Design Statement

The journey through the emotional and physical experience involved with cancer is a difficult one. The journey is not meant to be forgotten but presented as a living experience. The journey is a datum, a stream flowing through the emotions and pulling outsiders in to understand. A stream travels from one end of the site to the opposite. It grabs the attention of pedestrians on the street and draws the eye back to the center of the building. This datum is the driving force to the building. Its continuation throughout the site and structure brings a feeling of calmness and an awareness. Reflective blue tiles portray the stream as it enters through foyer and kitchen area. It continues through the building. When the stream exits the building it terminates in a meditation garden in the back of the site. It serves as a memorial space to the victims and survivors of cancer and their families.

The stream also divides the building by separating public and more private spaces. The kitchen, placed near the entry, portrays an open floor plan and provides a connection to the gathering area and children's play space. The locations of rooms are laid out on a grid established by original parking spaces located near the back of the lot. While keeping the parking spaces, the plan proposes that they be protected from weather by the first floor of the building. Views and windows are emphasized allowing light to enter the rooms and to give a feeling of openness. The views also take advantage of the natural site features located near the back of the site where the meditation garden is proposed and the journey comes to an end.