



AGAPE Director of Human Resources and Programs Amber Lee describes the Storeroom to Greenwood Friends School's second and third grade students during a recent visit.

One client, one life at a time Real people, real needs, real help

But if any one has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 1 John 3:17

When news stories and public opinion comments draw attention to those who "abuse the system," others with legitimate needs sometimes get lost. At AGAPE one-on-one counseling and flexible guidelines enable us to aid people who come to us as a last resort. Often someone arrives in tears and leaves smiling.

Many clients get the AGAPE spirit and respond by helping others themselves. A young father had to leave his home suddenly to come here to care for his children when their mother died. Arriving with nothing but his vehicle, his dog and his concern for the 11- and 9-year-olds, he quickly found a job. Finding a home was another matter. After living in his car for several months, he came to AGAPE. "This place is truly amazing," he said. "One lady here has the biggest heart of anybody I've ever met." After receiving clothes, food, gas money and other aid, he was able to obtain a place to live where he hopes to be joined by a teenage daughter, bringing the entire family

together. He now volunteers with AGAPE.

Typically someone released from jail is not provided with food, shelter, money, or even adequate clothing for the weather. One man released in January spent his first night outside in the bitter cold. He went to the library for help and discovered AGAPE's HelpMates program for former inmates. "They were so understanding of my situation," he said. "The people are just great, not judgmental." After getting food, clothing and a place to stay, he volunteers his extra time with AGAPE. "It feels good to give back to them," he said.

An older woman on disability who normally makes ends meet by budgeting and saving was overwhelmed when her refrigerator unexpectedly died. She came to AGAPE for help, and we gave her a refrigerator. She then offered us hand knit hats and mittens for those who needed them.

William Tyndale, an early translator of the New Testament into English, wrote, "The Scripture urges us to do good not in order to win God's love, but to do good because God loves us." This is AGAPE.

Weekly Calendar

- **AA Meetings:**
Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. and Fridays at 8 p.m.
- **AL ANON Meetings:**
Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.
- **NA and NAR ANON Meetings:**
Thursdays at 6:45 p.m.
- **DailyBread Meal for Community:**
Thursdays 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- **Celebrate Recovery Gathering:**
Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.
Journeymate Ministries, Main Street, Lightstreet
- **Adult Clothing Giveaway:**
4th Thursday of each month
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Food Pantry, Columbia County**
3rd Friday of each month
9 a.m. to 12 noon

Upcoming Calendar of Events 2014

- Saturday, April 26, Visit us at Renaissance, downtown Bloomsburg
- Saturday, May 17, Applebees Flapjack Breakfast fundraiser – 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., adults \$7.00, children \$4.50. Last seating 9:30 a.m.
- Saturday, July 12, Golf Tournament at The Links, Buckhorn, 8 a.m.
- Saturday, August 23, 5th Anniversary Palooza, Bloomsburg Town Park
- Go to www.agapelovefromabove.org for more calendar listings and updates.



AGAPE joins Amazon Smile and you can help

AGAPE has registered with AmazonSmile as one of their charities. When you use your Amazon.com account, you can register AGAPE as your preferred charity with AmazonSmile.

We will receive a portion of whatever you order through AmazonSmile. To register go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/64-1591692>.

Saturday July 12th, 2014
At the Links Golf Course

7:30 A.M. Registration
8:00 A.M. Shotgun Start

Deadline to register:
June 27th, 2014

AGAPE
Love From Above To Our Community

First Annual Golf Tournament

Any questions, please contact:
Deb Franssen (570) 317.2210

Teeing off to help AGAPE's mission

First annual golf tournament set for July 12 at the Links

AGAPE is sponsoring our first annual golf tournament on July 12, 2014 at the Links at Hemlock Creek golf course to benefit local services that may include counseling, education, supplementary disaster relief, evangelism, financial aid, nourishment, and supplying household necessities.

Local businesses can also become part of this event through a partnership with AGAPE that will help fill in the gaps between people in need and the community services available to assist them. Participating businesses can become Gold, Silver, or Bronze donors starting at \$25. Each level offers a listing in the Tournament Program, with business signs at tees, and

prizes awarded in businesses' names for one of the various contests to be held during play including longest drive and closest to the pin.

Businesses and player entry forms can be obtained at AGAPE. Fees for this 4-person scramble are \$65 per person for a four-person team which includes greens fees, cart, and Southern BBQ lunch. The deadline for registration is June 27. Please make checks payable to AGAPE.

