

M-R-S

Mobile Refugee Shelter

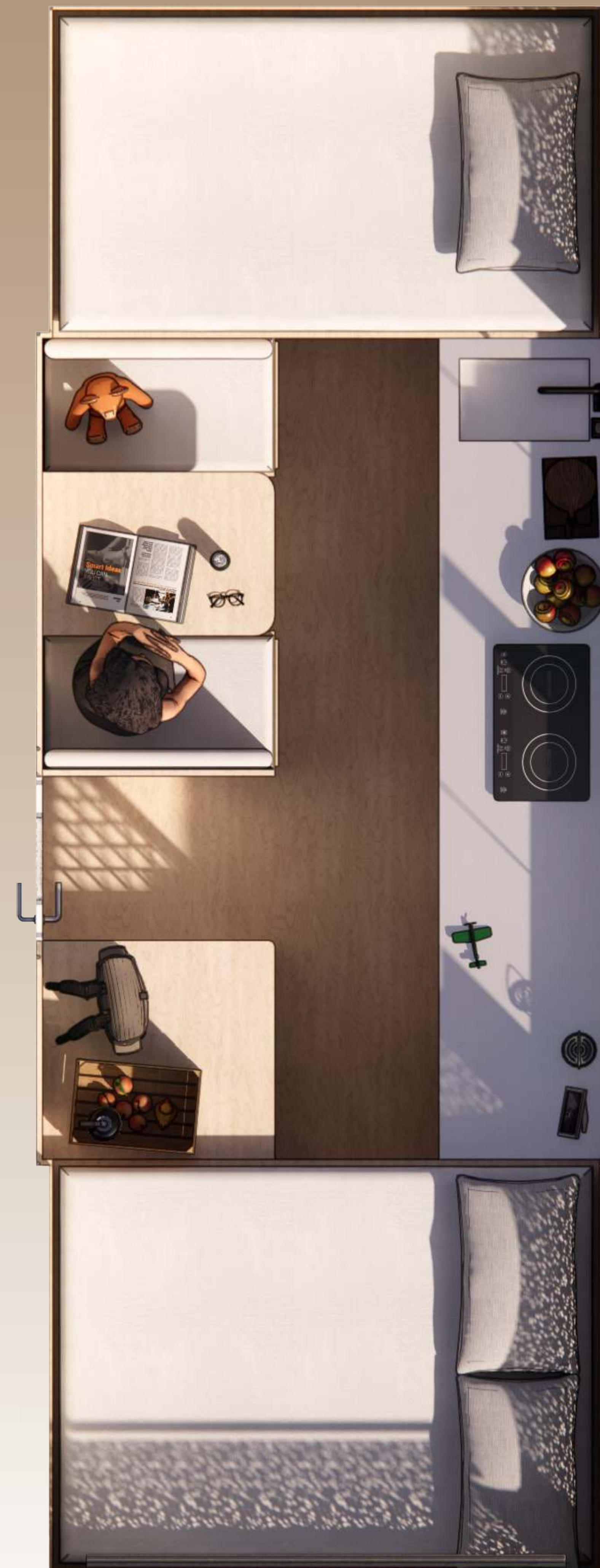
