

# CLAY & OAK

December 2023

The First Board Meeting  
November 1, 2023

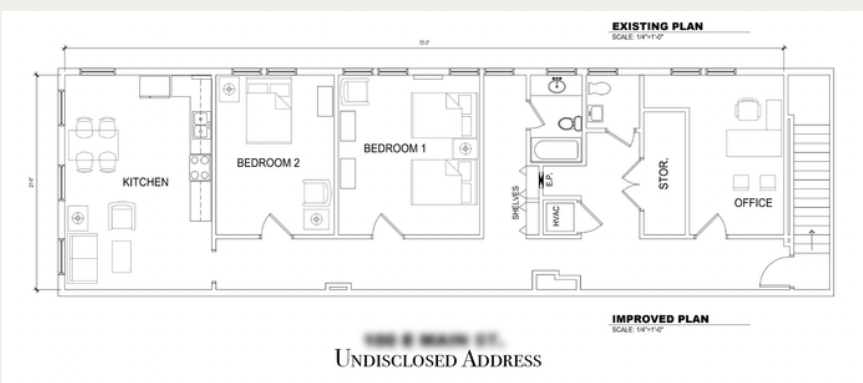


*Clay & Oak is committed to glorifying God by providing safety, community, and biblical discipleship for women who have experienced human trafficking or sexual exploitation.*



Co-founders Ashley Houkom, Sarah Holladay and Ashley Parker have been serving women in crisis on the front lines with the SECC Anti-Sex Trafficking team together for the last two years, with Sarah

starting her journey on a TSW immersion trip with Karissa Sites in 2018. As we have served and been praying for other ministry partners to rise up to fill the housing and program deficit in our area, it is undeniable that the Lord was calling us to be obedient in answering the call ourselves in LaGrange, Kentucky. The photo above was taken on our group site visit to the first potential Oak House apartment space. First design proposal below.



3

*Co-founders with boots on the ground experience*

12

*Eager and willing board members*

1

*Big God partnering with our one big vision!*



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EST. 2024

The name for Clay & Oak represents the fragile, broken vessels we find ourselves to be and the redemptive work of the cross to call us Oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor. Our branding and logo design process is centered around these truths.

In 2 Cor 4: 7-9 NLT it says that, "We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed."

This treasure is God, the light of God, the presence of God, the love of God within us. With this treasure comes God's power—the power of light that illumines the darkness, the power of love that forgives and restores human life, that shatters the chains that bind us and breaks open the tombs that entrap us, the power of God who gives us hope for tomorrow.

The meaning of oaks of righteousness is that we are solidly founded in Christ no matter what hardships come our way. Not only is He mighty, but He also makes us mighty oaks, modeling Him. Though we experience intense pain, overwhelming sadness, or crippling anxiety, we can be reminded that our life trials are not the foundation from which we stand. We stand on the Rock, our God who anchors us into the ground by His sacrifice on the cross. He holds us steady, and He keeps us grounded.

**Even in some of the most difficult storms, oak trees remain.**

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