



# AGAPE

of North Carolina

## 2020 Annual Report

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# 2021 IMPACT STATEMENT

AGAPE of North Carolina was founded in 1982. While our practice and resources have evolved over the years, our mission has remained the same –

**Service to God by Strengthening Families One Child At A Time.**

Association for  
Guidance  
Aid  
Placement and  
Empathy of NC



Under the management of AGAPE’s current Board of Directors and Executive Director, Kimberly Scott, the agency now serves a number of children, adolescents, and teens in foster care that was once only dreamed about. Because of strategic changes made in recent years under Kim’s supervision and the oversight of an engaged Board, AGAPE now has a steady stream of Foster and Adoptive Families. Financial support from the State of North Carolina for the number of children and young adults in care, supplemented by monetary gifts from generous Donors, allows the agency to be financially stable. The leadership and business acumen present on AGAPE’s Board, along with the vision shared by Kim, has allowed AGAPE to remain an amazing Christian ministry and work for God’s Kingdom!

But Kim and current members of the Board are not just here to maintain the business demands of AGAPE as an organization and ensure that it all works out financially. There is an authentic and sincere caring that exists between

AGAPE’s Families, Board Members, Staff, Volunteers, Donors, and those we serve together – as evidenced by the concern for each other and prayers lifted whenever a difficult situation arises. Prayer is an important part of Board,

Staff, and Volunteer meetings, as well as AGAPE Family gatherings. God is praised for the assistance AGAPE can provide to others and HIS guidance is requested to ensure that decisions made follow HIS Word and HIS Will.

“I love children, but I have been told I may not be able to have any more. I have a lot of love to give and a soft spot for children who need love.”

## YEAR-END UPDATE

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020

**28**  
Foster Children in Care

**8**  
Foster Families in Training

**30**  
Licensed Foster Homes

**1**  
Completed 2020 Adoption

# HISTORICAL REVENUE

## Donations and Revenue

2016 | \$231,946

2017 | \$376,555

2018 | \$543,017

2019 | \$622,000

2020 | \$699,400

## Change For Life!

2016 | \$62,361

2017 | \$94,848

2018 | \$116,297

2019 | \$100,596

2020 | \$208,808

**Thank you for your generosity throughout the years and especially through the pandemic!**

## YOUR AMAZING RESPONSE & SUPPORT!

2020 was certainly a year of surprises! No one anticipated all that would happen when the year first began . . . A lot of activities were shut down as society quarantined, protested, and tried to maintain safety and security.

AGAPE of North Carolina (like many of you) had to conduct ourselves and use our resources differently to continue our mission of serving children, youth, and families during uncertain times.

As we launched AGAPE's annual Change For Life! giving campaign last Fall, we worried that donations might be down because of personal hardships suffered by supporters. We wondered and prayed about AGAPE's future.

But the *Change For Life!* graph above reflects another surprise AGAPE encountered in 2020!

- **YOU surpassed our 2020 C4L goal of \$130,000 by more than \$78,000!**
- **YOU more than doubled the previous year's C4L total, increasing YOUR giving last year by 108%!**
- **YOU contributed tremendous Gifts to accomplish tremendous Growth!**

