

MIXED YOUTH HOUSING COMMUNITY



STARTBLOK RIEKERHAVEN (SR), CITY OF AMSTERDAM, DE KEY AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

In 2015, many young **refugees needed to be housed** in Amsterdam, in a situation where finding affordable accommodation was already extremely difficult, especially for young students. SR created a living space for both groups, combined with an active community life to **support integration** into society.



MORE CONTACT, BETTER INTEGRATION

Research has shown that newcomers living at SR become acquainted with the city, culture and language faster. Knowing their neighbours and participating in events, they experience **less of a barrier to asking for help and building networks**. The concept has been replicated nationally and internationally.



CREATING OWNERSHIP

SR offers affordable housing for 565 young tenants, mixing local and newly arrived young people. They **share the responsibility for their living spaces**. Many residents take on tasks e.g. working as hallway managers or translators in exchange for a discount on their rent; or volunteer to organise activities.



A Connecting activities & community events

S Community spaces where diverse people meet