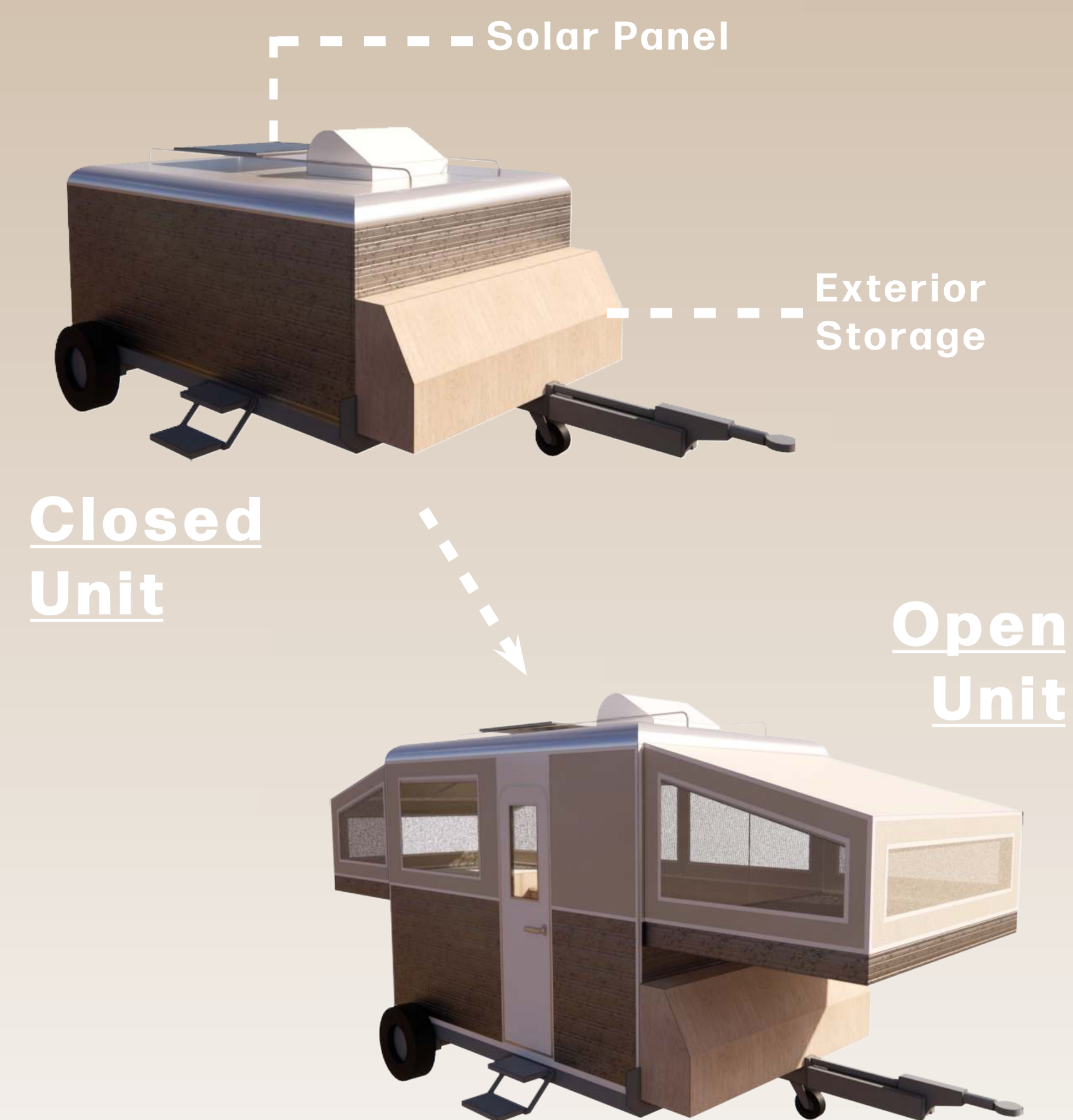
Concept