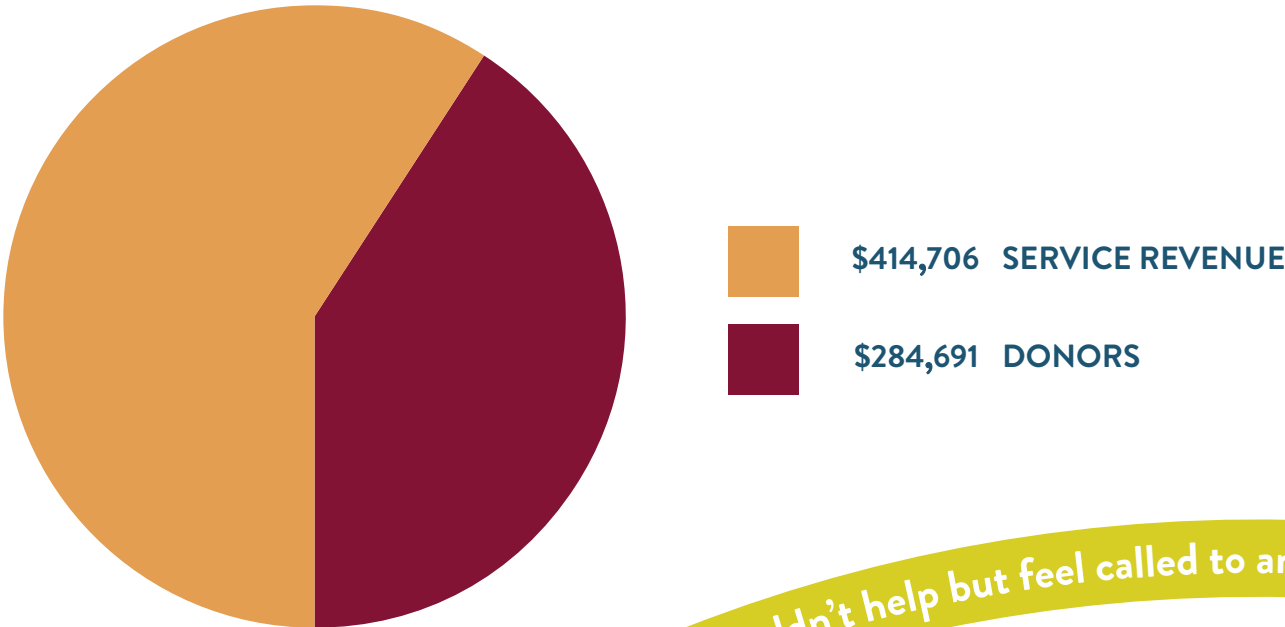
*God (and HIS people) are Good All the Time! We cannot celebrate HIM or YOU enough!* We appreciate the resilience and creativity of everyone who supports our community and participates in AGAPE's journey to provide the stable, loving, Christian influence needed for kids and families in North Carolina. THANK YOU for your continued prayers, inspiration, and dedication to AGAPE of NC's mission!

As we all move forward into the future God has planned for us, we look forward to receiving and achieving together with YOU all that is possible for God's Glory!

**"I've always had a passion to care for, and spend time with, children. I have not been blessed to have my own yet, but I have been blessed with a heart for children and the ability to meet their needs."**

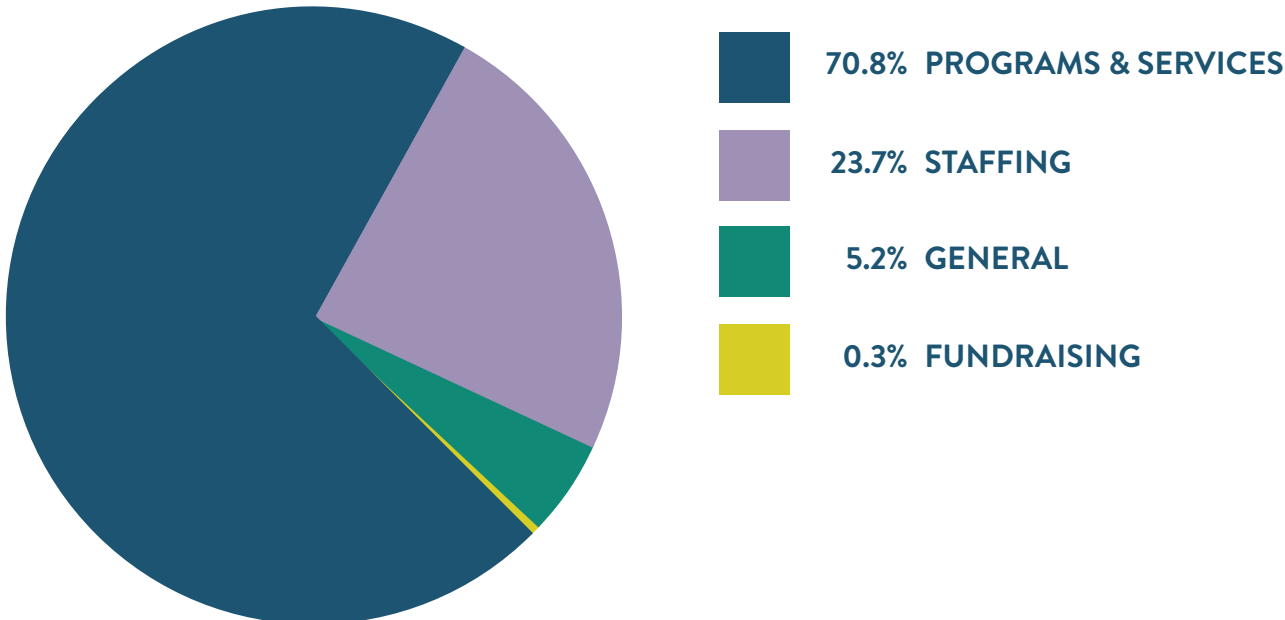


# WHERE DID WE GET OUR MONEY?



“Once I heard of the need in fostering, I couldn’t help but feel called to answer.”

