

# Recollections

## Weekly Calendar

### AA: Fridays

8:00 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### NA: Thursdays

7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

### NAR-ANON

### Family Group:

Thursdays

7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

### SAA for Men:

Sundays, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

### DailyBread

### Meal for Community:

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursdays

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### Adult Clothing Giveaway:

First Tuesday

10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Third Friday

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Food Pantry:

Columbia County

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month

9 a.m. to 12 noon

### Fresh Express:

Every Thursday

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Upcoming Calendar of Events

### August 25 – 9th

Annual Palooza

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Bloomsburg Town Park

### August 29th

Hosting Bloomsburg

Chamber After Hours

Open House

4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18 KJV



AGAPE's Getting Ahead program is continuing to provide classes to help those in our community who want to improve their lives. These classes are facilitated not taught by sharing ideas and

experiences of those attending by exposing attendees to resources and providing the tools, information, and encouragement from which they will set short and long term goals for themselves that will gradually give them a better life. Getting Ahead currently has classes at all three of our sites, Danville, Bloomsburg and Berwick. We also have a similar program, Getting Ahead While Getting Out—a reentry program for individuals on probation and parole, that gives them resources, tools and information on how to re-assimilate successfully with the community. We are partnering with the county drug and alcohol treatment court.

Adrienne Mael, Bridges Out of Poverty facilitator, organized a reunion in January for all past graduates. The reunion was a success. It provided valuable input from graduates that will enable us to continue to improve the classes. Graduates also recommended people for future classes and topics of interest for follow up instruction. Several graduates signed up to be part of a community awareness program with Adrienne and the Bridges Out of Poverty program.

Joan Miller of Danville is a Bridges Out of Poverty facilitator as well and she has established a steering committee to implement a variety of ideas on how to help the low income overcome the barriers they face that prevent them from being successful.

If you know of someone whose goal is to improve their life Getting Ahead is a good way to accomplish that. Advise them to contact AGAPE at 570-317-2210 or e-mail [gacoordinator@agape-pa.org](mailto:gacoordinator@agape-pa.org). Additionally, our website: [www.agape-pa.org](http://www.agape-pa.org) can give more information on the programs by clicking on the right of the page "programs" and then scrolling down to Making Progress and then under SmartStart find the various Getting Ahead classes are described. An application to attend a future class can be found there or it can be picked up at AGAPE.

One of the attendees of the current class has this to say about the program: "The class is helping me to understand poverty and how to better myself. The information on community resources and the sharing by class members on their situations provides information on where to go for help. GA has been a blessing for me. I love coming to class."



Our third annual Diamond Donor Reception was held on Friday, March 23. Donors who gave \$5,000.00 and above in monetary and/or in-kind donations during 2017 were honored. Hors d'oeuvres were served and a tour was given. Each donor received an engraved plaque.



In December, LCBC Church presented AGAPE with a check for \$13,000.00 to purchase a much needed walk-in freezer. Pictured are: Eileen Chapman, Laurie Swank, and LCBC Representative, Stacie Martz.

## AN AGAPE DREAM IS FULFILLED

AGAPE has finally had its long-imagined dream fulfilled. When AGAPE opened nine years ago it was also a Mission Central Hub. We had almost given up hope that this dream would ever be fulfilled. But, 2018 seems to be the time God has planned to fulfill this plan with coordinators Leslie Hafner and Debbie Michael. They are excited, enthusiastic and mission oriented. You will be hearing from them soon through your churches, and you can contact them at [mchub@agape-pa.org](mailto:mchub@agape-pa.org) or leave a message with our front desk at 570-317-2210. They are getting organized and hope to be up and running by May 7th. For those of you unacquainted with Mission Central and its mission more information will be forthcoming. Mission Central facilitates our community's ability to serve not only our own but those facing tragedy throughout the United States and the world at large.

### Wednesday Family Night Meals

are back with Jodi Berry and her family running them. We are looking for 24 local restaurants to provide a meal once a year. Most of our clients are not able to take their families out to eat so AGAPE is hoping to enlist the help of local restaurants to bring the restaurant experience to them. We are also looking for churches to prepare a meal once a month. For more information contact AGAPE at 570-317-2210 or by email at

[agapeoutreach@agapepa.org](mailto:agapeoutreach@agapepa.org).

