

Making a Difference For Kids Every Day

Making a difference every day sounds impressive, but this is really an understatement for Agape Villages. We average close to 90 children in care with our resource parents every day. This means that our resource parents are actively engaged in serving children in many ways, including dealing with their fears and trauma, showering love and affection on them, providing healthy meals and safe homes, helping with school work, ensuring they have appropriate medical and dental care, and in so many other ways.

Consider our social service staff who ensure children's needs are being met, support our resource parents and counsel with the children regularly, coordinate case planning, work with the County workers on a host of issues, take calls for the placement of new children referred to our agency and are involved in many other activities.

For each child in our care, we take on an incredible amount of responsibility. The work we do is a team effort, including

how the administrative and development staff do their work.

All of this allows us to step in and help children when we get a call like two twin boys we've been serving. They were born prematurely to a mother who tested positive for drugs. Both were in the NICU for weeks before being placed with a loving Agape family. Yes, the boys had typical issues due to the drug use of their mother including being low birth weight, but our resource parents nurtured them through this.

Two Little Blessings
Sent from above.
Twice the **joy**
Twice the **love.**



As of 6 months of age, the boys are meeting their age appropriate developmental milestones. They are happy boys and have grown a lot!

The boys' birth mother has since dropped out of touch. It's possible parental rights will be severed. If that happens, our resource family would love to adopt the kids. We can't be sure what the future holds, but we are sure the kids are well cared for with us!



Showing Children a Better Way to Live

By Dave and Deanna Mitchell, Former Long-time Foster Parents

Dave and I served as foster parents for over 45 years in three different states prior to retiring. We welcomed over 400 children (ages newborn to 18 years) into our home.

We started when we lived in Georgia in the 1970s. We served with a church sponsored agency called Georgia Agape which was just getting started at that time. We were one of Agape's first foster parents.

When Dave was transferred to Michigan, we again became foster parents. This time through the county. Strangely, we had a little trouble getting licensed in Michigan because we attended church 3 times a week. Fortunately, our neighbors assured the county we were okay people!

Several years later Dave was transferred to California. We again became foster parents with the county. At that time, Agape Villages did not provide foster care services. When Agape decided to switch its focus to a foster care agency, we could not be foster parents with Agape because by that time Dave was serving on the Board of Directors at Agape.

I want to leave you with a quote from one of our grown foster children when he brought his wife to see us. He had been in our care twice and we had not seen him for years. He had put himself through college. He said when things got bad with his birth parents, he would walk the streets and say to himself, "I know there is a better way to live. I lived it with the Mitchells." He and his wife now have 2 children.

Yes, Agape has shown many children there is a better way to live. Please support the work of Agape as you can!

More Stories From Foster Care *Bright Futures begin here*

A glimpse of how we make a difference!

The following are some short stories from our foster care program.

One of our resource families had a sibling group of three children in their care and all was going well. Then an emergency situation occurred with the foster family. It did not involve the kids. However, we needed to move the children and we were able to secure another Agape family to take all three children. We were so pleased to be able to keep the kids together!

In these days of COVID-19, much of what we do has to involve zoom meetings. One of our teen girls was scheduled for a zoom meeting with her mother which was to be supervised by the County worker. At the last minute, the County worker could not be available. It looked like the visit

would not occur. However, the teen's Agape social worker intervened and was able to be the one to supervise the zoom call. The visit occurred and went well!

One of our youth was trying to get a social security card. Her Agape social worker was able to help her accomplish this.

As many of you know, sometimes placements at Agape are only for short periods of time for a variety of reasons. Recently we took a sibling group of three children into one of our loving homes. Shortly after, a relative of the children was found and agreed to take the children. The judge approved the relative to take the children three weeks into the placement. We were happy that Agape could stand in the gap and help with that transition.