The core design concept for M-R-S is to provide refugees with a safe and comfortable temporary shelter while still being compact, versatile, and portable. This concept highlights the need for mobile housing solutions that can follow the ever-changing refugee population and their needs. M-R-S was designed with a central structure on the property with communal bathrooms and a food distribution center in mind. This combination of mobile and built structures limits the need for on-site construction and the time and money constraints that come with it.

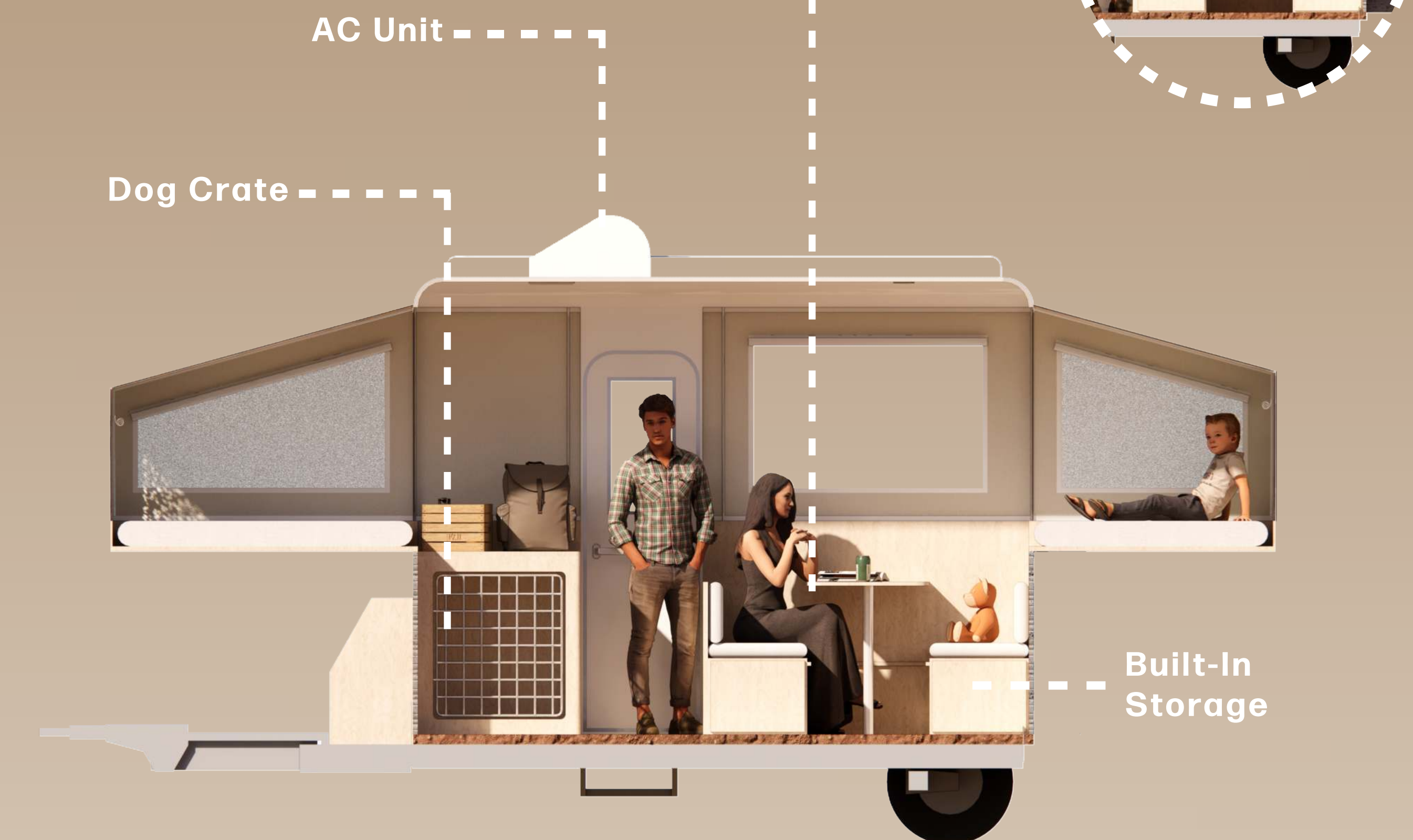
Numerous individuals immigrate to America for a variety of reasons but with the pandemic still having severe economic impacts on many, these motivations have deepened. In Mexico, the pandemic caused a 21-year inflation high, forcing 3.8 million people into poverty, and sending 44% of the country's population destitute. These heightened economic hardships combined with worsened gang violence and crime, the American labor shortage, and an abundance of other factors pushed many Mexicans to migrate to the U.S.

Narrative

The Morales family is a prime example of the difficult decision and journey to leave for America that many Mexican families are having to face. Both mother, Elena, and father, Raul, lost their jobs during the pandemic and weren't able to recover despite their best efforts. The lack of reliable and well-paying jobs forced Raul and their eldest son, Gabriel (16), to work long hours of dangerous physical labor. Gangs in their areas, preying on the vulnerable situation that the Morales and many Mexican families were in, began to police neighborhoods recruiting children and teens to aid in their various illicit markets. Elena and Raul, hoping to shield their children from the horrors of their new reality began planning their migration to America. With the overarching financial burden of transporting the family to the U.S.-Mexico Border, the Morales's made a deal with one of the local gangs to ensure their safe travels with father Raul staying to pay back their debt. Elena, Gabriel, youngest son Mateo (7), and dog chico, left Chiapas with a group of other migrants to head to the Texas-Mexico border.



West Elevation



East Elevation

