



Cosmopolitan Foundation
Building and Grounds Project

RESTORATION • RENEWAL • RECOVERY

The History

You may have heard of the Cosmopolitan Group, affectionately referred to as “Cosmo.” Or, you may have attended or currently attend meetings there. And you just might know someone who has benefited from the 12-Step recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous. The disease of alcoholism and its 12-Step treatment program touch more individuals and families than you might think. The program and the people who participate in and support it, literally save lives. Everyday.

Greater Little Rock AA was formed in 1940. The Cosmopolitan Group has been in existence in Little Rock since 1954.

The Cosmo building is located at 2323 Durwood Road in Little Rock. The building is owned by the Cosmopolitan Foundation, a 501(c)(3), non-profit corporation formed solely for the purpose of purchasing and maintaining the building, ensuring that AA and Al-Anon meetings may continue to have adequate meeting spaces now and into the future. The foundation owns the building. Through the generosity of private, quiet donations, the foundation was able to purchase the structure, and in 2016 retire the outstanding mortgage.

Now it’s time to address the failing condition of the building.



The Need

The Cosmo building has seen multiple uses over the years. And since the 1950s has housed a number of retail operations. It has been used as an AA meeting place for over 20 years now, without any major renovations.

The foundation has been advised by professionals who have done a basic assessment of the building, that it will very shortly require significant maintenance to its structure, mechanical, and plumbing infrastructure. We want to get ahead of these looming problems, and take advantage of the opportunity to do a complete renovation of the building and its layout to better accommodate AA and Al-Anon meetings for the next 20 years.

Without this much-needed and urgent work, the building could no longer be suitable for the meetings held here, meetings so critical to the quality of life, indeed the very survival of those who attend.



The "Place"

The average daily attendance at Cosmo meetings is in excess of 300. Over 300 individuals, people "who would not normally mix," come to Cosmo in search of a new happiness and freedom. And they come everyday, seven days a week.

Cosmopolitan also provides meeting space for Al-Anon, and those whose lives have been affected by another person's drinking, or other life-altering addictive behaviors.

Here are a number of anonymous quotes from those who attend meetings at Cosmo:

"When I walk in here, I feel safe; I feel at home."

"This place saved my life."

"I lost my family, my job, and my self-respect. Cosmo and AA gave it all back to me."

"I got sober at Cosmo. Wouldn't be alive without it and the people who share here."

"Cosmo is a place where miracles happen every day."

"My family is thankful Cosmo was here when I needed it."

"Without Cosmo I'd be a dead man."

"My sponsor and I meet here. Without her and these rooms, I wouldn't have a life, and my kids wouldn't have a mother."



The sole mission of the Cosmopolitan Foundation and this fundraising effort is to make sure Cosmo, this building, this place, and these rooms are here for a long, long time.



The Plan

The main meeting room at Cosmo is set up for roughly 90 attendees. At a recent Saturday morning 9 a.m. meeting, attendance topped out at 127. It is not unusual to have over 75 attendees in the main meeting room on any given weekday at the 6:30 a.m. meeting. That's 6:30 in the morning!

The plan calls for a modest expansion of the main meeting room, a central service corridor for coffee, water, and snacks; three centrally located restrooms; storage, and an entry way that will continue to house literature and timely information about the group and other recovery programs around the area.

In addition to the main meeting room, the renovation will build-out two smaller meeting rooms for break-out groups including Al-Anon; two additional restrooms; four individual sponsor-sponsee meeting rooms, and additional storage and service systems. The exterior of the building and the parking lot and grounds will be completely remodeled to better accommodate attendees, including the handicapped, and to better fit into the Durwood Road business and church neighborhood. All spaces will be handicapped accessible.

Please see the plans contained in the information packet. The cost of the total project, as estimated by the architects and the general contractor, is \$500,000.



The Donation

The building-and-grounds project will be funded through quiet donations . What do we mean by that? Quiet donations means contributors' names will not be publicized or in any way shared with those who attend Cosmo, or with other contributors. Nor will the donations be acknowledged through any printed materials, plaques or other recognitions or namings.

Consistent with the cherished anonymity of the AA program itself, based on humility, contributions will be kept in confidence. Any exception to this policy will be directed by the donor, and considered by the foundation.

Specific areas of funding, for reference only, could be considered based on the following guide:

1. Building: \$150,000
2. Campus: \$75,000
3. Main Meeting Room: \$75,000
4. Cosmo 2 Meeting Room: \$40,000
5. Al-Anon Meeting Room: \$30,000
6. Meeting Rooms' Central Service Areas: \$30,000
7. Individual Sponsor-Sponsee Meeting Rooms (4): \$40,000
8. Accessible Restrooms (5): \$25,000
9. Main Entryway: \$12,000
10. Al-Anon Entryway: \$5,000
11. Archives Hallway: \$15,000
12. Fixtures and Appliances: \$7,500
13. New Chairs, Couches and Tables: \$25,000
14. Chair Recovering: \$125 each



The Next Step

Your help is needed so the Cosmopolitan Foundation, and the people we serve through group meetings in the rooms of the Cosmo building, can make sure AA and Al-Anon have a place to meet for decades to come.