Registration is at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start beginning at 8. For additional information, contact Deb Franssen at 570.317.2210.

Feeding the Thousands

Since January 2013, AGAPE has increased the number of DailyBREAD meals by over 100 clients per quarter. We appreciate the following sponsors who helped with our weekly noon meals during the fall quarter: Dent Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Sheetz, Geo Climate Control, Inc., Harrell Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc. and Nate Snavelly Nationwide Insurance. We are hoping to begin a weekly evening meal in 2014.

January

Bloomsburg Carpet Industries, Inc.
Hampton Inn, Danville
Kitchen's United Methodist Church
United Water

February

Bloomsburg Carpet Industries, Inc.
Marr Development, Inc.
Metso Minerals

March

Bloomsburg Carpet Industries, Inc.
Crawford Heating & Plumbing
St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Weekly Sponsors

Big Lots Giant Foods Sheetz



Kayaking returns to fifth annual Palooza

AGAPE's 5th Anniversary Palooza will be held at the Bloomsburg Town Park on Saturday, August 23, 2014. Events will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m.

Entertainment already scheduled includes free pony rides and a petting zoo from Pony Paradise, wandering magician, Eddy Ray, the popular Blue Grass band Raven Creek, a scavenger hunt with prizes, good food, and much more!

In conjunction with the Palooza, we will also hold our second annual kayaking event sponsored by Susquehanna Outdoor Adventures. Mark the date and plan to join us for all or part of the day as we celebrate five years of serving the people of our community in the name of Jesus Christ.

Sharing the message

Greenwood Friends visit with Eileen

Students from Krista Wenner's class at Greenwood Friends School visited AGAPE on Monday, March 24.

Early in January, Eileen visited the Friends School and talked to the students about homelessness and the plight of the poor. Her talk included how they have to make choices about what necessities to buy and what bills to pay.

Subsequently, the class visited AGAPE and helped pack emergency food boxes which AGAPE keeps on hand.

There was plenty of enthusiasm from this group, and Eileen and the staff thoroughly enjoyed their visit.



Eileen Chapman presents an overview of AGAPE goals to Teacher Krista's and Teacher Becca's classes from the Greenwood Friends School.

2014: rewarding and fulfilling

Letter from the Executive Director

What a beginning of the year! Cold, COLD, and more COLD. So cold that we were very worried about the homeless who had no place to go in below-freezing weather for such a long period of time. In February AGAPE staff began brain-storming possible solutions, but initially came up with nothing that would not cost bunches of money. Then one day, Matt Korol, our Director of Operations and Facilities, came in and said, "What if we extended our business hours and were open hours that included mid-evening to early morning?" Wow! Does God move people to provide the answers to our queries!

Thus, Project Frozen began. Our extended business hours ran 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. seven days a week for 36 days. AGAPE became a warming center where those who

needed a place to get out of the frigid cold could come in to have a warm cup of coffee, tea, or cocoa; something warm to eat; and fellowship. They could stay as long as they wanted. Two shifts with two volunteers each staffed the Center.

Project Frozen was utilized 96 times by 13 different individuals, 11 males and 2 females, with 82 stays through the late evening hours. Short stays numbered 14, lasting anywhere from 15 minutes to 4 hours. We were open 396 extended hours with 792 volunteer hours by 29 different volunteers. To all the dedicated volunteers: Thank you, thank you! You were awesome!

We had three calls in March asking if Project

Frozen was still operating. Unfortunately, we closed the end of February as our volunteers were wearing out and those who had come regularly had found jobs and places to live.

AGAPE has installed a generator to insure we maintain power to critical parts of the Center during a power failure. Now when power outages occur for whatever reason, but particularly in disasters like 2011, we can

continue to serve people in need. Larry Creasy, Don Tretter, Doug Rarig, and Skip Miller are our great volunteers who installed the new equipment. To them we also say a great big "Thank you."

AGAPE hosted a Chamber of Commerce "After Business Hours" event in which we showed off the AGAPE Center, our volunteers

and our services. The Columbia-Montour Area Vocational and Technology School (VOTECH) food preparation class and the kitchen staff of the Columbia County Prison provided food. We had many compliments on their food and its excellent display. Many attendees were unaware of what AGAPE did and with this event had their eyes opened to the needs of our community and how AGAPE is helping to fill some of those needs.

This first quarter of 2014 has been rewarding and fulfilling for staff and volunteers. I truly believe God is affirming our mission and our values. He has blessed us beyond our wildest expectations. Thank you Lord! In His Service, Eileen



The new generator being installed.