You can also find us at

[www.agape-pa.org](http://www.agape-pa.org)

## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of AGAPE,

We had a very successful 2017, and it looks like another successful year ahead. In fact, a lot has already happened since the beginning of 2018.

First, we thank you, our community, for your generous response to our December request for giving financially to AGAPE during the Christmas season. Our end of year funds were a concern due to the decrease in contributions since August such that we could not begin the new year with confidence of meeting the financial needs of our clients. The response of almost \$20,000.00 was overwhelming and, although we didn't hit the mark, you sure brought us close. So close, we were able to start with a firmer base than we had and with a sense of relief that we could continue to help.

Second, we received a letter of notification from the Berwick Area United Way that they had approved our request for a grant for AGAPE's LifeChallenges program in the amount of \$8,000.00. What a gift! We are so grateful to be able to better assist our clients residing in the areas served by the Berwick Area United Way. God is so good!

Third, on March 16 we closed on the sale of a property on Mystic Mountain donated to AGAPE on December 17<sup>th</sup> by Veronica Martin, formerly of the Philadelphia area. We closed on the house on December 27<sup>th</sup> and signed a sales agreement on December 29. Talk about a God miracle. As a result of the sale, AGAPE realized \$75,055.00 which was applied by our Board of Directors to a Reserve account to assure AGAPE's financial future so that we can help in times of critical need.

Fourth, the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Project Frozen began the second week in January and ended March 26. It provided warmth for 12 hours each night from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. to our homeless residents. We had 12 individual guests who accepted the warmth offered by the Center for one or more days of the 77 days (3 stayed every week).

We are very appreciative of the 26 dedicated volunteers who were the hospitality hosts for the Project Frozen Warming Center. We did have difficulty finding volunteers for the 12:00 midnight to 8:00 a.m. shift, but Columbia-Montour County Area United Way solved that issue by giving us a \$3,000.00 grant to provide an incentive for a coordinator who not only oversaw the program and scheduled volunteers but also filled the shifts of those hours that lacked volunteers. All in all, Project Frozen was a success by providing shelter from the 37 degrees and under severe weather of this winter season thus preventing death or serious health issues.

We were blessed last year and have had blessings already this year. We are encouraged to continue serving the Living God in our community!

*In His Service,*

Eileen

## THANK YOU



March 14 & 15, 2018

**\$15,440.00**

was donated to AGAPE through Raise the Region.

**Thank you to the 109 donors who contributed!**

### DIRECT DEPOSIT

It's here! People have been asking for Direct Deposit, and we finally have it up and running. You can have your donation withdrawn from your checking account on a regular basis, and there is no fee. The Direct Deposit form is available on our website.

### THANK YOU BERWICK AREA UNITED WAY

For the \$8,000.00 Grant to help serve clients in the Berwick area.

### THANK YOU COLUMBIA/MONTOUR COUNTY AREA UNITED WAY

For the \$3,000.00 Grant to help keep Project Frozen open for the Winter of 2018.



Love From Above To Our Community

19 East 7th Street  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815  
570-317-2210  
[www.agapelovefromabove.org](http://www.agapelovefromabove.org)



Donate On-Line using  
PayPal on our Website:  
[www.agapelovefromabove.org](http://www.agapelovefromabove.org)

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Bloomsburg,  
PA 17815  
Permit No. 19

## FEEDING THE THOUSANDS

October – December 2017

ACE Hearing Centers

The Auction Gallery

Century 21 Covered Bridges Realty, Inc.  
(Susan Barchik & Dorothy Rhone)

Hamilton Dental Care

Marr Development, Inc.

Nathan Snavelly Nationwide Insurance  
USG

January – March 2018

Dent Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Gordner-Coombs Insurance, Inc.

Hamilton Dental Care

Harrell Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc.

Hero Canine Consulting LLC

Marr Development, Inc.

Twin Bridge Storage

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Cleaning AGAPE  
(twice a week)
- Delivery Drivers
- Warehouse Help
- AGAPE Outreach  
Department
- Volunteer Department
- Churches and Volunteers  
(to prepare Wednesday  
evening meals)