



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“grovve” A NEW INTEGRATED YOUTH WELLNESS CENTRE PRIORITISING MENTAL WELL-BEING, DESIGNED BY FARM AND WY-TO, OPENS AT *SCAPE

The first-of-its-kind Youth-centric Third Place brings together a consortium of experts through a well-being-focused collaboration

In line with Singapore’s agenda for a more nuanced approach to youth mental health challenges, ‘grovve’, a new initiative by the National Council of Social Service, rethinks youth access to mental health and wellness. This project, led by FARM, utilises design thinking to consider how a resonant, sensitive and non-stigmatising mental wellness centre can be created, and how different mental health service providers can come together to offer more integrated, sympathetic care.



The design thinking phase brought together a consortium of consultants, including FARM, Studio Dojo, Affinity Group, The Dao of Thriving, The Ubuntu Space and GUILD, to work with a steering committee of various government agencies, stakeholders and care providers. Alongside targeted research synthesis and in-depth interviews, a series of workshops were conducted with the youth and service providers across ideation and prototyping phases, giving contextualised insights into the current landscape and future aspirations for youth mental wellness. These findings culminated in an experience blueprint with synergised recommendations on spatial provisions, brand identity and service flow. This blueprint served as the scaffold for the design-and-build phase, which WY-TO Singapore, with their expertise in Well-being and The Merry Men Works, with their build capabilities, bid for successfully as a team.



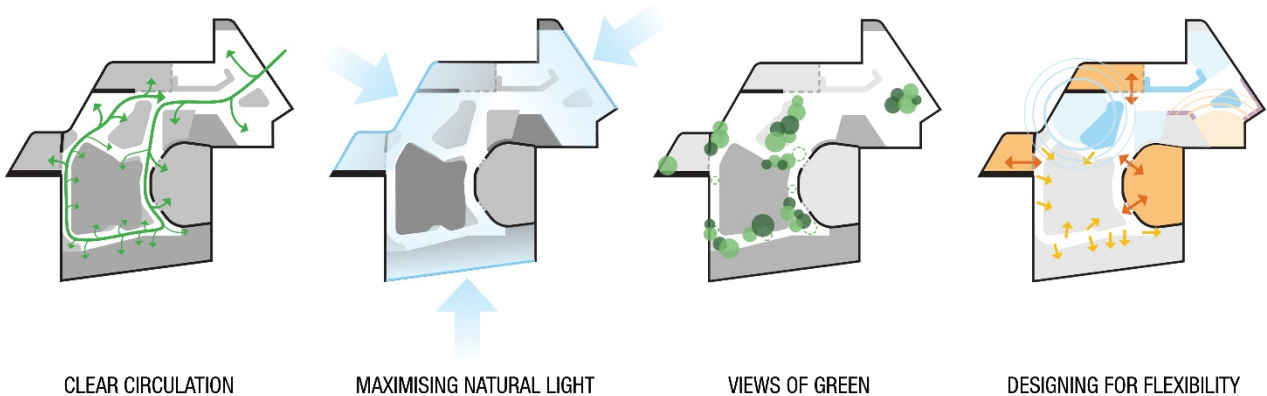
WY-TO pte. ltd.

UEN: 201017308G | Block 34 Upper Cross Street #04-132 | Singapore 050034 | +65 6438 4090 | architects@wy-to.com | www.wy-to.com

The 'Well-being for All' evaluation framework, developed by WY-TO Singapore, was used to refine the initial spatial design. Following this, biophilic-inspired design strategies were implemented to create more holistic and naturalistic solutions. This methodology empowers the new centre to provide systemic benefits for all.

A CIRCULATION SHAPED BY BIOPHILA

The previous layout was adjusted to prioritise free movement and the integration of natural tropical light indoors. In line with biophilic principles, the new winding circulation enhances spatial flexibility. Curved forms carve out distinct pockets of space in varying sizes, catering to diverse needs. To encourage interpersonal connections, the new layout eliminates doors in communal areas, fostering a sense of openness. Additional benefits of this fluid circulation include increased daylight penetration and intuitive wayfinding throughout 'grove.'