Mission Central

Now booking AGAPE Bundling Parties

Book your group or committee to assemble UMCOR kits of your group's choice. We have several to choose from! Bring your favorite music and refreshments and a heart to serve!

Please contact Kelly Kocher-Ross for details.

AGAPE Needs Calendar

- **May is Mom's month**
Please donate supplies to assemble Birthing Kits and Layette Kits.

- **June is Disaster Relief Month**
Please donate supplies to assemble Cleaning Buckets and Health Kits.

- **July is Prepare Month**
Please donate supplies to assemble Sewing Kits and Health Kits.

- **August is School Month**
Please donate supplies to assemble School Kits and Birthing Kits.

Each monthly kit has specific needs for mailing, weight, and space so please contact Kelly Kocher-Ross at 570-317-2210 and visit our website.

Please check out the AGAPE website frequently for immediate needs.



Bloomsburg Chamber of Commerce held an After Hours event at AGAPE on March 19. Members were treated to tasty snacks by Columbia-Montour Area Vo-Tech School and Columbia County Prison catering. Members also toured our facility.

Program Outreach

(Jan.-March 2014)

Client Requests:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Ex-Offender | 11 |
| Homeless | 22 |
| Disaster Survivor | 3 |
| AGAPE Give-Away Events | 285 |
| Benevolence Clients | 325 |
| Total Clients Served | 646 |

DailyBread Meals served 1,201

Program Distributions:

| | # Assisted | Expenditure |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|
| CleanLife | N/A* | \$ 315.00 |
| DailyBread | 149 | \$22,818.25 |
| Daniel's Prayer | 81 | --- |
| HelpMates | 11 | --- |
| KidsCare | 4 | \$ 110.00 |
| NetWorks | 102 | \$26,216.78 |
| RoadHome | 4 | \$ 780.00 |
| SmartStart | 4 | --- |
| StoreMore | 283 | \$36,229.90 |
| TransPorts | 28 | \$ 1,374.03 |
| FixerUpper | 0 | --- |
| Total | | \$87,843.9 |

*CleanLife does not include number assisted due to the nature of the program and the anonymous meeting attendees.



Love From Above To Our Community

19 East 7th Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

FINANCIAL REPORT (Jan.-March 2014)

Income:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Churches | \$16,246.75 |
| Community Organization | \$ 4,310.00 |
| Corporate Donations | \$ 2,782.56 |
| Individual Donations | \$15,555.77 |
| Grants | \$ 3,150.00 |
| Other | \$ 335.88 |

In-Kind Donations:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Corporate/Business | \$62,668.49 |
| Individual | \$24,624.23 |
| Total In-Kind | \$87,292.72 |
| Total Income | \$129,673.68 |

Expenses:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Total Program Distribtion | \$87,843.96 |
| Operational Expenses | \$28,398.49 |
| Total Expenses | \$116,242.45 |

Board of Directors:

President: Pastor Susan Knorr
 Vice-President: Vicky Burnside
 Secretary: Sandie Yule
 Larry Finnicum
 Frank Gehrig
 Ginger Hock
 Kathy Lowe
 Pastor Greg Molter
 Louise Naus
 Chris Renninger
 Pastor David Rosenberger
 Michael Spagnuolo
 Eileen Chapman: Ex-officio member

AGAPE INFORMATION

Monday - Tuesday - Friday
 Open: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thursday
 Open: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Phone: 570-317-2210

FAX: 570-317-2213

Email: info@agapelovefromabove.org

Web: www.agapelovefromabove.org

Acknowledgments

Thanks to so many generous donors, AGAPE received \$11,000.00 from the 2014 RAISE THE REGION online fundraising event.

Thanks to many generous individuals, churches, businesses and charitable organizations in our community, AGAPE provided over \$18,000.00 of heating assistance to those in need during this difficult winter.

Donate now with..



Donate On-Line using PayPal on our Website at: www.agapelovefromabove.org



Love From Above To Our Community

Financial Donation & Contribution Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Apt #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Check Enclosed Donation Amount: \$ _____ Dedication (If any): _____

Financial Donations May Be Mailed To: AGAPE, P.O. Box 424, Bloomsburg, PA 17815

The official registration and financial information of AGAPE Love From Above to Our Community may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania (1-800-732-0999). Registration does not imply endorsement. AGAPE is a 501(C) 3 organization.