Support Agape While Shopping—Changes Coming

The escrip program, through which most grocery stores participated, has been re-vamped. We will be letting you know how you can continue to support Agape through escrip soon. Please continue to support Agape through Amazon.com and Slick Deals. Call us at 866-922-4273 if you have questions.

\$325 was received through December 2020



We Met Our Matching Gift Challenge Again!

We are so grateful for our generous donors who met our matching gift challenge of \$50,000 by December 31st. It was a dollar for dollar match. Thank you all!



We Need Foster Parents!

— Every Child Deserves a Home —

We receive calls almost daily about children needing a foster home. We serve children who've been abused, neglected, abandoned and mistreated in ways they need to be removed from their own families for their protection. These are children who've been thrust into the foster care system, who depend on the mercy of others for their care.

We need families for children of all ages, especially children 10 years and older and sibling groups. **Consider today** how you can be used to care for children. For more information on foster parenting, call the Agape Villages office at 800-566-2225. Also, see our website at www.AgapeVillages.org.



Laura Dumitriu, CEO, Beltim and Associates

We are pleased to feature our caring volunteers in each of our newsletters. These people are precious jewels to us! Laura is an amazing asset to our Tri-Valley volunteer team. She helped out with our hugely successful Jail 'N Bail campaign last October, raising over \$1200 to help the abused and neglected kids of Agape Villages. Her charitable heart and helpful spirit shine through in everything she does as she is always helping non-profit organizations raise money to further their causes. Agape is truly lucky to have her. Laura is married and lives in Pleasanton with her 2 dogs.



Laura Dumitriu

We Need More Volunteers!

If you would like to be a volunteer, please let us know via our website: www.AgapeVillages.org and use the "Get Involved" button, or call us at 866-922-4273.

www.AgapeVillages.org



Hank Lawson

When People Do Good Things, Good Things Happen

By Hank Lawson, Director, Church and Community Relations

One of the most common challenges non-profit agencies have is to find ways to keep paid workers and volunteers, including donors, highly motivated and committed to the cause and mission of the organization.

We believe we have a great cause, providing children and youth who are thrust into the foster care system with loving homes where their needs can be met and a better future secured. We impact lives in tremendous ways.

I was thinking the other day about some reasons why we do what we do. I understand that what motivates me may be somewhat different than what motivates you. It's just great to see us all come together to accomplish so much for the children who desperately need our help.

As one whose Christian faith means a lot, I'm mindful of how God looks upon the work of Agape. I truly believe what we are doing is very close to the heart of God. We see God's concern for the downtrodden, disadvantaged, oppressed, and those in need expressed all throughout the scriptures. Many of us are involved in this work because we know what we do pleases God.

Love is one of God's greatest attributes. Consequently, the two greatest commands God places on us are to love God and love others. Helping those in need is one of the greatest ways to love others.

The Hebrews writer says the following in Hebrew 13:15-16: ***"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."***

Everyone involved with Agape Villages is involved in doing good. Everything we do to help a child in need is worth the effort. The good we do is resulting in many lives being improved. Good things are happening at Agape! God is happy and we hope what motivates you is being reinforced through what we are accomplishing.

We've just completed a most unusual year in how we do our work. We are so thankful for your support to help us!



Meeting the Need

By: Mark Anglin, Board Chair

Never has the Mission of Agape Villages Foster Family Agency been more important while dealing with the Corona Virus pandemic, homeschooling, economic uncertainty, and more.

To say the Corona Virus pandemic has affected the day-to-day operations of the agency is an understatement. Everything has been turned on its head. However, with hard work and perseverance of the Agape staff under the leadership of CEO Janet Kleyn, all is well.

Homeschooling is a requirement for most, if not all, of the children of school age. The Agape Foster Families have risen to the challenge to assist with this schooling. The agency is providing ongoing assistance to the families where needed. It has been a challenge, everything is not perfect, but the youth of Agape continue to receive quality educational assistance.

