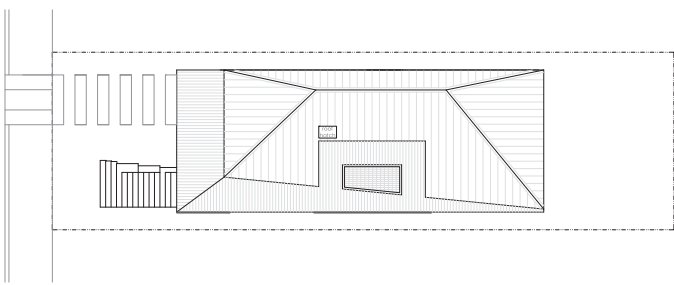


the lagniappe house



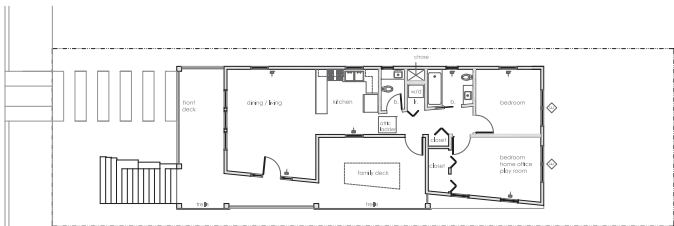
A *lagniappe*, in southern Louisiana culture, is an unexpected gift or benefit – a little something extra thrown in as a show of gratitude. The Lagniappe House was designed with a flexible and functional floor plan that weaves together indoor and outdoor spaces into a tapestry of uses and possible re-uses that will enhance the owners' lives for years to come. The Cradle to Cradle concept was applied throughout as evidenced in the building orientation, the selection of materials, the management of energy and water, and the features provided to promote passive survivability in the event of another catastrophe.



lagniappe base model:
roof plan



An example showing YAYA's creative take on the exterior of the home, incorporating wall murals and decorative screening.

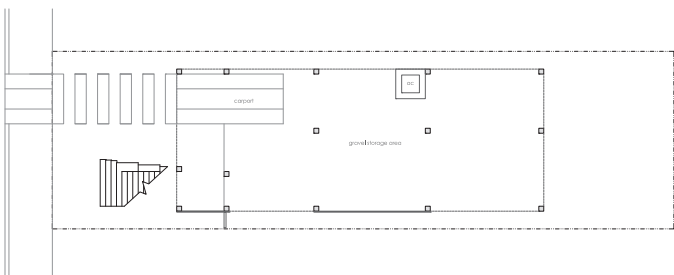


lagniappe base model:
first floor plan



artistic collaboration

In the spirit of celebration that comes with renewal, the Lagniappe House will feature, at the owner's request, murals, floor patterns and other creative works by Young Aspirations / Young Artists, Inc. (YAYA), a non-profit arts and social service organization whose mission is to provide educational experiences and opportunities that empower artistically talented inner-city youth to be professionally self-sufficient through creative self-expression.



lagniappe base model:
ground floor plan





Social and Cultural Revitalization

Not only were families' lives and homes destroyed in the aftermath of the hurricanes, but the rich cultural fabric of the Lower 9th Ward community was torn apart as well. The Make it Right project will address more than post Katrina and Rita recovery. The rebuilding of the Lower 9th Ward neighborhood is an opportunity to send a new message - from transition to transformation. Like the butterfly that grows from egg to larvae to chrysalis and finally to a graceful butterfly, the residents of the lower ninth ward are poised for a new paradigm of dignity and quality of life.



Inside/Outside Living

Much of the community interaction for the residents of the Lower 9th Ward, as in most of New Orleans, takes place on the front porches of neighborhoods - "stoop-sitting" as its known. The challenge with an elevated house is to provide a comfortable place that facilitates casual encounters when the main level is a story above the street. The Lagniappe House accomplishes this in several ways.

A shaded driveway and wide inviting steps lead to an elevated front porch. Each resident will have the opportunity to choose from an "attached" or "detached" porch design with an "in between" courtyard that provides for additional landscaping and cross ventilation. An additional design option provides for a "flat" or "sloped" front porch roof design.

The front porch steps have been designed as a "stoop" with lots of places to sit and "hang out". Under the porch is a fenced-in room where chairs and tables can be stored for front yard parties and crawfish boils. Included in this under-the-porch room is a double sink for storing ice and food preparation. With these tools, the front yard and driveway can include more opportunities for front yard gardening and entertaining.

Raising houses in the Make It Right neighborhood also provides an opportunity to develop a new backyard culture enhanced by a shaded verandah created under the house. In the Lagniappe House, this "outside room" is located below the rear of the house with direct access to the kitchen above by a covered outside stair.

On the second floor, a more private family deck in the center of the house provides another room on the south side, which could also foster more communication with the next-door neighbors. These decks can also serve as an area of rescue in the case of emergencies.