# HOW DID WE SPEND OUR MONEY?





“I want to help kids have a safe environment where they are loved and cared for. ‘Whatever you have done for the least of these . . . you have done for me.’”

## 2021 Impact Statement (Continued)

We appreciate the desire of AGAPE’s Board, Staff, Volunteers, Donors, and Families who share their time, energy, talents, and funds. We are Christ-centered and see the Love of God in actions and attitudes of everyone who aligns themselves with AGAPE. They reflect and give that supreme Father’s Love to youngsters and parents in need as those individuals interact with us and experience AGAPE’s professional services and personalized support.

AGAPE is different from other Foster Care and Adoption placement agencies because we go beyond the governmental regulations and minimum requirements. We personally encourage and support our Foster and Adoptive Families. AGAPE provides individualized training and assistance with the regulatory process to become a licensed foster parent. Then, we extend continuing education to help foster parents maintain their licenses for years. We offer a forum for AGAPE Families to share experiences and resources. We ensure that kids in the care of an AGAPE Family have birthday and Christmas gifts, and we pay out of the agency coffers for specialized counseling, testing, and medical attention when any youth needs such service and

the foster family is not being reimbursed by State funds. For example, when a toddler’s well-being recently required advanced medical treatment out of state, AGAPE made that happen. During the COVID pandemic, AGAPE hired tutors for K-12 students in care, provided essential laptops or tablets, and arranged respite time for parents who needed time to recharge their batteries – all without additional out-of-pocket expense to those Families.

One thing that has never wavered since AGAPE of NC’s beginnings is the intense love and loyalty of providing Godly outreach to children and families in need. Service to others is the underlying concept, and everyone who works together with AGAPE sees themselves as a servant. We often hear stories of personal sacrifice made by AGAPE Supporters and AGAPE Families. So, AGAPE of NC is not just a child placement agency. AGAPE of NC is a Christ-centered family services agency that ensures those in our care feel the warmth of a family who loves and trusts in God and who seeks only the best for everyone we serve.

It is truly an honor and wonderful experience to help AGAPE of NC’s mission flourish and grow. AGAPE is something that is a continuing labor of Love.

“As a Christian, I can’t read the Bible without seeing Jesus’ care for the marginalized, oppressed, and fatherless. I feel like foster care is a direct response to the call of the Gospel and is a tangible way we are to love our neighbors.”





## THE TERRELL FAMILY

When Jeff and Lindsay Terrell first heard about AGAPE of NC, they were drawn to the strong Christian values. When they started training to become foster parents with AGAPE in 2017, they loved how flexible and personalized the experience was. They both felt like they had found their home.

While new to AGAPE, this was by no means Jeff and Lindsay's first experience with foster care. Lindsay works at the Duke Foster Care Clinic and is also a child abuse and neglect pediatrician. Jeff was exposed to the foster care system through his mother who is a guardian ad litem in Ohio. As Lindsay shares, **"Once we had our own kids - Emma, 7 and James, 5 - the idea to foster began to grow in our hearts. We felt like this was a way that we could be generous with our time and energy and have our own children join in a mission with us. We felt like this was a way that we could live out being the hands and feet of Jesus."**

Just as anyone would, Lindsay shared that she and Jeff did have some concerns about fostering at first. Her biggest fear was that it might impact her own family in a negative way. So, as a family, they decided to set clear boundaries. "We have relied heavily on prayer and communication with each other to understand who our family can best serve. Our fostering experiences so far have shown us God's goodness in so many ways. God's goodness doesn't mean easy. We have learned how He has used even very hard moments to help us learn to depend more on Him."

**Then along came their sweet foster child, Michael.**

Just two years old, Michael has already confronted many difficult hardships. He was born with heart issues that required numerous procedures and surgeries - all of which Michael handled with strength and grace. While caring for a child with complicated medical issues can be difficult, Lindsay shared that it made her even more appreciative of the support AGAPE provided her family. "We accepted Michael not really knowing the help we may need. AGAPE has been there with us every step of the way." One of the most pivotal points for the Terrells was when they desperately needed respite care that would meet Michael's unique needs. "AGAPE connected us with an amazing family who not only helped at that time, but also has continued to be there for Michael since. Their help has been amazingly life-giving to us. God provided through AGAPE and this family in a way we could have never imagined."

The Terrells are happy to share that Michael will soon be an official part of their family. In recent months, it's been clear that Michael's biological family will not be able to meet his complicated needs. While the Terrells mourn for Michael's loss, they also have deep respect for his mother and the love she has shown by signing her rights over to them. **"While we will grieve that he cannot be with his biological family, we will welcome him as an official part of our family and cannot wait to celebrate that official date. Our family loves Michael. He is full of joy."**

Sometimes it's kids who see things the most clearly. Lindsay recently asked her seven-year-old daughter, Emma, what she loved about fostering and she summed it up perfectly: "How much fun Michael is."

