Sons of Haiti is an African-American Masonic Grand Lodge and fraternal organization. They are actively involved in the community through their “Street Engagement” program, where they venture into the community to engage with people who are homeless or previously homeless to gain insight about design needs. Sons of Haiti works closely with Renton’s Department of Community and Economic Development and has also engaged with neighboring business and churches.

Team:
Ray Hall, Director – Sons of Haiti
Sharon Lee, Executive Director – LIHI
Laurie Allison Wilson, Principal Architect – Sage Architectural Alliance
MacArthur Lewis, Treasurer – Sons of Haiti
Kwame Morrow, Grand Secretary – Sons of Haiti
Steven Strickland, Real Estate Project Manager – LIHI
SONS OF HAITI + LIHI
WATERS ESTATES — RENTON, WA

PROJECT SUMMARY
Waters Estates will be a six-story, mixed-used, transit-oriented, elder (55+) housing project for formerly homeless people with a focus on veterans. The project is located in Renton, a suburb south of Seattle, Washington. The site is located between big box stores and Renton’s historic downtown core, resulting in the design challenge of harmonizing a six-story building within an area that predominantly contains two- and three-stories structures. The project envisions a dynamic streetscape that honors nature through increasing landscaping and connecting the property contextually with the city of Renton as a whole. Sons of Haiti owns the property and will be partnering with the Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI).

PROJECT SNAPSHOT
NEIGHBORHOOD TYPOLOGY
- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural

SPECIFIC POPULATIONS
- Seniors
- Veterans
- Supportive
- Families

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
- New Construction
- Rehabilitation
- Transit-Orientation
- Large Site Redevelopment

HOUSING TYPOLOGY
- Multi-family
- Single Family
- Mixed Use
- Supportive Housing
INSTITUTE GOALS

• Design an iconic building that can support the developing character of Renton, WA, a suburban city on its way to becoming more urban
• Incorporate general innovations in supportive housing for the formerly homeless
• Increase development and design leadership opportunities in communities of color; set the stage for equitable future development projects in Renton, Seattle, and Portland by Sons of Haiti and LIHI

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Convening diverse array of community partners to achieve a common goal; driving efforts to increase opportunities for economic parity in disenfranchised communities