More importantly, the revised design ensures workspaces maintain a continuous visual connection to the outdoors, minimising disruptions to the natural circadian rhythm of office workers.

ACCESSIBLE DYNAMIC SPACES FOR PROGRAMMING DIVERSITY

Aligned with the same “no doors in sight” philosophy, dynamic shared spaces for youth and the public remain adaptable. The flexible space adjacent to the co-located café is designed with operable walls and a retractable privacy screen, allowing it to transform into a quiet zone when needed. Tiered seating islands, strategically positioned in the event plaza and key gathering areas, further enable flexible breakout spaces. Designed to spark spontaneous conversations, these islands follow the same organic curve language, inviting people to settle in comfortably. Thoughtfully curated and modular, the multi-purpose furniture allows for endless configurations within these vibrant spaces. Varying in height and texture, they offer users a range of options to personalise their comfort. Material choices align with either biophilic and circularity principles or reflect the innovative, dynamic spirit of youth. When combined, these spatial strategies cultivate intentional placemaking, welcoming a broader and more diverse community.

AN INCLUSIVE SENSE OF COMFORT THROUGH AND THROUGH

To encourage community support and inclusivity, the counselling spaces are surrounded by semi-private areas, providing a sense of security. Entry to these private rooms remains discreet, thanks to the winding circulation. Inside, the curved forms continue, gently enveloping and embracing vulnerable individuals. While room sizes vary, the furniture selection and lighting design follow a cohesive palette of reassurance and reliability. Complementing this, warm tones, natural textures, and soothing textures are integrated as tangible design elements, helping individuals feel safe and at ease.





As Singapore's first-of-its-kind Third Place dedicated to youth mental wellness, 'grovve' represents a bold step toward destigmatising help-seeking. Empathy is embedded through human-centric design, while the activation of shared spaces through diverse programs fosters positive community support. By providing a space where young people can find stability and nurture their sense of belonging, 'grovve' champions our vision of Third Places that prioritise Well-being for All.



[WY-TO Singapore](#)

WY-TO Singapore is a holistic built environment design practice that specialises in developing integrative experiential frameworks for sustainable cities in the context of tropical equatorial Southeast Asia climates. With expertise in Experiential Design, we research and develop people-centric concepts at the scales of towns to cultural placemaking through visitor journeys. Our Team works at the intersection of various stakeholders to co-create inclusive plans by going beyond physical design boundaries. We focus on re-establishing and programming a sense of place, guided by the interrelation of culture and heritage, distinctive to Southeast Asia. We celebrate the diversity that communities shape through comprehensive and curated systemic processes. We enrich cultural identities and nurture accessible experiences for all.

We are committed to the belief of adapting contextual practices to meet global planetary objectives with a green conscience and collaborative mindset for cities, places and communities to be progressive, agile and healthy.

About [Well-being for All](#): 'Well-being for All' is the result of a year-long inquiry into research and practice across the fields of Urban Planning, Architecture, Urban Health, Sociology and Public Policy, informed by our background in the tropical built environment. The research is a grant recipient of Good Design Research by DesignSingapore Council.

[FARM](#)

FARM is many things at once. We are a cross disciplinary design practice. We are an architecture atelier. We are a curatorial team. We are a community-centred arts organization. We even run a design research lab. We call ourselves FARM because we would like to cultivate a culture of imagination. Underpinning all we do is a belief that joyful creativity is essential in all our lives. FARM endeavours to share with you that delight in each of our projects. Since 2005, FARM has worked on community projects which promote the arts. We organise national public art competitions and events. We arrange free quarterly talks by designers and artists. In 2007, FARM established its cross disciplinary design arm. In collaboration with artists and designers, we work on a diverse range of projects. These include architecture & interior design, product design & merchandising, graphic design & branding, art installation & sculpture, exhibition design & curatorial work.

For more information or project communication:

(WY-TO) Audrey Tan: at@wy-to.com

(FARM) Tan Qian Rou: qianrou@farm.sg