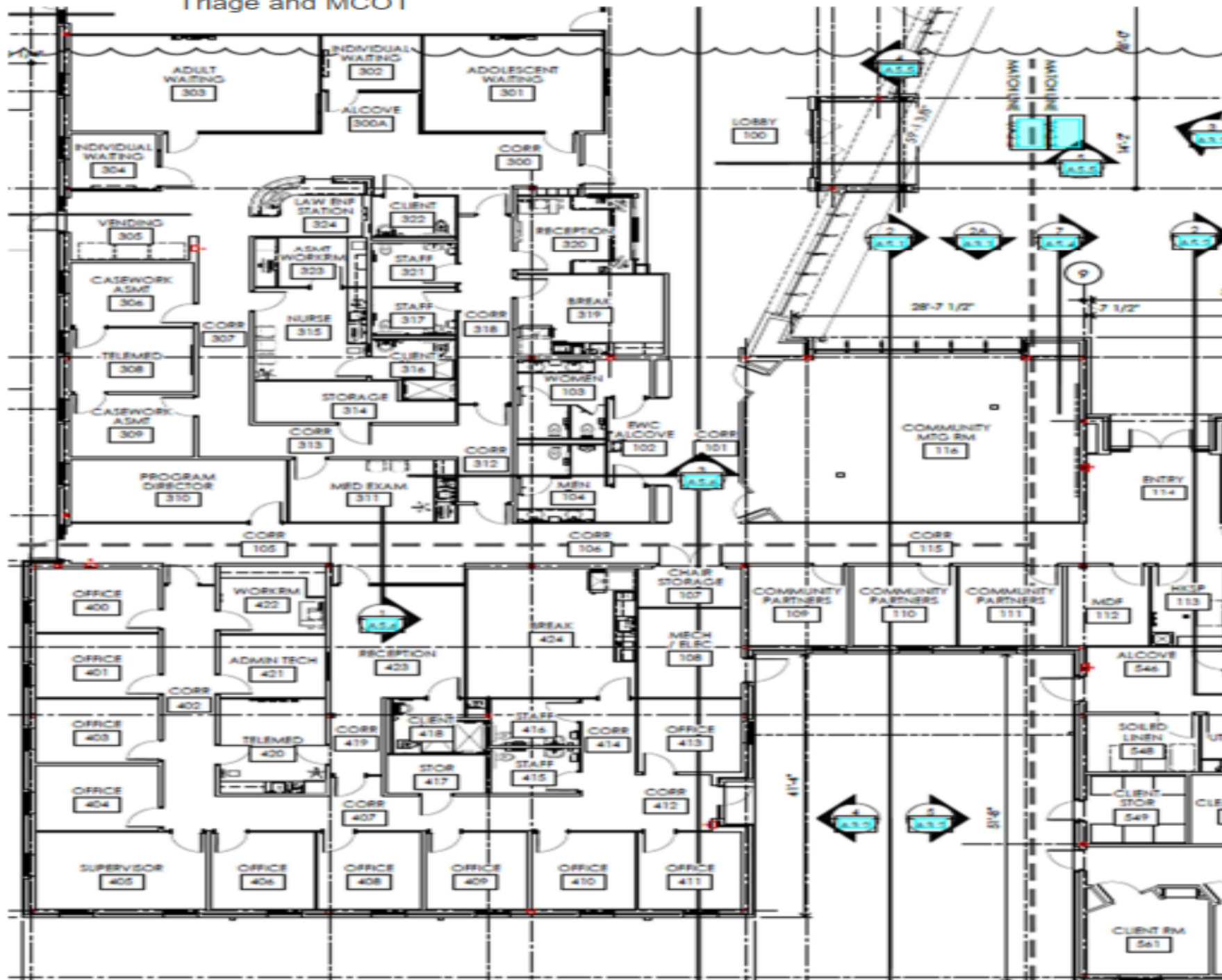
- Triage component has separate waiting rooms for adult and adolescent populations.
- Dedicated law enforcement entrance and other dedicated space for law enforcement partners.
- Enhanced medical clearance services will increase diversion opportunities.
- Single occupancy rooms for both EOU and CRU allows for maximum efficiency in bed utilization.
- Fully functional medical clinic operated by local FQHC.
- Presence of HOTBHN's Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT).
- Dedicated space for other community partners.
- Increased security coverage.

