



A REPORT ON THE
IMPACT OF LOVE

agape 

why we love

Agape means love. Everyone deserves love, hope and encouragement. Our faith-based ministry is designed to lift children and families in need through unconditional love, the very meaning of our agency's name.

Humbly serving families is more than a job. Our team members are responding to a call to serve – and that call is answered by following the teachings and example of Jesus Christ in all that we do.

Our ministry is dedicated to providing children and families in Memphis with healthy homes. Each year, we are blessed to serve nearly 8,000 children and families in an effort to keep them safe, smart and successful.


In partnership with the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Agape and our community partners have expanded services via a two-generation model, wholly serving youth and parents in a poverty-reduction strategy, providing wraparound services, support, permanency, and sustainability in Frayser, Raleigh, Hickory Hill and Whitehaven. By supporting both parents and children, we aim to provide healing for the full family unit and their community so that permanency and sustainability are possible for all. We all do better when we live in a healthy community, even at the family level.

We seek to be a strong voice advocating for the physical, psychological, and spiritual needs of children and families. We maintain a special commitment to serving under-resourced populations and communities. Armed with guiding principles such as kindness, justice, humility and righteousness, we aim to restore individuals, families and communities by sharing the love, talent and resources bestowed upon us and our partners in service.



*What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice,
and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
—Micah 6:8*





"Memphis needs more of what Agape does - and the services they provide are very timely because our top priority is making Memphis a safer and stronger community. Agape contributes to that goal daily with the work they do to provide children and families with safe and healthy homes."

*—Mayor Jim Strickland,
City of Memphis*

love that keeps us safe
community-based and homeless services



We work with families to eliminate barriers to access by bringing hope and healing to families right where they live. Through our Powerlines Community Network platform, we are able to recharge communities and strengthen families by providing the support and wraparound services they need to succeed.

It is our belief that those we serve know what they need, better than anyone else. For this reason, we hold regular discussions known as Community Cafés at which families are given the opportunity to communicate their desires and ideas. As a Christ-centered ministry, we want those we serve to have a voice and a choice in how we can help them regain hope and move toward their dreams for themselves, their family and their community.

Through this client-informed approach, we've learned that some of our families' main concerns include safety, employment, education attainment and support, spiritual connection and healing, health, and social and economic support. In response, we've found or initiated programs such as afterschool tutoring, life skills classes, GED practice courses, workforce readiness programming and nutrition classes, just to name a few.

Powerlines is supported by a long list of educational institutions, religious groups, non-profits, corporations and individual donors who believe, as we do, that an entire community can be uplifted one family at a time.

We work collaboratively with more than 100+ area organizations to reach deep into neighborhoods and families in Memphis' most under-resourced communities including Hickory Hill, Raleigh, Frayser and Whitehaven. Our goal is to connect residents with resources that can dramatically improve their lives.

We are honored to serve youth and families in 10 apartment complexes and 17 schools, while also offering wraparound services to the surrounding neighborhoods. More than 3,500 households are served through Powerlines each year. In fact, it is the single largest two-generation program in the U.S., according to the Tennessee Department of Human Services.

Following the example of Jesus by helping those in need, we also provide transitional housing and support for homeless families on the path to self-sufficiency.

Agape offers three programs to serve our city's homeless:

- Transitional Housing and Support
- Rapid Rehousing and Support
- Homeless Prevention

And, it's working! We're seeing significant, positive changes in the communities we serve. Just a few examples include that school attendance is up, grades are improved, parental involvement is increasing, job skills and parenting skills are being learned, and we're helping hundreds of homeless families on the road to self-sufficiency.



Common reasons for children not attending school include family responsibilities, transportation issues, common illnesses, behavioral issues and/or suspensions. What can we do to eliminate barriers and provide encouragement for these children and families both in and out of the classroom?

Our school-based ministry, Stars, consists of a team of dedicated connectors who work one-on-one with children and their families to provide diverse support and services to keep kids in school and ready to learn.

A partnership with Shelby County Schools and Achievement School District (ASD), Stars continually racks up remarkable successes. With a countywide, acceptable level of attendance rate at near 57%, students served in Stars have an overall attendance rate of 90%. There is nearly a 10% growth gains in literacy and proficiency in math, science, and related subjects. There is a significant decrease in office referrals and behavioral issues with children served by Agape. And, we have seen an increase in parental involvement in school meetings and events.