Economic uncertainty has been a challenge to both the agency and the foster families. In these hard times both have persevered. Agency support from donors has been remarkable, and along with governmental stimulus funds and fundraising efforts, we have kept the agency afloat. Foster families have also been adversely affected economically but have stayed true to the commitment made to foster the youth being served. Additionally, new foster families have continued to come forward to be certified.

Thank you to everyone associated with the agency for all that you do. To contact us go to: <https://agapevillages.org/>.

We are Grateful to these Churches for their Generous Gifts:

- Graton Church of Christ
- Christ's Church in the Tri-Valley
- North Metro Church of Christ
- Parkway Church of Christ
- Church of Christ of Murphys
- Exchange Community Church



The Manteca Senior Center asked Agape to be part of their annual Trunk or Treat event. Agape was pleased to participate and passed out a lot of information about Agape.

Memorial & Honor Gifts

October 10, 2020 through February 6, 2021

In Loving Memory

ERLINDA ACOSTA

Gene & Mary Copeland
Hank & Betty Lawson

FORREST ATKINS

Elaine Callis

KENNETH ATWOOD

Tom & Jessie Farris

IRENE BARLEBEN

The Nicklin Family

HARRY M. BARNES

Donald & Barbara Barnes

ERIKA BARTELSON

Judy Price

ROY & BETTY BARTLETT

Christopher & Brittney Nunes

HOMER BENSON

Norma Benson

PAUL STANLEY BETHEL

Denise & Jolly Christian

STAN & MARCIE BETHEL

Rincon Valley church of
Christ

GEORGE BISHOP

Don & Gwen Minor

DIXIE BOZEMAN

David & Kathy Spegal

CARL BRAY

Norman & Rebecca Cole

EARLIE & MARY BUSTER

Irvin Buster
Gene & Mary Copeland
Hank & Betty Lawson

TRACY BUSTER

Irvin Buster

SHERMAN & ELMA CANNON

Dale & Becky Cannon

MICHAEL CARTER

Kathy Carter

SHARON CARTER

Barbara Taber

REGINALD COLLINS

Norman & Rebecca Cole
Elmer & Doris Prout

NOLAN "FAYNE" COOK

Michael & Sharron Cook

JOYCE CRAWFORD

Larry & Nancy Bradley

VERNON DAVIS

Riverdale church of Christ

NICK DEES

Yvonne Dees

TANDRA DOOLEY

Hank & Betty Lawson
Jo Lawson
Lewisville church of Christ
Debra Miller

DUANE DUKE

Margaret Percival
Sarah Rockey

WILMA FLACH

Hank & Betty Lawson

NICK FURCHNER

Norman & Rebecca Cole

NANCY GARRARD

Hank & Betty Lawson

VERNON GARRETSON

Shirley Garretson

GORDON & WANDA

GILMORE

Rick & Kathy Gilmore

ESTHER GODFREY

Jim & Mary Holland

VIRGINIA GORDON

Ron & Peggy Fullen

KIA GOSS

Norman & Rebecca Cole

PAT HALL

Betty Hall

EDNA HAMES

Betty Hall

GEORGE HOUSE, JR.

Edna House

JUNE JOHNSON

Bill & Karen Hansen
Ernest & Jacki Hillman

WILLIAM & VAUGHNCELE

KISER

Lori Blue
Rita Blue
Mark & Dianne Kiser
Vickie Kiser

FRED KLEYN

Robbie Bentley
Bob & Norma Blair
Beverly Kleyn

JOHN LANDER

Richard & Judy Deatherage

GINGER LAWSON

Gene & Mary Copeland
Hank & Betty Lawson
Jo Lawson
Ray & Celia Lawson
Debra Miller

