

November 2022

ANDY ABRAMS DISCIPLESHIP HOUSE

Intentional community living to develop young professionals in the Jackson Metro Area

Presented by

**Jason "Smiley" Abrams, Area Ministry Director,
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship**

Co-Founder, Andy Abrams Foundation



THE NEED

The infrastructure of Jackson, MS (like many other HBCU neighborhoods across the nation) has been intentionally neglected due to white flight to the surrounding suburbs

41%

"Empty lots and lots with abandoned structures on them make up 41% of the lots in West Jackson" (West Jackson Planning Guidebook, pg. 18)

"Jackson has struggled with safe water access for decades and has lacked the funding to implement change. Mayors and city council members have called for repairs since the 1940s, the Jackson Clarion-Ledger reported. In the 1970s and again in 2020, the EPA warned that the city had to get serious about updating its infrastructure to improve water quality." - Jackson, Mississippi Has No Safe Tap Water for the Foreseeable Future. It's a Crisis Decades in the Making. Time Magazine, 2022

3 Historically Black Colleges/Universities

3 Private Institutions

2 Community Colleges

about 65% of enrolled college students in the Jackson metro area are black

65%

Zero out of 15 InterVarsity staff candidates of color have been adequately funded in the entire state of Mississippi!



THE VISION



1

THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS SKILLFULLY
DEVELOPED TO SERVE EFFECTIVELY ON CAMPUS
AND IN THE COMMUNITY

2

EVERY BLACK STAFF SUSTAINABLY
RESOURCED TO WORK FULL-TIME IN MINISTRY
IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

3

A PREMIUM DISCIPLESHIP HOUSE CLOSE
TO EVERY HBCU IN THE NATION

THE PROGRAM



01

Quality Mentorship

Developing leaders through intentional community living and inter-generational mentorship who strive to reinvest in Jackson, MS

02

Strategic Networking

Partnering with nonprofits, local businesses, and community leaders across the Jackson Metro Area to focus on holistic development through service

03

Rebuilding Brokenness

Increasing value in West Jackson by renovating dilapidated properties to create premium housing for young professionals

04

Financial Partnership

Providing ongoing financial support to low-networked missionary staff of color working with HBCUs



THE IMPACT



— “ —

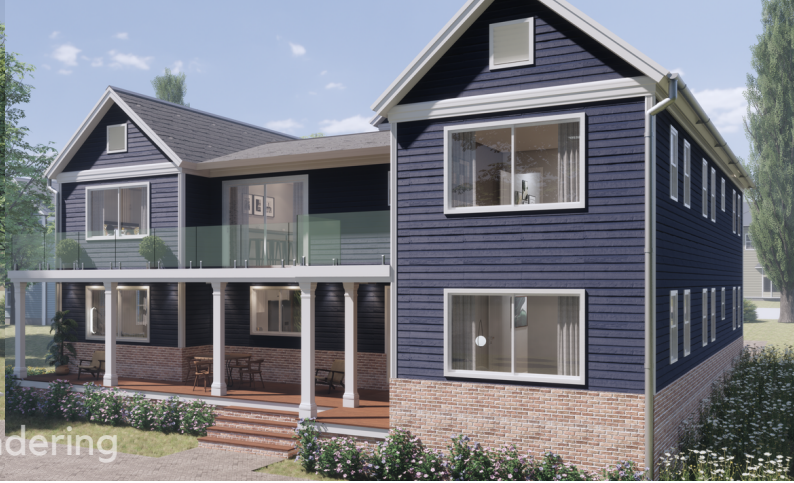
Communal living is good for our staff. As our staff develop, they can develop student leaders. Each year we have seen the house become more and more like a student leadership spot which creates a lot of energy and momentum for the InterVarsity campus ministry.

We have gone from owing \$500k on our ministry home loan to only owing \$68k in five years by paying off approximately \$80k year through donations and rental income. Additionally, we have been able to give away \$30k a year to support our underfunded low networked staff since day one.

— ” —

Mac Smith, Senior Area Ministry Director, Intermountain Area, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

