

Clay & Oak



A Season of Preparation

While the Lord has been obvious in teaching us that His timeline and plan is better than our own, it's been an interesting balance of learning to work from rest and waiting, while also equipping ourselves to be prepared for Clay & Oak's next steps. In March Ashley H and Sarah went through the Institute for Shelter Care's Emergency Stabilization Training Intensive.



The founding team took a weekend get away to begin creating our strategic plan, encompassing every aspect of the ministry for the next 5 years! The task feels daunting but the bonding we experienced that weekend far surpassed the annoyance we occasionally experienced with government websites, legal paperwork and putting pen to paper for our goals. A huge thank you to Iron Bell Ministries for hosting us!

Sowing Seeds

Would you consider joining us financially?
Learn more:
clayandoak.org/donate/



Pictured, Ashley Houkom took two women to the movies while they were in our care during the month of February.



THE WORK DOESN'T STOP

Even though our residential care home hasn't officially launched yet, the Lord has opened many doors to love on women over the last few months. This has included helping a Christian sister escape from her extremely oppressive Muslim family and providing her community and safe housing before her next steps to continued freedom. We also reconnected with two women survivors who we have had relationship with on and off for a few years. One has been accepted and just began her stay at a residential program. The other we are praying can fully surrender to Jesus and this process of healing.

HOW CAN YOU PRAY?



Pray for the cycle of abuse to be broken for B, A and B; for them to experience true freedom and healing by surrendering to Jesus and leaving their oppressors.

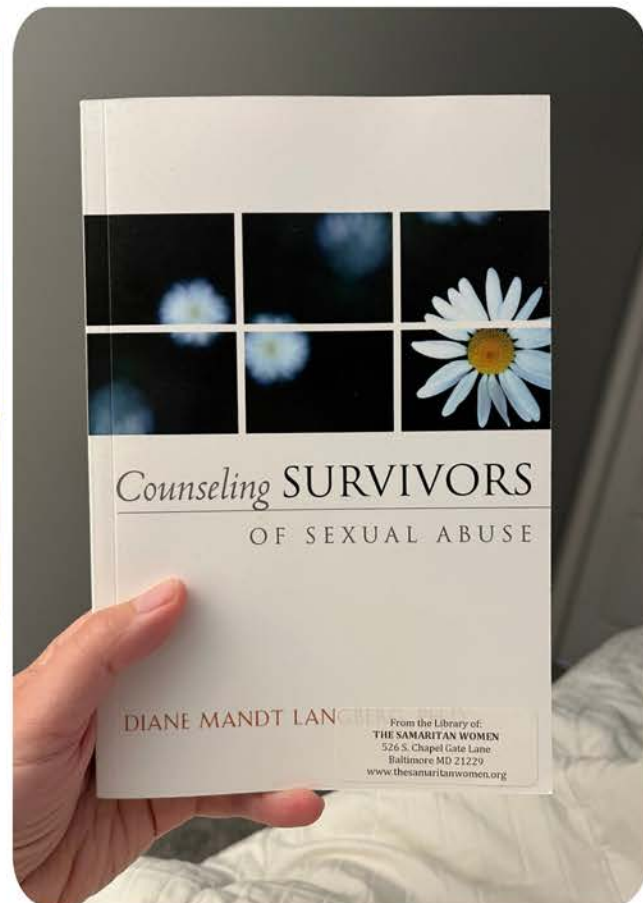


Pray for our physical housing location next steps. The loft seems to be on hold now and we are prayerfully considering putting in an offer on a different property in LaGrange.



Pray for our 501c3 application to be approved. We submitted and it's crucial for fundraising. We are praising God for the good faith money/seed He's already provided!

www.clayandoak.org

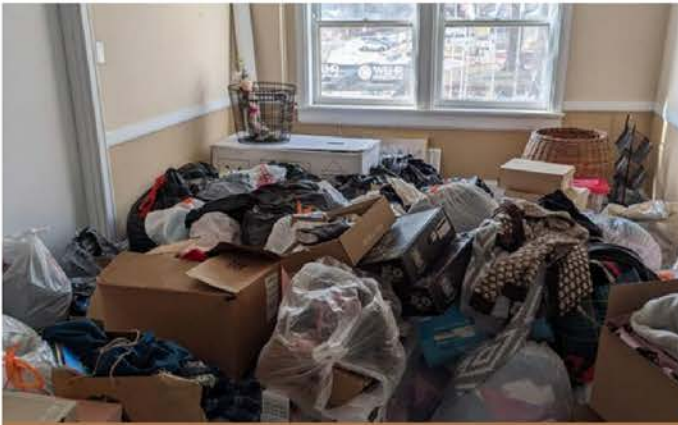


The above book was gifted to Clay & Oak by Dr. Jeanne Allert from the Samaritan Women. Sarah is reading it first, with the help of Holy Spirit, and the below quote struck her:

“What grown adults can't even read, had to be endured by little girls.”

We are praying that, as the author wrote, our 'steadfast courage in facing hard truths and bowing to the work of redemption will show many the face of Jesus.'

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



The result of an amazing clothing drive!



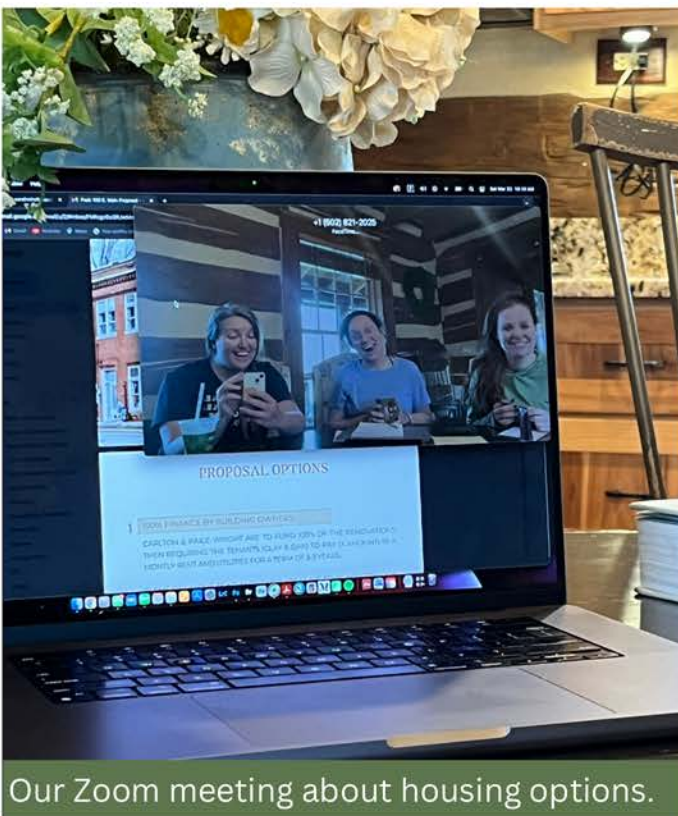
Two women loved being able to “shop”.



A big Thank you...

**TO SIMPLY BLESSED BOUTIQUE FOR THE
SUCCESSFUL CLOTHING DRIVE FOR OUR WOMEN**

**TO IRON BELL MINISTRIES FOR YOUR GENEROUS
PRICE FOR OUR RETREAT SPACE**



Our Zoom meeting about housing options.



Strategic planning in the Iron Bell cabin.