DIANA MARTIN

Elmer & Doris Prout

DANIEL MCGRELLIS

Denis & Joan McGrellis

BRENDA MILLS

Jerry & Kathleen Dotson

BOB OLIVER

Sarah Rockey

JIM PERSALL

Dale & Ella Mae Fuqua

CLYDE RICHARDSON

Jerry & Kathleen Dotson

Ken Jones

Don & Gwen Minor

JERRY ROBINSON

Betty Frazier

LOIS SEELA

Carolyn Greibel

KAARE STJERN

Rincon Valley church of
Christ

BOB TAYLOR

Jerry & Karel Baxley

CLETUS THOMPSON

Andrew Ware

JODY ELLIS THOMPSON

Norman & Rebecca Cole

PATRICIA UPCHURCH

Duane & Cynthia Rogers

JESSE VERA

Gene & Mary Copeland

LOIS RUTH WALLACE

Russell Basye

HELEN WILLIAMS

Dwayne Williams

LENORA WILSON

Norman & Brenda Chanley

Janet Kleyn

Hank & Betty Lawson

Paul McCollum

Jon & Cindy Norried

Bob & Carilyn Vice

Ray Willson

NIG WYATT

Vernon & Novella Vignolo

KATHLEEN YORK


Peggy Ornelas



Donate Your Car Today!

Our car donation program provides vital support to our work. Call **Car Program** toll-free, seven days a week at **1-800-513-6560**. Or, go to our website below.

www.AgapeVillages.org



A Legacy Gift

Remember Agape Villages With The Ones You Love!

Wills and Estates

For more information:
jkleyn@AgapeVillages.org

MEMORIAL OR HONOR GIFT

The enclosed gift of \$ _____ is given in Memory of, or in Honor of:

PLEASE NOTIFY:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Relationship to deceased/honoree: _____

Email address: _____

Making a Difference Every Day

Agape Villages • 3160 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 120 • San Ramon, CA 94583

www.AgapeVillages.org

In Honor And Respect

AGAPE VILLAGES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Keep Up The Great Work!
Sid Walker

DORIS BONNER

With Love & Appreciation!
Ernest & Jacki Hillman

DAN CALLAHAN

Happy Birthday!
Darlene Peck

JIM & DIANA HARRIS

With Appreciation!
Vernon & Novella Vignolo

BEVERLY KLEYN

*With Much Appreciation and
Love!*
Bob & Norma Blair

JANET KLEYN

With Love & Appreciation!
Ernest & Jacki Hillman

JACLYN KUENZINGER

I Love You! Merry Christmas!
Kari Carper

JOSH & LENA KUENZINGER

I Love You! Merry Christmas!
Kari Carper

HANK LAWSON

A Great Dad!
Jo Lawson

HANK LAWSON

We Love You!
Manny & Brandee Yactayo

HANK & BETTY LAWSON

With Love and Respect!
Ray & Celia Lawson

RYAN & BRITTANY LIBBY

I Love You! Merry Christmas!
Kari Carper

THELMA MEAD

Merry Christmas, Grandma!
We Love You!
Evan & Lauren Mead

ROBERT & BONNIE MURPHY

With Love & Respect!
Brett Richardson

DALE PECK

Happy Birthday! We Love You!
Gene & Mary Copeland

MARLENE PECK

*Thankful For Our Special
Friend!*
Gene & Mary Copeland

SHERRILL SAXER

With Respect!
Ron & Rebecca Yee

LORENE SMITH

*Happy Birthday! Merry
Christmas!*
Sarah Rockey

GINGER SPARKS

With Love!
The Dansby-Sparks Family

BARBARA STOFFLE

Happy Birthday!
Darlene Peck

ANITA WATERS

With Love!
Jack Waters



Cheryl Youngblood, LCSW
Agape Villages'
Program Director

Program Activities Adapting to the Challenges of COVID-19

Throughout these challenging times, our Agape team continues to stay positive, motivated and more dedicated than ever to ensure that we are complying with all of the latest state mandates required to keep our families, youth and employees safe with respect to COVID-19. We provide educational and extracurricular activities for our youth and families. Some are virtual and some are activities that families can do together in their homes. We continue to provide vital information regarding resources and current updates regarding county provisions to our families and children as well.