The message is simple:

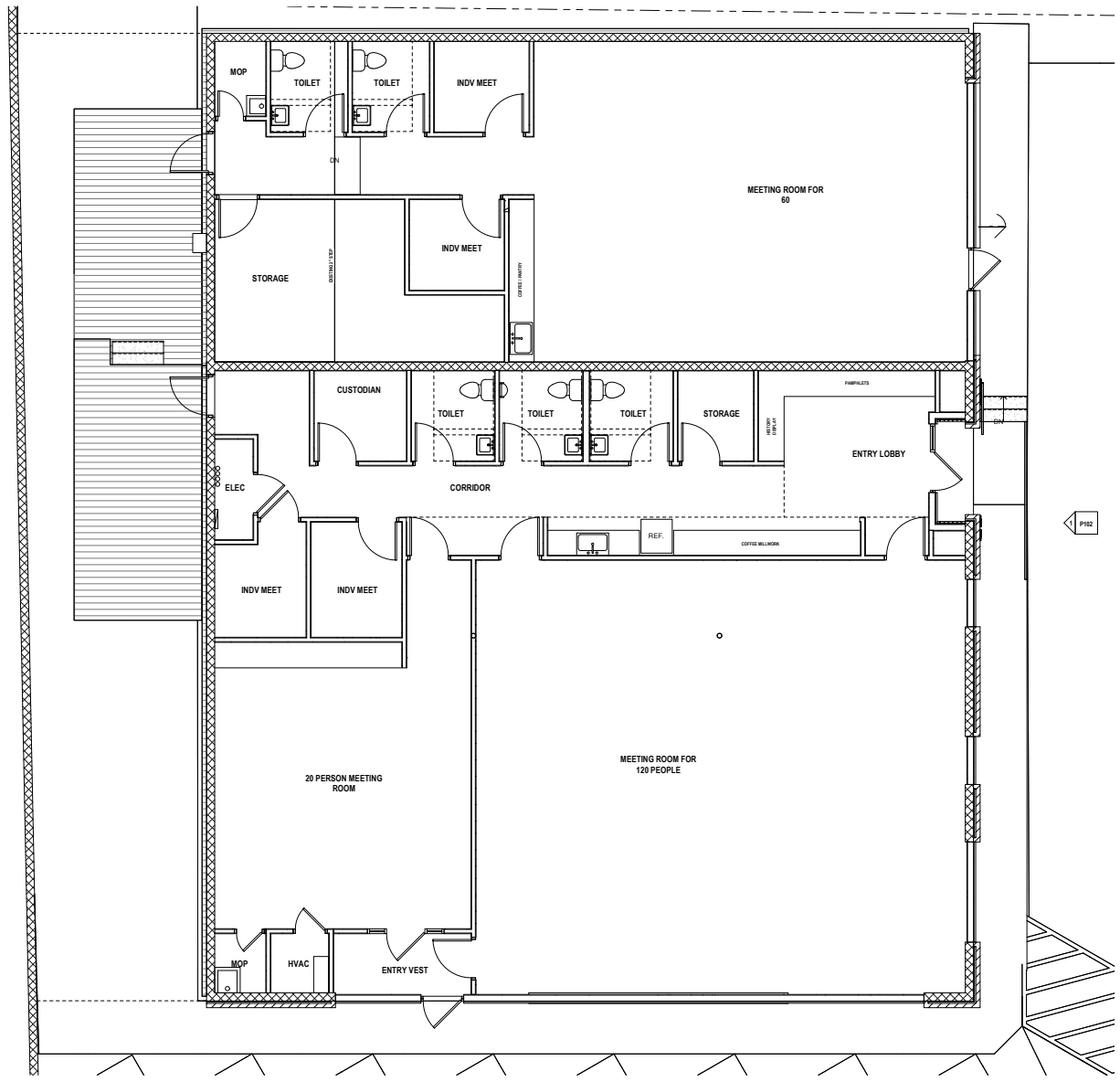
1. AA and Cosmo save lives.
2. AA and Cosmo restore families.
3. AA meetings and Cosmo, where experience, strength, and hope are shared, have proven to be critical to the success of the 12-Step program in Little Rock and the lives of those who need and want it most.
4. The Cosmopolitan Group, with four meetings every weekday, and five on Saturdays and Sundays, cannot continue to offer adequate meeting rooms without this urgent renovation.
5. The Cosmopolitan Foundation needs your help to continue operating the building that has become an integral part of the very best our community has to offer individuals and families who suffer.

Tax-deductible donations may be made to The Cosmopolitan Foundation, P.O. Box 7426, Little Rock, AR 72217. A letter from the foundation will be sent in reply providing you with all pertinent donation and tax-deductibility information.

Thank you.

The Cosmopolitan Foundation
The Cosmopolitan Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 7426
Little Rock, AR 72217





PROPOSED PHASE 1 - 1500 SF

PROPOSED PHASE 2 - 2900 SF



DURWOOD ELEVATION (WEST)
14' x 13'



HAWTHORNE ELEVATION (NORTH)
14' x 13'



DURWOOD VIEW



CORNER VIEW