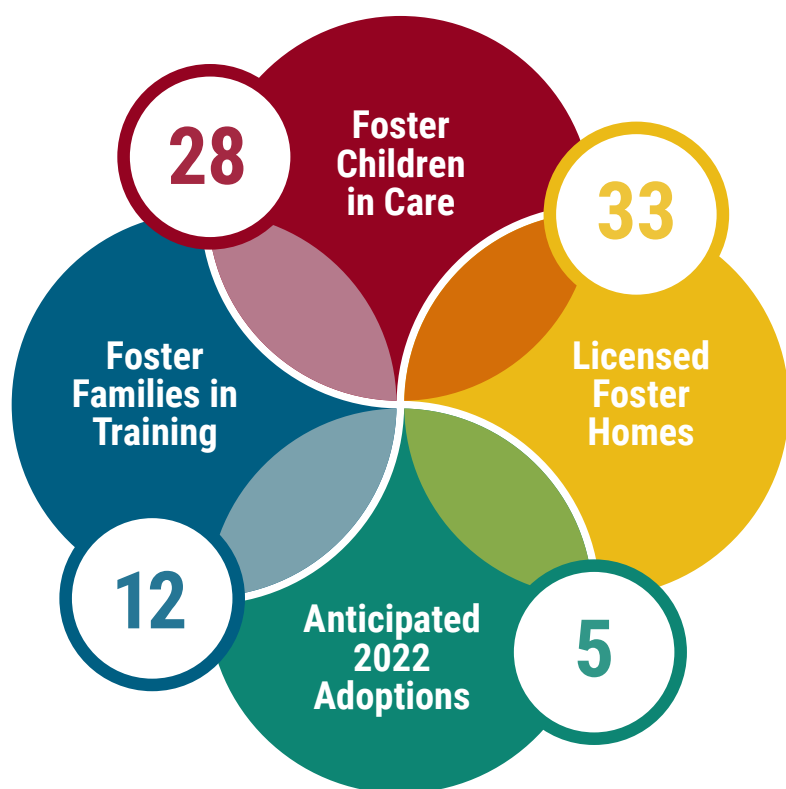




THE NUMBERS as of May 2022



SUMMER 2022

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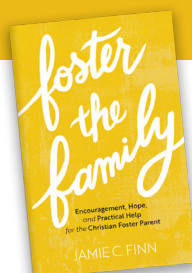
March 19, 2022

On March 19, 2022, **AGAPE's Executive Director, Kimberly Scott**, was invited to share current information about AGAPE at a **Church Leadership Conference** held at the **CBC Retreat Center**! Although unable to attend in person, Kim said she "appreciated the opportunity to virtually present an updated report on AGAPE and be able to respond to questions posed by conference attendees!"



April 9, 2022

On April 9, 2022, **Kia and AGAPE Foster Parent, Jamie Wyatt**, attended another event at **Apex Baptist Church -- a book tour featuring Jamie Finn**, author of **Foster the Family**, just released in February. Prior to the event, **Kia commented, "If you know Jamie Finn and her story, she is doing so many incredible things in the foster care/adoption world.** If you don't know who she is, Jamie writes about her perspective as a foster family, and she is very easy to find online. Her book is one that every foster parent should own!" Following the event, Kia added, "It was great to see Jamie Finn in person and hear about her journey as a foster family! I bought her book while I was there and had the chance to engage in a one-on-one meet & greet with her to sign it. I've been following Jamie's blog for many years, and she was just as amazing in person as she is to interact with online!"



May 14, 2022

A regional "Playdate" that was planned for AGAPE Families in a Raleigh park on March 19, 2022, had to be postponed due to inclement weather. **The re-named "Hangout" time in the park for our Families** was re-scheduled for May 14, 2022!

AGAPE welcomes feedback about setting up other regional "Hangout" times in convenient places for our parents and kiddos to enjoy each other's company--**Contact: Kia Carter, Kcarter@agapeofnc.org**. Besides allowing our Families to share their journeys together, it's also an opening to invite others interested in fostering to informally experience the AGAPE Way!

AGAPE'S RECENT OUTREACH!