As the Program Director, I continue to conduct weekly virtual staff meetings. We begin with a group meditation for relaxation and groundedness. Then I provide the latest regulatory updates, and give each employee an opportunity to share how they are doing. I determine if there are changes in any of their homes, and provide individual support, guidance, information, interventions and tools.

Training for our wonderful resource parents continues. Recent topics, led by Agape Social Worker Supervisors Courtney McAlister and Dave Roach via Zoom, included CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children) and Countering the Shame of the Foster or Adopted Child: Healing the Wounds of the Past by Creating a More Loving Present.

Our important Living Skills Program (LSP) for our teens continues via zoom and is led by Agape social worker Pamela Reeves. Recently, Angelita Rincon, herself a former foster child, spoke to the teens. She connects strongly with foster teens and provided inspiration and understanding of what they are going through. She is herself a self-sufficient adult, giving back to the community.

Supporting Churches in 2020

We are very thankful for the support we receive from congregations all over California and beyond. Below is a listing of the 29 churches providing support to Agape Villages in 2020 and we are thankful!

- Anderson Church of Christ
- Central Church of Christ (Sacramento)
- Cherry Street Church of Christ (Sanger)
- Chico Church of Christ
- Chino Church of Christ
- Christ's Church in the Tri-Valley (San Ramon)
- Church of Christ of Murphys
- Empire Church of Christ
- Exchange Community Church (Walnut Creek)
- 1st Century Church of Christ (Nevada)
- Fulton Road Church of Christ (Santa Rosa)
- Graton Church of Christ
- Healdsburg Church of Christ
- Hughson Church of Christ
- John Knox Presbyterian Church (Dublin)
- Kearney Avenue Church of Christ
- Lathrop Church of Christ
- Martinez Church of Christ
- Mission Viejo Church of Christ
- North Metro Church of Christ (Sacramento)
- Parkway Church of Christ (Sacramento)
- Rincon Valley Church of Christ (Santa Rosa)
- Riverdale Church of Christ
- Roseville Church of Christ
- Tri Valley Church of Christ (Livermore)
- Turlock Church of Christ
- Tyler Street Church of Christ (Sacramento)
- United Lutheran Church (Manteca)
- Waterford Church of Christ

Shop with a Cop Program—Year 8

Due to COVID, we could not have our normal Shop with a Cop event. However, in lieu of physically getting together, the **Manteca Police Chiefs Foundation** sent us a check for \$3,500 to be used to buy gift cards for Agape children and youth. Our kids and their resource parents did their own shopping this year, thanks to our wonderful Cops!

Christmas Gifts for our Parties

Pictured here is **Veve Rodriguez** from the **Bank of Stockton** with the many gifts they donated for us to give to our children in care at Christmas time across Northern CA. We appreciate this so much and so do our kids! Thank you all!



Pajamas!

Thank you **Mission:Shoe** sponsors for thinking out of the "shoe" box. They donated more than 60 pairs of pajamas for the children and youth at Agape. Pictured are Douglas and Kristin Scott who brought the items to us.



Robes Donated

Thanks to **Bass Pro Shop in Manteca** for donating 250 robes for our children and youth. What a creative gift! The kids will love these! We appreciate your thoughtfulness!



A Special Kindness

We are grateful to **Dan Johnson** and the **Hope Lutheran Church** in San Leandro who were planning to allow us to hold our annual carnival in their parking lot. Like so many other events in 2020, we could not hold the carnival last year. We hope to be able to hold the carnival in September this year at Hope Lutheran Church.



"Elfing" for Agape...Again!

We are grateful to the **Youth Group** at the **Tri-Valley Church of Christ** (Livermore) for conducting another "Elfing" fund raising event for Agape, but this time, in a different way. Families agreed to do the elfing and raise money themselves. The event raised \$1,000 for Agape. Thanks to everyone!

