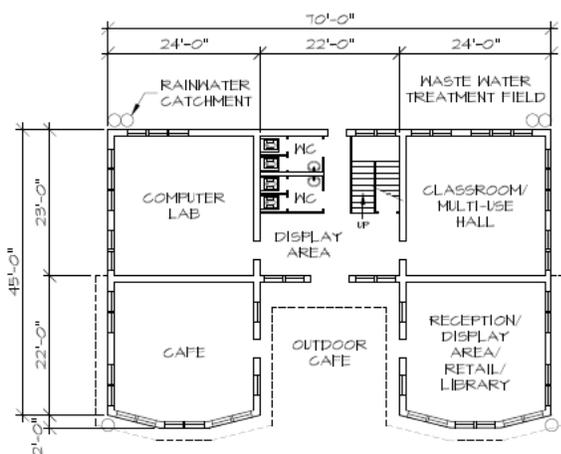




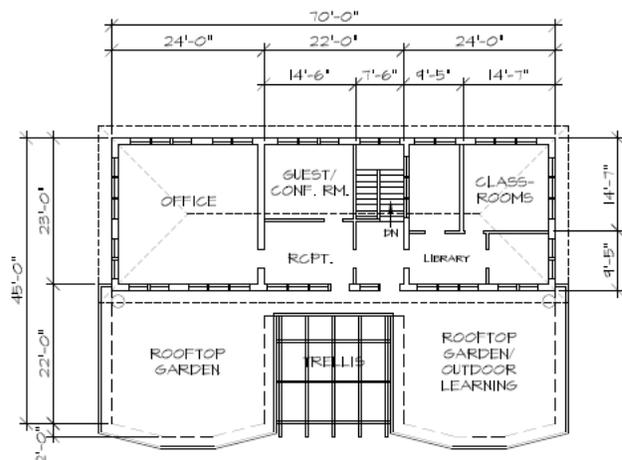
## Help Manifest the PAKSBAB Hub/Outreach and Learning Center!

PAKSBAB has a vision - that everyone deserves to be self-sufficient and have access to safe and affordable housing. We believe that this can be accomplished through community building and appropriate design solutions that protect and restore the earth. Over the past 10 years we have developed a straw bale construction method appropriate for Pakistan and other developing countries, built 40 straw bale houses, and trained over 70 local builders. We also conducted a definitive seismic research project at the University of Nevada Reno's NEES site in which our straw bale house was tested on a shake table and withstood 8 consecutive earthquakes of increasing intensity - up to 2x the Northridge Canoga Park Record! In 2015 we completed a Permaculture Design Course and are excited to include sustainable farming and productive landscapes in our scope of work, empowering marginalized families to make a dignified living.

Our plans for 2016 are to build an outreach and learning center in Abbottabad, Pakistan, a "hub" where we can showcase our work, offer educational services, and the local community can learn how to support their families in a sustainable manner. We're calling it the PAKSBAB Hub/Outreach and Learning Center and it looks like this:



GROUND FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

Project Highlights:

- Computer lab and affordable computer literacy programs (provide connections to online university courses)
- Cafe to serve the local community and showcase healthy, wholesome food options, many grown on-site
- PAKSBAB office and conference room
- PAKSBAB information/displays
- Retail shop to sell permaculture and sustainable building products such as solar PV
- Demonstration and outdoor learning areas for sustainable technologies including Permaculture, straw bale construction, natural finishes, passive solar, solar PV, rainwater catchment, water filtration, sanitation solutions, rocket stoves and solar ovens
- Mentoring in English, math, physics, chemistry and biology for high school students
- Adult literacy programs
- English language and grammar courses
- Technical/educational seminars
- Library area with copy services
- Priority on hiring female staff for computer lab, classroom and other gender appropriate positions
- Off-site workshops and sustainable building certificate programs in Permaculture and straw bale construction

We've broken the Hub down into four phases:

- Phase I - Purchase a 0.19 acre (30 marla) plot of land in a pedestrian-accessible urban area - \$30,000
- Phase II - Design, engineering and approvals - \$10,000
- Phase III - Utilities and construction - \$50,000
- Phase IV - Furnishings and program implementation - \$10,000

Ongoing operation of the Hub will be self-sustaining and will generate funds for program scholarships and future projects.

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, author of *The Little Prince*, said: "A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single person contemplates it bearing within them the image of a cathedral." The PAKSBAB Hub/Outreach and Learning Center will be a cathedral of knowledge and opportunity for the local community and replicable in other locations.

If this work touches you, we invite you to join us on our journey. Please help us reach our fundraising goals by making a donation via our partner Builders Without Borders - [www.builderswithoutborders.org/donate/](http://www.builderswithoutborders.org/donate/). You have my personal assurance that your support will make a measurable and positive difference in the world.

With gratitude,



Darcey Messner Donovan, P.E., C.E.O.  
Pakistan Straw Bale and Appropriate Building (PAKSBAB)  
[www.paksbab.org](http://www.paksbab.org)