Alzheimer's Village

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The Origin

Kindness is the only non-delusional response to the human condition. Alzheimer's disease is one of the biggest causes of death for seniors worldwide. In 2016, my grandmother began to get lost frequently. Once, I had to use local CCTV footage to find out where she went. Finally, I found her near a trash bin collecting wasted bottles. Even walking around in our district, she could forget which house we lived in. It was not until my mother told me about Alzheimer's that I understood what my grandmother had gone through. In high school, I started a project related to Alzheimer's disease with a few of my friends. We were trying to help local seniors with Alzheimer's disease. We did interdisciplinary research and got many nursing homes and communities to spread our idea and teach older adults how to prevent Alzheimer's disease. Now that I am in college, I believe it is time to do more with my professional knowledge to help these seniors.   I want to make it so that everyone can live in peace without Alzheimer's disease and enjoy their lives. I cannot help people to avoid death, but I can offer them a warm farewell. Sometimes the farewell is fleeting, even unexpected. In other cases, the farewell is lengthy. My hope is that memory and love will never fade.

The Concept

This project aims to help the elderly achieve natural social interactions by guiding them subconsciously using light and architecture.   This leads the elderly to healthier lives. The site was chosen in Indonesia, a developing country in Southeast Asia. The climate there is wet and hot, with relatively high precipitation. In consideration of this, the architecture was covered by a curvy sloped roof with different degrees and lengths, creating various spaces between each curved piece. The curves create the form of the roof, and the spaces allow daylight to shine through them. These optical lines create a feeling of movement and direction inside the space. Physical and mental activities are crucial for seniors in preventing Alzheimer's disease. These optical lines with the feeling of movement help the elderly to move along the space between each wall. This concept makes them move subconsciously, and they can talk with each other while they are moving. Also, the curved walls express a strong feeling of direction, which cooperates with the optical lines. In addition to the moving area there is also a lounge area underneath this structure. The lounge area is designed for seniors to have a rest.