Christmas Gifts

Tyler Johnson of **WiZiX Technology Group** had another toy drive this year for Agape. He received many more gifts! Thank you Tyler and everyone who participated! Thanks for helping make Christmas all the more special for our kids!



Christmas Gifts

Thanks to friends who wished to keep their names anonymous, Agape received a gift card and a bunch of Christmas gifts for our kids. Gifts like this, and others mentioned in this page, make it so much easier for our resource parents during the holiday season. Thanks again!!



Bicycles for our Kids

We are grateful to **Kids Bike Lane** for donating 25 bikes and helmets for our children and youth. These will no doubt be greatly appreciated by our kids! Thanks again!



SO MUCH
TO BE

THANKFUL

FOR!

Gift Cards

We are grateful to the **Ticket to Dream Foundation** for their ongoing generous support of Agape. We received duffle bags and \$4,500 in funds to purchase gift cards for our children and youth in care just in time for Christmas. Thank you all!



Comfort Kits

We appreciate **Love Modesto** for donating 50 backpacks for our children and youth for Christmas. Each of the back packs had comfort items in them. Pictured at right are Esperanza Hernandez, Isabella Foster and Lisa Foster who volunteered at the event.



More Christmas Gifts

Our thanks to **MVH Insurance Agency** in Elk Grove for donating many gifts for our foster kids. Pictured at right are Taji Sperber (left) and Marissa Snyder. We appreciate you all very much!



Another Generous Grant Received



We are overjoyed by another \$10,000 donation from **the Rite Aid Foundation**. We appreciate their dedication to foster kids in the local community.

Gift From Church

Thank you so much to the **Kearney Avenue Church of Christ** in Kearney for their very generous donation. Many young lives will be blessed. Thanks for thinking of our children this holiday season!

Thoughtful Gifts

We are thankful to **Sheila Vivian** for donating many board games and a very large stuffed animal.



Giving Tuesday 2020 Benefits Agape

Giving Tuesday occurred on December 1st last year, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. **Agape received \$12,500** in donations that day. We are very thankful for everyone who participated in this event. We hope many more will take advantage of this opportunity next year!

Girls Groups Are Very Active

Agape has had a "girls' group" for a number of years. It is a safe place where girls come together, have fun, learn new skills and can be with other girls in foster care. It has grown to include girls ranging in age from 6 to 21!

We've now divided the group into 2 groups by age. One for the younger girls from ages 6 – 12. Another group for girls ages 13 – 21. Lisa Foster is conducting the younger Girls' Group. Emily Youngblood, Mara Brainerd and Sarah Wilson are conducting the Teen Girls' Group.

The younger girls recently enjoyed a "tea" at the Chit Chat Cafe and Bakery in Manteca, hosted by owner Tiffany Saucedo. The girls talked about the upcoming holidays, their families, and even sang and danced for everyone. At the end, the girls were able to take home goodies. Thank you,

Chit Chat Cafe and Bakery.

The teen girls' group is focused on providing a welcoming, safe, fun, empathic venue where the girls can openly share their feelings, topics of interest and concerns while also receiving support and information in a casual, relaxed environment. In addition, the girls will be doing crafts. Each session will consist of an activity and a focus topic, such as maintaining friendships during the pandemic, how to advocate for oneself, social media safety, etc.



Fairways Fore Foster Kids 2020

We have been holding our “Fairways Fore Foster Kids” golf fund raising event in Manteca for 16 years now. As we’ve heard as a disclaimer so often this year, because of COVID-19, we had to change up the format to keep all of our players safe. So, for 2020, we limited the number of players on the course to 40. To accommodate all who we had scheduled to play, we split the event into three days of golf.

So, we had 120 golfers and raised over \$40,000 all total in support of our foster care program. We had our regular “pay-to-play” aspect of the event where individual golfers paid \$100 to participate. We also had a fund raising aspect where we secured some “Team Captains” to raise money with their teammates and then come to play golf. The team raising the most funds this year was the **Mission Viejo Church of Christ team** in Orange County led by **Doug Mead**. They raised over \$4,600.

