



COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK

A cooperative of multiple collective housing projects

ENGLISH VERSION

Hard infrastructure

1. Second Hand exchange
2. Community laundry
3. Open air theater
4. Food Coop
5. Carsharing parking
6. Community kitchen and dining area
7. Coworking space
8. Playground for ages 0-3
9. Playground for ages 7-11
10. Meeting space
11. Space for parties and celebrations
12. Youth meeting space
13. Community Van
14. Rooftop gym
15. Guest room
16. Community garden
17. Rooftop garden
18. Bike repair workshop

Soft infrastructure

19. Help with doctor's appointments
20. Walking school bus or Bike bus
21. Adoptive grandparent and grandchild program
22. Community library
23. Green Energy community
24. Cuttings and seeds exchange group
25. Community babysitter
26. Shared WIFI
27. Language exchange
28. Radars network (service that support elderly people who live alone)
29. Network to support grocery shopping
30. Lunchbox exchange network

Collective Housing Projects

-  Private housing
-  Cooperative housing
-  Public housing
-  Urban "masoveria"

The goal of this project is to develop a **community care support network, connecting different collective housing projects.**

Our idea is to support close-by housing projects that want to organize themselves into a community network, **sharing care spaces, management and time, thus creating a neighbourhood and community support network.**

Community network

This is a network created by and for residents who want to be involved in **community care**. Through an assembly system, each group decides how to live in a more collective way, **sharing management, time, and spaces according to their care needs**. The Network operates with flexibility, seasonality, and social co-responsibility for care, and according to different intensities of care depending on whether they are caring for infants, sick people, old people, etc. Without people it is impossible to build this network!

From a feminist perspective

From the perspective of feminist urban planning, we propose a change in current societal priorities, placing people's everyday life at the centre of urban decision-making to resolve the inequalities that the neoliberal capitalist patriarchal city has generated. Placing people's everyday life at the centre means designing cities that take into account the unpaid work of domestic and reproductive care, while at the same time asserting that this work must become a social and public responsibility, and not exclusively women's responsibility. In Catalonia, even today women dedicate twice as much time to domestic and care work than men.

Support for care

Shared spaces are created to support the care network. **These are distributed between the different housing projects which form part of the network**, or located in other spaces around the neighbourhood; for example, using empty ground floors, vacant lots, empty buildings etc.

Two types of spaces or infrastructure need to be developed, as Helen Jarvis has described: activities which need a physical and more visible support, called **"hard" infrastructures**, and on the other hand **"soft" infrastructures**, which are social strategies designed to share the burden of daily management and time-use, which don't need a delimited space but rather an organizational form.