# THE HANKINS FAMILY



## EXCERPT FROM CHRIS AND JEN'S FACEBOOK

“We are PUMPED to officially be able to share that after 2 years of foster to adopt, **ANDREW DOMINIC HANKINS** is **OFFICIALLY OUR SON!!!** Addison and Avery are also excited to have him join the “A Team”! We are

so happy to finally be able to share pictures of our **WHOLE** family of 5! Thank you so much to everyone who encouraged us on this long process! Thank you to **Agape of North Carolina** Adoption Agency for guiding us through this journey! Thank you to Andrew’s previous foster family who gave him a loving home for 2 years before us! Most importantly **PRAISE GOD** for the way He miraculously orchestrated these events!!!! He is literally the only explanation for how these events could have possibly come together. Meanwhile, here are the first of many pictures we have been itching to share over the last 2 years!!!”

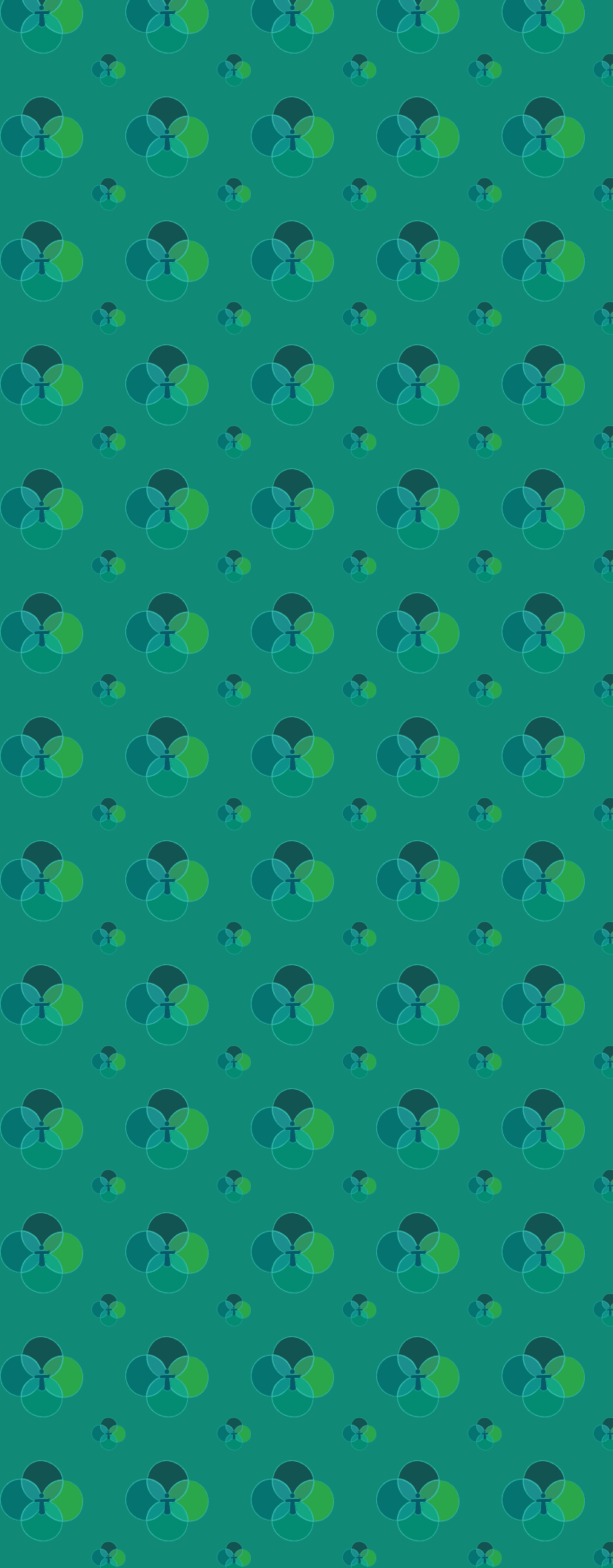


“Fostering has helped us see the bigger picture of God’s kingdom. It is easy to get busy with our own life, thoughts, and worries. Fostering has provided us with the daily reminder to try to look outward and not so much inward. God cares about us **AND** he cares about vulnerable children and families. We never want to lose sight of the things that God cares about.”

*James 1:27 (NIV):*

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”

I’m passionate about children, have always imagined a home filled with children, and believe fostering is an opportunity to impact children positively for the Kingdom of God.



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of North Carolina

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