



CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

DESIGN CAN PROVIDE more than shelter—it can restore dignity. Architect Christopher Alexander's Julian Street Inn for the mentally ill homeless in San Jose, California, is a 69-bed shelter that replaces alienating institutional design with crafted eloquence. Run by the San Jose Urban Ministry, Alexander's "architecture of the heart" is a far cry from the cot-stacked warehouses where homeless are often exiled. The author of the now-classic A Pattern Language relies on emotional elements that enrich the spirit: a facade tiled in comforting colors; curtained havens for sleeping; colonnaded courtyards and a light-filled dining hall (above) where people can confirm their community. With more efforts like this, homelessness may never again mean hopelessness.

BEN & JERRY'S HOMEMADE, INC.

THE FOLKS at Ben & Jerry's know there's more than one way to make the world a sweeter place. After years of donating profits to social causes, they are awarding six ice cream shop franchises to organizations benefiting "at risk" youth, the homeless and handicapped. A Harlem ice cream "parlor" designed by architect Michael Avramides will open this spring and employ the community's homeless. By waiving its \$25,000 franchise fee, Ben & Jerry's is providing free start-up training.—Donna Sapolin