We named each of the three tournaments by the tournament sponsor. The Teeples Tournament was held on October 9th. First place winners of this tournament were from the Martinez Church of Christ team: Brian Lescure, Dan Lescure, Steve Vawter and Jeff Vawter.



Sweet Cases and More!

Carmen Campos and Bill Douglas, working through the Together We Rise organization, donated 10 Sweet Cases to the children at Agape. A Sweet Case is a duffle bag filled with a teddy bear, blanket, crayons and coloring books, and a small hygiene kit. They individually decorated each of the duffle bags. Carmen and Bill also donated 15 skateboards, bags for the skateboards and helmets. They also donated 20 birthday boxes, with everything needed for a birthday party. Carmen observed, “We felt compelled to help foster children, who seem to be forgotten by our society even during normal times.” We appreciate your thoughtfulness!



The USGA Tournament was held on October 23rd and the first place winners were from the Performance Caulking and Waterproofing, Inc. team: Barry Perry, Steve Harris, Phil Roper and Jared Sterritt.

The Manteca Trailer Tournament was held on October 30th and the first place winners of this tournament were the following foursome: Tom Clarke, Bob Allendorf, Danny Perez and Wally Singh.

We appreciate all our sponsors and those who came to participate in the golfing experience. We hope to build on this success next year by securing more Team Captains to join us from all over Northern California and beyond. Our event will be held on three different dates as last year. Let us hear from you if you’d like to participate in any way!

— Event Sponsors —

A Teeples Plumbing
USGA, Inc.
Manteca Trailer & Motorhome

— Hole Sponsors —

South San Joaquin Irrigation District
Alliance Architectural Solutions
Midway Chevrolet
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— Tee Sponsors —

AmpWrX Solar Solutions
Gia/Foods Company
Hackworth Real Estate Professionals
Hull’s Millwork, Inc.
Agape Board Members



Above is a picture of the current bookmark we had printed to give to our stakeholders. It was drawn by a boy who was in foster care with us, but who has since been adopted. He’s been doing great in his forever family!

The following are groupings of the sponsors who provide much needed financial support to Agape.
We appreciate each one!

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**SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN
IRRIGATION DISTRICT**



Tracy, Manteca, Ripon & Modesto

**Thanks to these Companies for
their Generous Sponsorships!**

- ClearPath Business Advisors
- South San Joaquin Irrigation District
- Law Office of James P. White

Bronze Sponsors

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BOYKIN Burkley, LLC

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Commercial Glass & Aluminum, Inc.
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"TODAY'S DIRT IS TOMORROW'S GOLD"

"Investing in land because they're not making any more of it."

Marcella Silva | 925-337-2513



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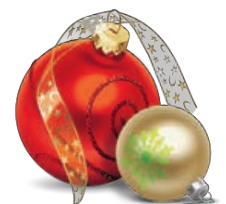
Sharing Christmas Joy!

Our Christmas parties this year were different by necessity. We had drive up Christmas parties in the Central Valley Area and the Bay Area. Social Worker Supervisor Courtney McAlister played "Santa" in the Sacramento area, visiting each family. All of our families received pizzas (or gift cards for pizza), holiday treats, and gifts for all kids young and old.

We have so many to say "thanks" to including:

- Agape Social Worker Supervisor Dave Roach as Santa in San Leandro
- Don Pascarella as Santa in Manteca
- Mrs. Claus in Manteca
- Turlock Church of Christ
- Tyler Street Church of Christ (Sacramento)
- Central Valley Association of Realtors
- Hughson Church of Christ
- Exchange Community Church

- Fostering Wishes
- Manteca Bank of Stockton
- Manteca Police Department
- Gohar Jaffer and friends
- Safety Compliance Management
- MVS Insurance Agency in Elk Grove
- People who purchased off our Amazon Gift List

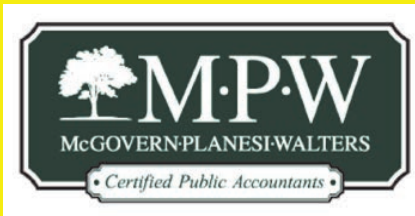


Thanks to Agape staff, board and volunteers for all you did! Also, thanks to all those "unnamed" people who brought gifts by! Bringing cheer for this holiday season!