April 7, 2022

As part of their Foster Advocacy Ministry, Christ Central Church in Durham hosted an "Introduction to Foster Care" event on April 7, 2022. **AGAPE's Director of Foster Parent Recruitment & Retention, Kia Carter, and AGAPE Foster Parents, Erik & Lori Potter, were among the individuals invited to participate on a Foster Care Panel** that evening to talk about fostering and their experience! According to Kia, **"This opportunity to encourage more people to become foster parents was amazing!"**



May 22, 2022

AGAPE Board Member, Joe Hall, visited with Wilkesboro Church of Christ on May 22, 2022. **Joe presented an AGAPE update during the congregation's morning Worship Service and enjoyed "great fellowship" with them afterwards!** Joe shared information about AGAPE's current activities and impact, inspiring a couple of Donors and sparking some specific interest in AGAPE's efforts to provide extended foster care for young people 18-21 years old.

Let us know if you have an upcoming event or occasion when AGAPE Staff or Board Members may inform you and others about our mission to Strengthen Families One Child At A Time!

THEY TIED THE KNOT!

IN CASE YOU HAVE NOT YET HEARD THIS WONDERFUL NEWS . . . WE ARE PLEASED TO SHARE THAT KIMBERLY SCOTT AND MAURICE LEACH JOYFULLY TIED THE KNOT ON APRIL 14, 2022!

After getting engaged late last year, Kim and Maurice decided on a small, intimate wedding. The beautiful bride and handsome groom married in a lovely private ceremony, while Caribbean cruising aboard the Sol Seeker, with Capt. Scott officiating and Chef Nikki preparing a sumptuous feast for the delighted couple to celebrate their nuptials. While it might have been tempting to stay on "island time," our newlyweds did return home to North Carolina at the end of their cruise, and **an ecstatic Kim has been back at the helm as AGAPE of NC's Executive Director.**



Please join us in wishing Kim and Maurice a very long and happy married life together!



INTRODUCING NEW STAFF: Heather Waite, Event Coordinator

We are pleased to let you know that AGAPE of NC now has an Event Coordinator! Heather Waite joined our Staff back in March to start working on an awareness & celebration event for the Community and our Families that will be happening this coming Fall!

Heather holds her Bachelor's degree in Child & Family Studies and a Master's degree in Social Work. She has spent 15+ years working in the Mental Health field and has 7 years of experience in Event Coordinating too!

Heather shared that she also has a passion for retail and, in her free time, she loves hanging out with her two beautiful daughters.

About joining AGAPE's Staff, Heather said, "I'm excited to work with everyone at AGAPE of NC to plan and promote a wonderfully fun event that will raise awareness about fostering & adopting, celebrate AGAPE's Families and 40 years of service, and kick-off the fundraising season!"

Be sure to check out the other article in this newsletter with details announcing our **Family Fun Day & Community Run** scheduled for **October 1, 2022!** Put it on your calendars and [register today!](#)



THE 1st ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY AND RUN, HOSTED BY AGAPE OF NC, IS COMING THIS FALL!

Mark **October 1, 2022**, on your calendars and **Sign Up** here today to spend the morning with us at **Buffalo Road Park**, between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m., for a free, family-friendly celebration!

That day, we will come together to honor our families, volunteers, staff, and supporters, whose generosity and service have made it possible for us to **Strengthen Families One Child at a Time** over the past 40 years! We are planning to offer a photo booth, face-painting and fairy hair, arts and crafts, various lawn games, all sorts of food, and more!

And importantly, we want to keep AGAPE's mission going and growing! So, we also hope this event will help raise awareness in the community about the tremendous need for willing foster and adoptive parents!

That is why the **Fun Run will be a huge part of our festivities!** Everyone is invited to participate in the Fun Run -- or simply watch and cheer from the sidelines! Our venue offers a very nice track. There is also a scenic route for anyone who chooses to walk instead. We will be accepting pledges for every lap run or distance walked!

Sill want more info? **Keep an eye out for additional details and updates** to come through AGAPE's social media and email blasts! You can also send specific questions to our **Event Coordinator, Heather Waite**, at: HWaite@agapeofnc.org.

Sounds great already, but you are just not ready to commit right now? Then, **MARK October 1st** on YOUR **CALENDAR NOW** and **COME BACK ANYTIME** to **SIGN UP**. We ask you to **pre-register** so we will know **how many people to expect and plan for**. That way, we can hold the best ever free, family-friendly Celebration and Community Fun Run!

