

# Agape Child & Family Services

Quarterly Report on Agape's Two-Generational Programs, October - December 2022



**Agape Means Love.** Everyone deserves love, hope and encouragement. Our faith-based ministry is a movement that works to lift children and families in need through unconditional love, the very meaning of our agency's name, "Agape." We are blessed to serve thousands of children and families every year in an effort to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. Services include early childhood programs, school-based initiatives, workforce readiness, homeless services, counseling, adoption, and foster care. In partnership with the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Agape Child & Family Services and its community partners use a two-generational (2Gen) approach, wholly serving youth and parents in a poverty-reduction strategy, providing support, permanency, and sustainability within 3 large Memphis communities (Frayser, Hickory Hill and Whitehaven). This report provides an overview of some key performance outcomes of Agape Child & Family Services' family-centric efforts, in partnership with TDHS, over the past quarter.

Our model includes ongoing engagement with those we serve. All families receive information about resources and direct assistance as requested, including the following:

- Case management engagement
- Counseling and therapeutic supports
- Emergency food insecurities
- Rent payment support for both pre- and post-COVID-19 (including pending evictions)
- Utility bill payments (including significant arrearages)
- Assistance with transportation needs
- Personal protective equipment and supplies
- Reducing the digital divide gap with training, technology resources, and internet connective
- Back to school, winterwear and holiday drives
- Literacy resources and supports

While being able to meet families' expressed immediate needs, Agape continues to respond by addressing the significant digital divide for families served. Agape is now

responding with broadband access, digital devices, and acclimating families (mostly adults). During this quarter, 75 additional families were provided broadband access and digital devices resulting in a total of 675 families provided with access to technology. We are also continuing to provide youth with resources to address seismic learning gaps, including mitigating significant literacy loss.

**Organizational Highlights:** Agape hired a new PQI Supervisor to oversee the work of the Performance and Quality Improvement team and ensure efficient and effective service delivery and management practices to achieve strategic and program goals.

**Focus Areas:** Agape Child & Family Services measures performance results in a multitude of areas including:

- **Health & Well-Being** (including safety)
- **Education Supports** (including early childhood, & K-12)
- **Economic Supports** (post-secondary education/ upskilling & employment pathways)
- **Social Capital** (community working together for a common good)

**In the past quarter, we delivered two-generational direct and indirect services to 1,725 individuals representing 917 families.**

**Poverty Reduction Economically:** Poverty includes the idea of a household's ability to meet its own basic needs, which depends on enabling conditions that must be in place. Agape and community partners promote this environment using a holistic, comprehensive, two-generational approach. **The available poverty rate data (N=305) indicated 25% of those served for more than 1 year are above the federal poverty level.** For the general aggregate population served, though the vast majority did not have a goal for economic mobility/jobs, 8.3% of the total families served (917) are above the federal poverty level.

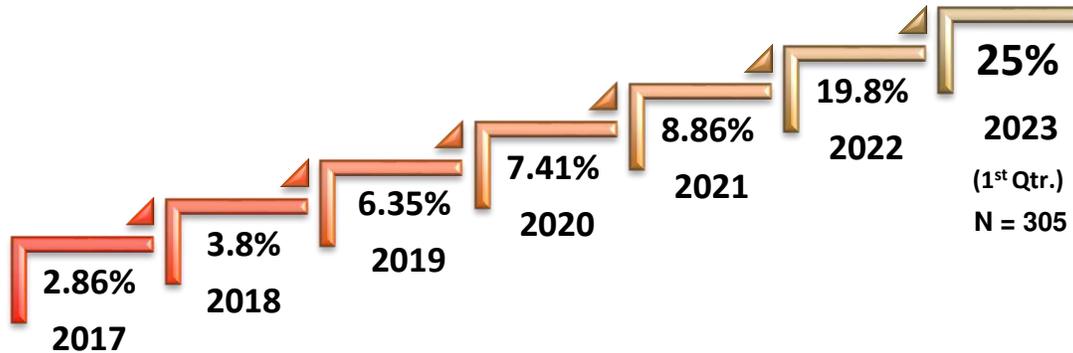


### MOVING THE NEEDLE OF POVERTY



**Goal:** Reduce poverty for families served by 1% annually for the next 10 years.

**Results:** The percentage of those served by Agape for one year or more that are economically above the federal poverty level is:



*Note: For the general aggregate population served, though the vast majority did not have a goal for economic mobility/jobs, 8.3% of the total families served (917) are above the federal poverty level.*

### Health & Well-Being Highlights

**Housing & Basic Needs:** Of the 90 renting families with timely rent as a goal, served in the first quarter, 39% paid their rent on time, nearly achieving the goal of 40%. Additionally, through Agape's Families in Transition (FIT), a housing stability program, a total of 18 literally or imminently homeless families were placed in transitional or permanent housing.

The crime rate notes a total of 70 offenses reported representing a 13% decrease in the number of crimes reported since the last quarter. A total of 30 crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) related offenses were reported in the first quarter, representing a 36% decrease in the number of crimes reported since the last quarter.

### Education Highlights

**Early Language Development:** 100% of the 161 families served in the first quarter with pre-school-aged children were engaged in quality early childhood experiences. This metric includes families enrolled in our Thrive by Five program this quarter. Early Childhood Connectors will continue to work with families and leverage partnerships to ensure all pre-school-aged children have quality early childhood experiences.

**K-12 Education:** 806 K-12 grade students from 17 schools have been served through the Stars (educational) program during the 2022-2023 school year.

### Economic Supports Highlights

**Workforce Readiness:** Of those served by Agape's TeamWorks in the past quarter, **84%** have enrolled in a post-secondary education program and are enrolled in programs that lead to a credential or employment, and **92%** participated in efforts that promote training and life-long learning. In addition, 61 of the 63 adults who set the goal during the third quarter to actively address barriers to employment are making progress, exceeding the goal of 50%.

**Congressman Steve Cohen** provided \$1M in funding for Agape, and partnering organization Code Crew, through the FY23 federal appropriation to further workforce development efforts, which is the first-time to receive this funding for Agape.

### Faith and Hope Highlights

Through Agape's Becoming One program, funded by HHS, the Ministry Marriage Conference in October had 250 couples registered and present. Faith Formation & Engagement (FFE) partnered with Pursuit of God Church in a revival that yielded 12 salvation decisions, 125 baptisms, and 8 new members, all upon their volition and choice, funded by private donors. FFE partnered with Pastors Bragg, Rostro, and Griffin with a community event to get upcoming graduating Latinos into college along with support with paperwork.