These improvements have a positive ripple effect on the entire family and ultimately, the entire community. We know from experience that many times, working with the child while supporting the parents is the best place to start.

By providing this school-based support in Hickory Hill, Raleigh, Frayser, and Whitehaven, we're able to infuse hope and healing in youth and families in under-resourced areas of our city that arguably have the most to gain from our love, support and encouragement.

"An old proverb notes that "it takes a village" to raise a child - and that certainly holds true for a child's education. We are honored to partner with Agape to help ensure that the youth and families we serve have access to the education they need to succeed."

—Dorsey Hopson, Superintendent
Shelby County Schools

"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."

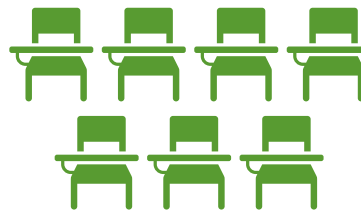
—Dr. Linda Campbell, Principal
Winridge Elementary



Students who miss just

2 DAYS

of school per month are at risk of falling behind academically as compared to their peers.



Chronically absent students are

7x MORE

likely to drop out of school.

*But Jesus called for them
and said, "Let the little
children come to me, and
do not stop them; for it is
to such as these that the
kingdom of God belongs."
—Luke 18:16*



love that keeps us smart
school-based support

*The spirit of the Lord God
is upon me, because the
Lord anointed me; He has
sent me to bring good
news to the oppressed.
Isaiah 61:1*

love that keeps us successful
workforce readiness



Two key issues that our families say limit their success are unemployment and underemployment. The goal of our workforce readiness initiative, TeamWorks, is to promote parent/adult self-sufficiency by addressing barriers to attaining education, employment and financial empowerment.

We connect those we serve with employment opportunities, and provide a host of holistic, wraparound services that enrich our client's skill set and confidence. In addition to employment, we also focus on training, education attainment, retention, and career advancement. Our services include:

- Career consultation and coaching services
- Post-secondary education that leads to a national certification and/or degree attainment
- Soft skills training on etiquette, work ethics, teambuilding, communication skills, financial literacy, credit counseling, and time management
- Employment assistance to help navigate relationship conflicts or other life barriers affecting their job

We serve as a convener, collaborating with other partners in our Workforce Ecosystem who provide post-secondary education and employment pathways and with key stakeholders, such as The Workforce Investment Network (WIN), to develop innovative workforce strategies.

We also work with businesses to provide them with a work-ready labor force. Through consulting, training, counseling and team building, we help eliminate workplace challenges so both employer and employee can thrive.

Education and consultation are available on a variety of topics including conflict resolution, harassment, crisis intervention, staff development and more. In addition, wellness programs are available to ensure that employees have the tools they need to effectively manage time, stress and relationships as they aim to attain an optimal work-life balance.



Memphis' unemployment rate
has been as high as

8 PERCENT

—almost double the national rate.



Memphis has a poverty rate of nearly

20 PERCENT

making it one of the poorest cities in the nation.



Since our founding in 1970, Agape has grown from a staff of 2 to nearly 100 team members and 2,000 volunteers. Those who have known us for decades know us as an organization whose roots include a longtime affiliation with the Churches of Christ. In fact, it was foster parents Jerry and Carol Lee whose personal experience in the 1960's led them and other members of the Churches of Christ to found Agape nearly half a century ago. Our focus then was foster care and adoption services which we still provide, along with counseling and maternity services.

In the last 10-15 years, we have expanded our reach to provide support and services to Memphis-area children and families right where they live with the goal of providing healing before they ever have to enter into foster care. Our mission is to be a Christ-centered ministry dedicated to providing children and families with healthy homes while also providing opportunities for them to reconnect with and grow in their faith.

With your support and donations, we will continue to work to keep the children and families we serve safe, smart and successful now, and for years to come.

"Agape is a major part of the solution for what ails our great city. With long-term leadership, good infrastructure and established relationships with community partners, Agape is poised to expand the number of clients it serves - bringing hope, healing, sustainability and love to more children and families in Memphis."