Remember, we will need YOU to help us celebrate and raise awareness about foster care and the rising need for Christian foster and adoptive families here in North Carolina!

Sign Up Today!

Donate





AGAPE OF NC JOINS CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP FOR 10th ANNUAL BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

By: Lisa Brewer, Executive Director - CBC Bluegrass Festival

IT'S OFFICIAL! **AGAPE OF NC WILL BE A PROUD SUPPORTER** OF THE 10TH ANNUAL CAROLINA BIBLE CAMP BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL ON **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022, IN MOCKSVILLE, NC.**

AGAPE will sponsor the popular Kids' Activities tent including free arts and crafts projects, old-fashioned sidewalk games, a GaGa ball demonstration, nature walk, and more. A separate tent will offer free information about AGAPE's resources and services.

The festival, held outdoors on 68 scenic acres, is a fundraiser for the Camp's capital development and scholarship funds.

This year's musical line-up includes the **Kruger Brothers**, the **Junior Sisk Band**, the **Carley Arrowood Band**, and **Big Ron Hunter**.

The festival has been honored in 2019 and 2021 with Carolina Country magazine's "Carolina's Finest" award for the Best Festival in the state.

Festival guests will have an option to purchase a separate musical experience: both Jens Kruger and Uwe Kruger are offering banjo and guitar workshops, respectively, immediately following the festival. Details on the workshops will be available on the festival website soon. Each workshop will be limited to 25 guests.



LOCATION

Carolina Bible Camp & Retreat Center
1988 Jericho Church Road, Mocksville, NC 27028

TICKETS ON SALE NOW at [CBCbluegrass.com](https://www.cbcbluegrass.com)

Still a bargain at only **\$15.00 in advance** | Children under 12 will be admitted free.

[Get Tickets](#)

For more information, please contact Festival Director, Lisa Brewer, at spchwoman@aol.com.

WHAT IS RESPITE CARE & HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

We have previously shared on AGAPE of NC's social media what providing respite care for AGAPE families can look like. [See our [story about the Terrell family](#) on our website]. But are you still asking: "What exactly is Respite Care and what's required to get involved?"

Respite is temporarily taking care of children when their parents need a break from parenting responsibilities.



All families have times when they could use a breather or some extra help with the kids – to attend appointments, to go on a date night or mini-vacation, to travel for business, to handle pressing needs of other family members, etc.

Birth, foster, and adoptive parents are all encouraged to informally develop a network among their relatives, neighbors, and other friends – individuals a child knows because they are already in the child's life. However, for various reasons, sometimes parents need additional help. **So, child welfare agencies – like AGAPE of NC -- can offer trusted Respite Volunteers to support their foster families.**

Respite Volunteers may provide Foster and Adoptive Parents with a few hours of baby-sitting, a weekend get-away, or other short-term childcare. **You do not need formal training or a foster care license to serve as a Respite Volunteer.** Unlicensed individuals may provide respite for up to 72 hours at a time.

To become a Respite Volunteer with AGAPE, you will need to:

- Be at least 25 years of age.
- Have available space in your home.
- Pass a criminal background check.
- Pass a RIL (Responsible Individuals List) check.
- Sign a statement that you have not abused, neglected, exploited a disabled adult or been a domestic violence perpetrator.

Weekday respite care may include transporting a child to/from daycare or school and after-school activities -- but you do not have to be a stay-at-home parent to foster or offer respite care.

AGAPE's Social Workers and Foster/Adoptive Parents will work together with Respite Volunteers to determine the best place to care for each child – the Parent's home or the Volunteer's home. **On some occasions, a Respite Volunteer may simply be asked to accompany a Parent on an outing with the kiddos.**

In some cases, an AGAPE Parent may wish to schedule regular, periodic reprieves. Other times, a call for respite may come from a Parent's urgent, unexpected need. In any event, AGAPE gives as much advance notice as possible, and Respite Volunteers may decline if they are unable to provide care at any time.