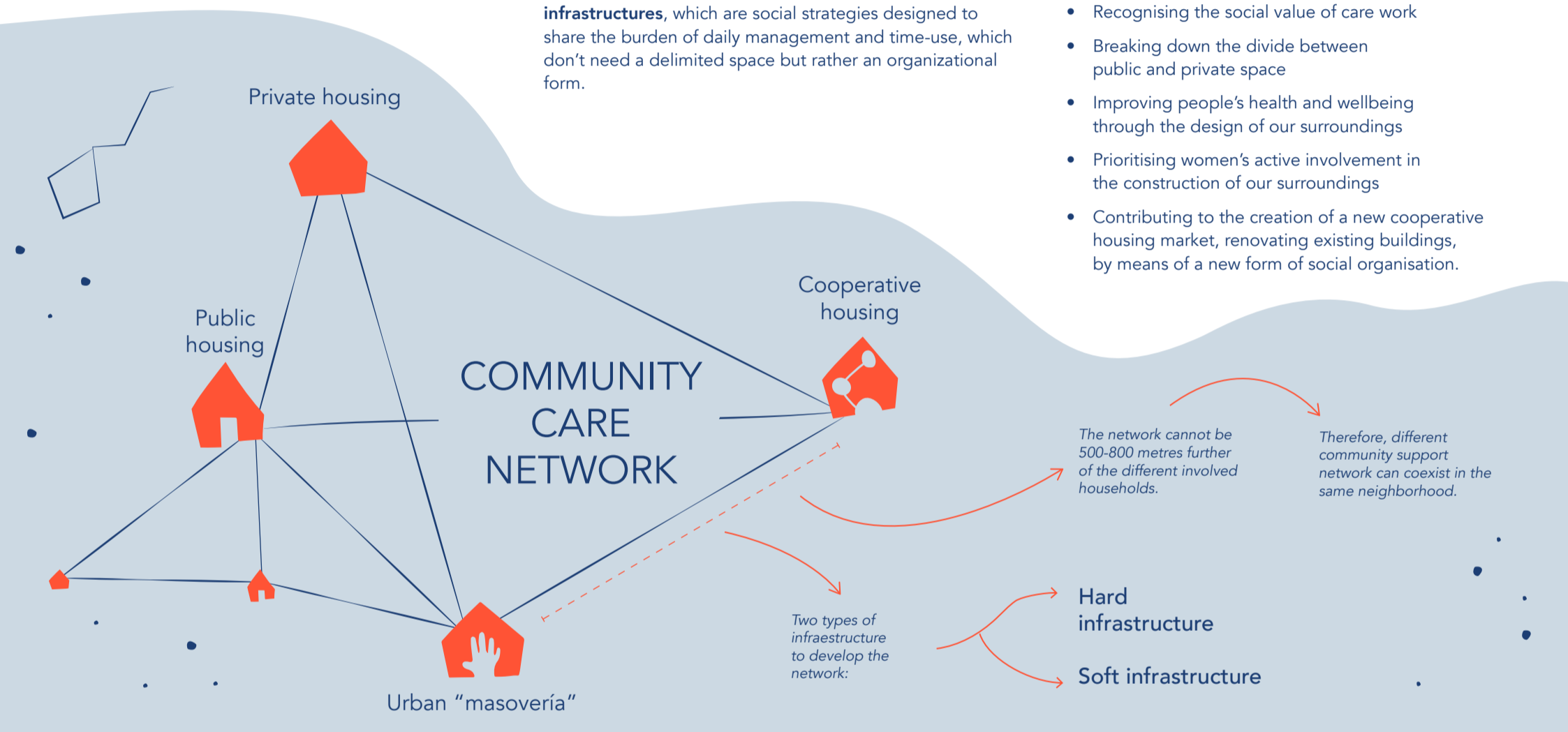
Different collective housing projects

Different types of collective housing projects can participate in this network - independently of the tenure ownership: public, private, or cooperative housing; as well as different housing types: assisted living for older people for example, or youth housing; and also, with different levels forms of participation.

Each network will have different characteristics. A first level of complexity is a network made up of various housing cooperatives, which become a cooperative of cooperatives. A second level of complexity is where different types of public housing projects join the network. And a third level of complexity that private housing and other types of housing (for example urban "masoveria") join the network. This different housing combination creates a cooperative of multiple collective housing projects within a small district with shared services.

This community network is a step towards a society that better shares care responsibility by:

- Giving the same value to all spheres of life
- Recognising the social value of care work
- Breaking down the divide between public and private space
- Improving people's health and wellbeing through the design of our surroundings
- Prioritising women's active involvement in the construction of our surroundings
- Contributing to the creation of a new cooperative housing market, renovating existing buildings, by means of a new form of social organisation.



Hard infrastructure

- 1. Second Hand Exchange.** Coming out are two pregnant women. There is a woman who is returning a drill to the tool library service.
- 2. Community laundry** with a tea and coffee machine, and the option of a reasonably priced food daily special prepared in the housing co-operative's shared kitchen.
- 3. Open air theater.** Taking advantage of a good windowless wall on this building, the group organizes open-air movie sessions, using the projector of the cooperative.
- 4. Food Coop.** Sharing the purchase and distribution of food and other products.
- 5. Carsharing parked in the garage.** This car being parked in a neighbor's garage can be used if you book a time using the app.
- 6. Community kitchen and dining area.** This is a multipurpose space managed by the network that can be used for many different activities.
- 7. Coworking space** in an apartment belonging to an elderly woman who lives alone. There is space available for people to work together.
- 8. Playground for ages 0-3.** On the first floor of the housing cooperative there is a play area for children from 0-3 years old with cushions and toys to share.
- 9. Playground for ages 7-11.** In the public housing block there is a terrace where children from 7-11 years old meet to play.
- 10. Meeting space.** This space is used for holding assemblies, organizing the time bank and the community loan fund, among many other activities. It's on the ground floor of the housing cooperative.

Soft infrastructure

- 11. Space for parties and celebrations,** with a pizza oven and tables. At the back it connects with the square, which is very practical when there are neighbourhood parties because they can open it up to the street and hold open-air dinners for whoever wants to participate.
- 12. Youth meeting space.** Three young people with skateboards sit and chat in a room with sofas, cards and games, with some privacy.
- 13. Community Van.** Deliveries and help with transporting furniture, and supplies prioritizing the cargobike.
- 14. Rooftop gym,** which has been equipped so that the neighbours can stretch in the sun.
- 15. Guest room.**
- 16. Community garden.**
- 17. Rooftop garden.** A flower and vegetable garden has been set up on the roof of the housing cooperative.
- 18. Bicycle repair workshop.**
- 19. Help with doctor's appointment.** A young person and an older man who are both members of the time bank go to the doctor.
- 20. Walking school bus or Bike bus.** Accompanying children to school by distributing the days among different people.
- 21. Adoptive grandparent and grandchild program.** They met through the care network, and they love spending time together and learning from each other.
- 22. Community library.** This is formed from the personal libraries of the participants, and works with a digital lending system.
- 23. Green energy community.** The people in this building participate in an energy community, allowing solar panels to be installed on their roof.
- 24. Cuttings and seeds exchange group.** A woman gives a cutting - which she has prepared on her flowery balcony - to another plant-lover.
- 25. Community Babysitter.** A mother has offered to care for three extra babies for a few hours each morning.
- 26. Shared wifi.** In the urban "masoveria" they've installed a super internet node, participating in a project to provide free, open internet as a common resource.
- 27. Language exchange,** and she's taken advantage to bring up his organic vegetable basket from the food coop, which is inaccessible in a wheelchair.
- 28. Radars network.** The baker says hello each day to the woman with the shopping cart and asks her how she is doing.
- 29. Network to support grocery shopping.** A group has been set up for people who need help with their shopping (in this case the woman in the apartment upstairs has broken her foot) can say what they need, and someone who's help with shopping.
- 30. Lunchbox exchange network.** A group of people who eat lunch away from home every day have arranged to cook a larger quantity of a particular meal dish and interchange lunchboxes. They end up with a varied menu for the whole week.