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Toys and Diapers Donated

Carmen Bates called Agape and asked if there was a resource family that could use some gifts. We had a resource family, recently certified, who asked for learning toys and diapers. Thank you, Carmen.



Our Professional Service Statistics

Year End Statistics (From 1/1/20 to 12/31/20)

- 172 – Foster Children Served Year-to-Date
- 85 – New Children in Care this Year
- 82 – Foster Children Currently in Care
- 66 – Certified Foster Families
- 2 – Adoptions Facilitated

Since We Began in 1958

- 6,495 – Foster Children Served
 - ♦ 4,000 – Through Sierra Children's Home
 - ♦ 2,495 – Through Agape Villages
- 549 – Foster Families who have Partnered with us in Foster Care

MATTRESS FIRM And Foster Kids

We are always grateful to Mattress Firm for their donations. We recently received several "American Girl" dolls complete with clothes and other accessories. We also received some gorgeous dresses with matching sweaters for our foster girls. We received many other items including reusable face masks, pajamas, school supplies, toiletry items, stuffed animals, makeup products, toys and backpacks. Thank you, Mattress Firm!

Agape Villages

3160 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 120
San Ramon, CA 94583
925-866-3020 ■ 866-922-4273

www.AgapeVillages.org

Janet Kleyn, MBA
President and CEO

Cheryl Youngblood, LCSW
Program Director

Hank Lawson
Dir., Church and Community Relations

Board of Directors

Mark Anglin, Chair
Walter Bruce, Secretary
Hank Lawson, Treasurer
Cindae Hull
Janet Kleyn
Cheryl Lee
Gloria Robertson
Sarah Rockey
Don Thomas
Stephen T. Webb

Our Mission

"Agape Villages mobilizes community resources to provide quality homes, innovative solutions and the highest of professional services to disadvantaged children and their families to meet their needs, maximize their potential and lead toward a better and brighter future."



62 Years of Caring Through Sierra Children's Home/Agape Villages

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 103
San Ramon, CA



Janet Kleyn, President

1 Corinthians 13:13

"And now these three remain; faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

Remember, Online Giving is Available on our Website
www.AgapeVillages.org

From the President

We Need Them to Matter to You

In the movie *Déjà Vu* (2006), Denzel Washington played an ATF agent going back in time to investigate the bombing of a ferry boat in New Orleans. He focused much of his attention on the death of one woman to solve the crime.

During his investigation, Denzel visited with this woman's father. Before leaving, the father gave him several pictures of his daughter. Even though Denzel knew what she looked like, the father said, **"I need her to matter to you."** By giving the pictures, the father hoped they would cause Denzel to care more, to handle the investigation with greater passion.

This relates to a challenge we have as a donor dependent organization. We try to communicate in many ways with our partners in the work we do to encourage and strengthen each one's dedication to our cause and our work. Our newsletters are one way we do

this. Emails and our website are another. Public speaking to churches and groups all over California is another.

Those who volunteer with us and provide financial support are our essential partners. This is, in part, one of the reasons Agape is so unique and effective. Every child we help by meeting their immediate needs and providing hope for their future is a victory and something to celebrate. Together, we are doing something very special!

It is now time to renew our national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities (CARF). It's almost been three years since our initial accreditation. Each year we work hard to comply with their standards and every three years they come to visit us, reviewing very carefully our records and practices. We'll let you know how we fared in our next newsletter.