So, if you want to help youngsters in need but you're not sure you can devote to full-time foster parenting, volunteering with AGAPE as a Respite Volunteer could be a great option for you! Providing Respite Care is also an excellent way to "test the waters" if you're interested in making the commitment to foster!

Contact AGAPE's Kia Carter to get started today! kcarter@agapeofnc.org | 919-673-7816

DECIDING YOUR LEGACY & INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

On occasion, AGAPE of North Carolina is blessed to receive a **Planned Legacy Gift** – i.e., singular or recurring bequests from an estate; donations through endowments, trusts, annuities, life insurance, investment and retirement accounts; contributions of stock, and remainder interests in real property.

We are deeply grateful for, and committed to being good stewards of, all donations received in support of AGAPE's ministry.

Depending on the type set up, **Planned Legacy Gift Donors (or their heirs) may realize certain tax benefits, now and/or down the road.** Some types are strictly governed according to specific laws and regulations. Other Planned Legacy Gifts can be more flexible – i.e., administered according to terms reflecting a Donor's personal wishes (expressed in customized agreements), as well as applicable legal requirements.

For example, one couple (who are long-time supporters of AGAPE's ministry), recently set up a Charitable Lead Annuity Trust, naming AGAPE of North Carolina as a qualified Charitable Beneficiary. In this case, Donors transferred and assigned property to a Trustee, who will hold, manage, and distribute that property under the terms of their Trust Agreement.

In this instance, the Trustee will make annual payments (based on a defined percentage of the Trust assets) to AGAPE of NC (as well as several other designated Charitable Beneficiaries) for the next 15 years (the defined Annuity Period). The Trust Agreement also includes instructions for remaining assets to be distributed to the Donors' heirs when that Annuity Period expires.



Another kind of Planned Legacy Gift – known as an endowment-- may be established to provide a perpetual source of funding for generations to come. With an endowment, the gifted amount is invested for growth. Only a defined portion of the income earned from it is distributed to beneficiary(ies) each year. The principal and any income not distributed remains invested for additional growth. Donors may create an endowment, themselves; pool resources with other like-minded individuals or companies to create one; or contribute to an existing endowment program already established.

Contact us if you want more information about setting up a Planned Legacy Gift to AGAPE of NC. There are many options you may choose from to direct where your hard-earned dollars will go and who will benefit from your life's work – determining part of your Legacy.

Such decisions can also represent an Investment in the future, expressing faith that others will (and enabling them to) carry on continuous care for the people and missions important to you.

As our recent Legacy Donors shared, "We love all AGAPE of NC stands for and does to help children find good Christian homes to become a part of, whether temporarily or as a forever home. We just want to support AGAPE continuing its mission for as long as we are able and possibly beyond."

Contact Us

AGAPE of North Carolina is a 501c3 organization. Your gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Please consult your financial, tax, and legal advisors regarding the establishment of any gifting plan, related accounts and investments, and the deductibility of any gift.



AGAPE OF NC'S 40th ANNIVERSARY



AGAPE IS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF PROVIDING ADOPTION, FOSTER, AND COUNSELING SERVICES TO NORTH CAROLINA FAMILIES AND CHILDREN!



To celebrate, we will be sharing some **amazing stories of impact** and highlighting AGAPE's rich history. Please follow along on our website and social media channels as we share with you the **"Faces of AGAPE"**.

And we want to hear from you!

Please fill out the brief form on our website and help us mark this important milestone for our organization.

[Share Your Story](#)

TRIBUTE GIFTS

March – May 2022

In Honor of
Mark Audia

Given by
Mrs. Connie Ledbetter

In Memory of
Isaac Jacobson

Given
Anonymously

In Memory of
Steven H. Sell

Given by
Mr. & Mrs. Bailey Forrest

In Memory of
Romy Lacombe

Given
Anonymously

OUR MISSION: AGAPE of NC exists to provide professional social services as a compassionate Christian outreach to strengthen children and families.

OUR VALUES: Children deserve Christian families, care and compassion, excellence in the provision of services, best interest of clients, financial integrity, responsible stewardship and ethical Christian standards.



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 985, Wake Forest, NC 27588-0985

www.agapeofnc.org • Phone: 919-673-7816 • Fax: 919-640-1901

Follow us on Social Media @agapeofnc on **Instagram**, **Facebook** and **Twitter**