—Hamp Holcomb, Strategic Financial Partners and Chair of Agape's Love Your Neighborhood Campaign



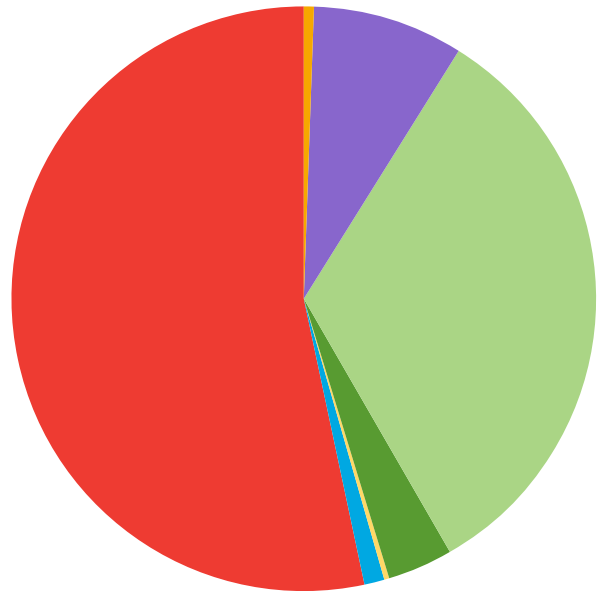
agape means love

statement of financial position

As of September 30, 2017

assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$52,762
Investments <i>at fair value</i>	\$277,736
Promises To Give	\$624,539
Grants Receivable	\$132,259
Other Receivables	\$14,158
Prepaid Expenses	\$19,655
Property & Equipment	\$812,468
Total Assets	\$1,933,577



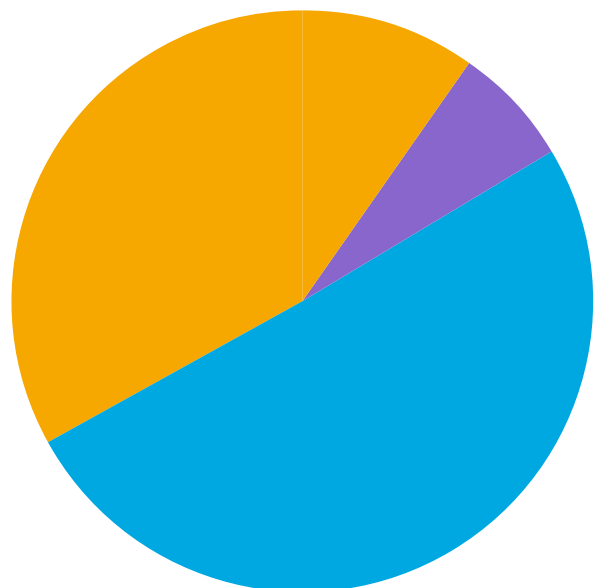
liabilities & net assets

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$128,128
Line of Credit	-
Total Liabilities	\$128,128

Net Assets

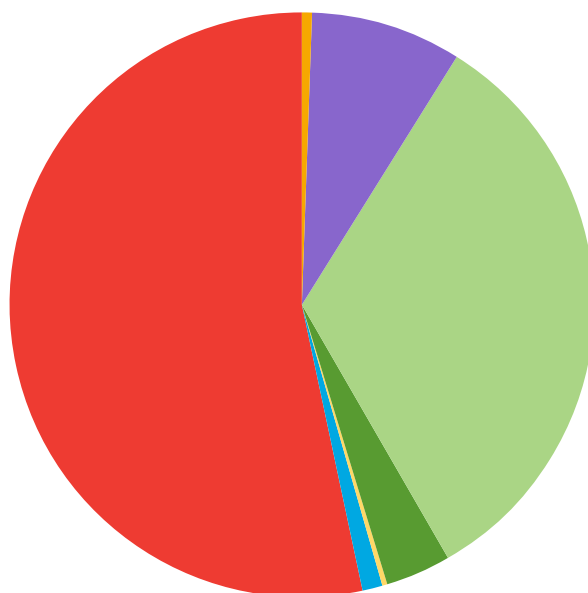
Unrestricted	\$932,399
Temporarily Restricted	\$873,050
Total Net Assets	\$1,805,449
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,933,577



