

**Client:**

Casa Esperanza, Inc.

**Designer:**

Carolyn Cooney, CCA Landscape Architects

**Design Completion:**

Fall 2009

**Description:**

Casa Esperanza, a nonprofit based in Roxbury, MA has been helping men, women and families overcome homelessness, recover from substance abuse, and gain the skills needed to be self-sufficient and contributing members of society.

Nueva Esperanza, a proposed dormitory style housing facility owned and managed by Casa Esperanza is designed for women coming out of intensive treatment and transitioning to a more independent life with supportive services. Outdoor spaces include an entry courtyard, side yard, and rear utility yard.

The client requested each area to be aesthetically pleasing and offer some relief from the dense urban setting. The final design for the entry area is a fenced yard with grass for children's playing, and a bordering perennial garden which could be viewed from the sitting porch at the entry. The narrow side yard bordering on the street was planted to provide amenity to the neighborhood as a whole. The planting was designed to meet LEED Home criteria, in terms of drought tolerance and percentage of lawn area and to meet Casa Esperanza's criteria for safety and low maintenance.