RENOVATION BUDGET



Exterior/Landscaping
\$50k

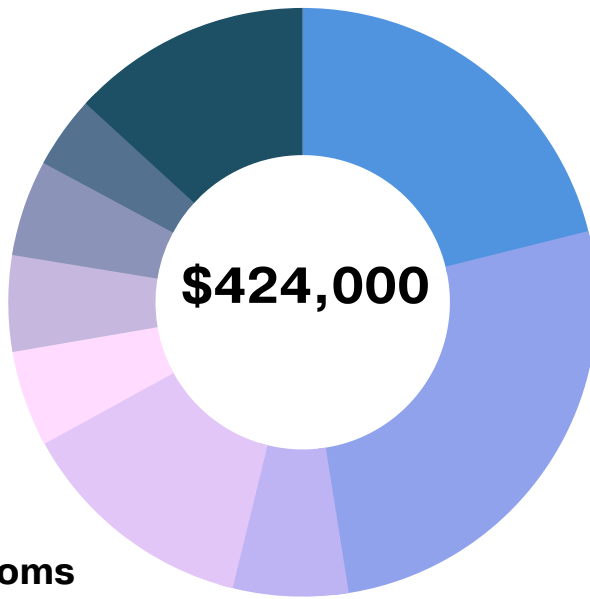
8 Bedrooms
\$80k

Back Porch/Balcony
\$20k
Front Porch/Balcony
\$20k

Front Room
\$20k

3 Multipurpose Rooms
\$50k

\$424,000



5 Bathrooms
\$100k

Kitchen
\$24k



HOW CAN YOU HELP?



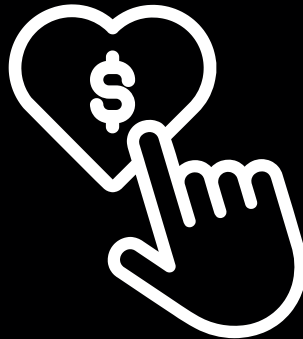
DONATE

Sponsorship Tiers:

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$100k+
GOLD ELITE LEVEL - \$50k-100k
SILVER LEVEL - \$10k-\$50k
BRONZE LEVEL - up to \$10k

Recurring Gift Options:

\$250-\$500/month
\$100-\$250/month
\$50-\$100/month



HOW TO GIVE:

Make all checks to:
"The Andy Abrams Foundation"

Mail directly:
1217 Lloyd Road
Edwards, MS 39066



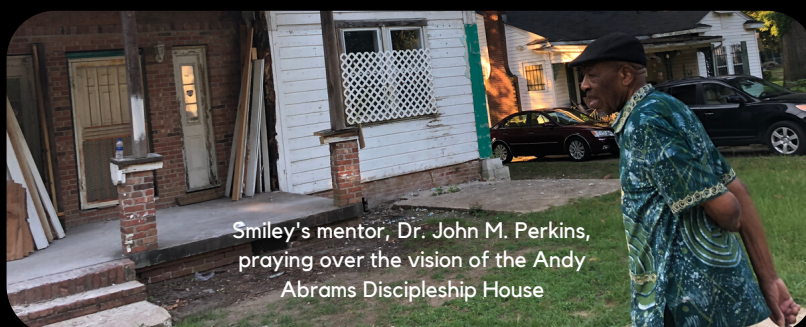
*The Andy Abrams Foundation
is a tax deductible 501(c)3
nonprofit organization*

www.andyabramsfoundation.org/donate

*All online donations are processed through the
National Christian Foundation.*

SERVE WITH US

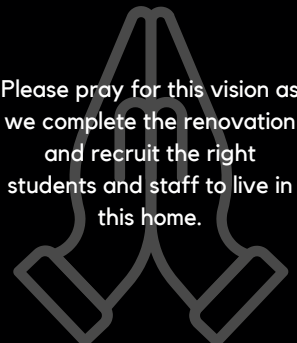
contact us at
info@andyabramsfoundation.org
if you would like to volunteer.
We are looking for mentors,
renovation assistance,
administrative aid and more.



Smiley's mentor, Dr. John M. Perkins,
praying over the vision of the Andy
Abrams Discipleship House

PRAYER

Please pray for this vision as
we complete the renovation
and recruit the right
students and staff to live in
this home.



ABOUT

Andy Abrams



Combine charisma, strategic thinking, and compassion, and you have Andy Abrams. Although born and raised in Chicago, he intentionally moved to rural Mississippi in the mid-80s to raise his family on their inherited land. While serving as the Director of Family Development and Training with Voice of Calvary Ministries in Jackson, MS, Andy took on challenging responsibilities, such as training individuals to become first time homeowners.

He was a martial arts master, a dynamic speaker, a professional bible teacher, and a loving family man. His impressive business management background merged with the critical skills he acquired while mastering the game of chess enabled him to develop leaders efficiently and established quality partnerships throughout the city.

As he battled diabetes, kidney failure, and blindness - due to high blood pressure, Andy Abrams served as the Lead Pastor at Voice of Calvary Fellowship Church from 1999 until he passed away from health complications on March 13, 2003.

He loved to bake (and eat) German Chocolate cake, to read science fiction novels, and all things Star Trek.

Smiley Abrams co-founded the Andy Abrams Foundation in 2018 with his sister, Siobhan, in honor of their late father.



THE ANDY ABRAMS FOUNDATION



*"What is God doing in the community?
What is God doing in the church? How is
God moving at this time? That's gonna
have a whole lot to do with your spiritual
gift. Why would He give you a gift if you
don't need it... if the church doesn't need
it... if the community doesn't need it?"*

• *Pastor Andy Abrams*

Contact Us

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