

**Why is attendance so important? It has a ripple effect on everything in a child's life:**

- Students who miss 2 days of school/month are at risk of falling behind academically as compared to their peers. In fact, 2/3 of the children on Agape's caseload have unacceptable attendance rates when we begin working with them.
- Chronically absent students are 7.4 times more likely to drop out of school.
- Parents voiced their need for education for youth (along with safety, health and well being, post-secondary and employment pathways and housing stability).
- Economically disadvantaged children are 3 times more likely to be chronically absent in elementary schools than their non-economically disadvantaged peers.
- Common reasons for children not attending school include family responsibilities; transportation issues; common illnesses; behavioral issues and/or suspensions.



**What is the solution? Providing love, support, skills, encouragement and a host of social and emotional wraparound services to families and children including:**

- Dozens of Agape School Connectors working with hundreds of children and their families in elementary, middle and high schools
- Parental engagement, education, support, encouragement, accountability
- Facilitating *nurturing communities* through and on-site presence in apartment communities in under-resourced areas of the city (Frayser, Hickory Hill, and Whitehaven)
- Hundreds of volunteers engaged in after-school; site-based tutoring; mentoring; reading interventions; in-school tutoring; and more

*"When I first met Miss Malika, I was nervous - but as we started working more and more, I got used to her. I was having trouble with reading and she helped me a lot." - Elementary School Student served by Agape*

*"Agape reached out to us to offer support and services to our students who live in two nearby apartment complexes. We worked together over the summer to identify students with high rates of absenteeism and being late to school as well. Agape reached out to the parents - and we've gone from 7-8 pages of absent students down to 2 pages. Their presence in our building is having an impact. Students are inspired to come to school." - Dr. Linda Campbell, Principal of Winridge Elementary*

Stars Outcomes by School Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
<b>Acceptable Levels of Attendance</b> % of caseload students with acceptable attendance rate (90%+). <b>GOAL: 65%</b>	Not Measured	65%	70%	79%	85%
<b>Behavior</b> % of caseload students with acceptable behavior (no referrals or suspensions). <b>GOAL: 60%</b>	51%	74%	58%	62%	59%
<b>Parental Engagement</b> % of caseload students with parents/family who attend school meetings and functions. <b>GOAL: 65%</b>	50%	60%	71%	84%	72%
<b>Academic Improvement</b> Academic improvement is measured as a collective impact goal with schools through Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and other standardized data. <b>GOAL: 10% gains</b>	Improved from 14% reading proficiency to 60%.	Percentage of caseload students who improved: Reading: 79% Math: 94% Language: 82%	Reading: 7% Math: 8%	Reading: 10.3% Math: 10.8%	Not yet available
<b>Graduation and College Enrollment Rates</b> Graduation Rate College Enrollment	--- ---	--- ---	--- ---	100% 93%	Not yet available available
<b>Total # of Youth/Parents Served</b>	<b>113/90</b>	<b>370/222</b>	<b>380/268</b>	<b>465/389</b>	<b>566/466</b>

About Agape: Agape Child & Family Services is a faith-based, non-profit organization dedicated to providing children and families in Memphis with healthy homes. Agape serves over 7,000 children and families each year in an effort to keep them safe, smart, and successful through school-based initiatives and site-based services in under-resourced communities; counseling; homeless services; and adoption and foster care. In partnership with the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Agape and its community partners have expanded services via a two-generation model, wholly serving youth and parents in a poverty-reduction strategy, providing support, permanency, and sustainability in Frayser, Hickory Hill, and Whitehaven. To learn more, call 901.323.3600 or visit [agapemeanslove.org](http://agapemeanslove.org).