HOTBHN DIVERSION CENTER

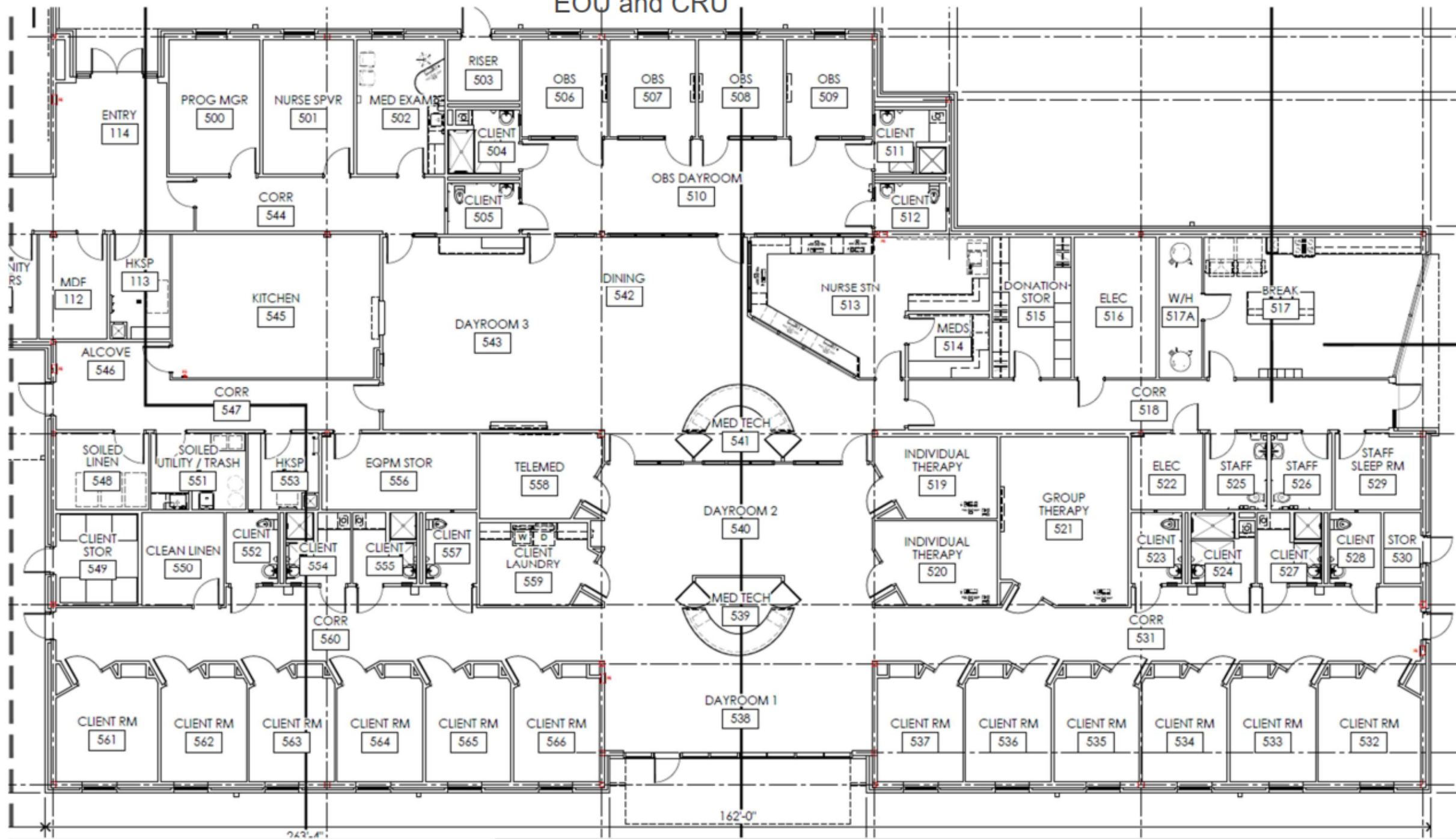




Triage and MCOT



EOU and CRU



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