As of September 30, 2016

assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$10,925
Investments <i>at fair value</i>	\$127,525
Promises To Give	\$505,628
Grants Receivable	\$57,848
Other Receivables	\$2,507
Prepaid Expenses	\$15,136
Property & Equipment	\$820,986
Total Assets	\$1,540,555



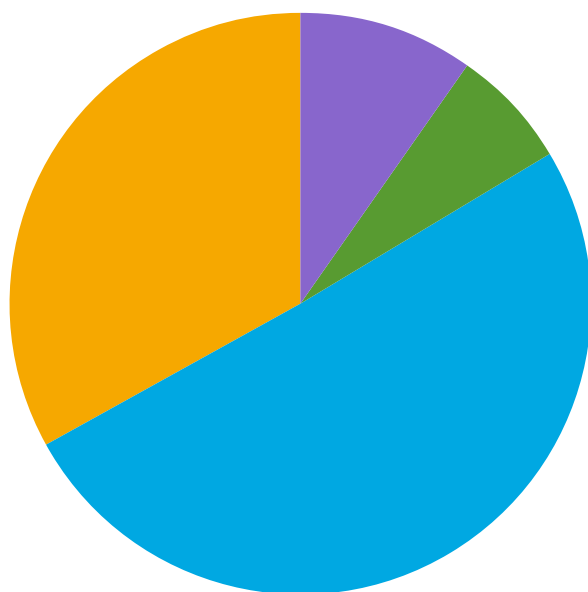
liabilities & net assets

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$151,922
Line of Credit	\$104,833
Total Liabilities	\$256,755

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$778,532
Temporarily Restricted	\$505,268
Total Net Assets	\$1,283,800
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,540,555



statement of activities

As of September 30, 2017

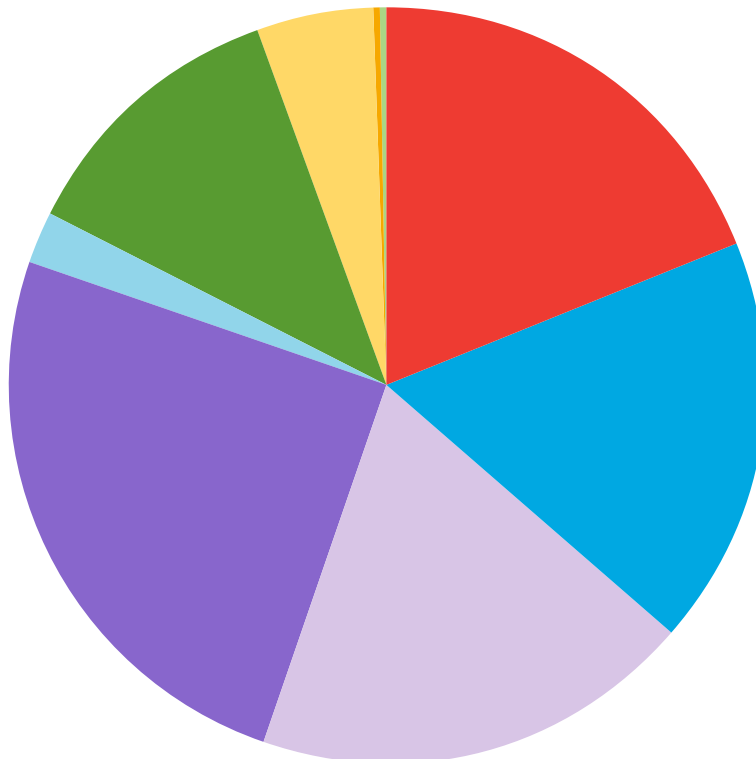
support & revenue

Support

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Contribution	\$168,820	\$79,115	\$247,935
Fundraising	\$546,341	\$550,911	\$1,097,252

Revenue

FIT	\$842,367	-	\$842,367
Achievement School District	\$1,444,014	-	\$1,444,014
Adoption Services	\$110,597	\$11,500	\$122,097
Powerlines Community Network	\$1,256,648	-	\$1,256,648
Memphis Family Connection Center	\$281,487	-	\$281,487
Investment Return	\$53,355	-	\$53,355
Other	\$1,015	-	\$1,015
Net assets released from restrictions	\$273,744	(\$273,744)	-
Total Assets	\$4,978,388	\$367,782	\$5,346,170



expenses

Program Services

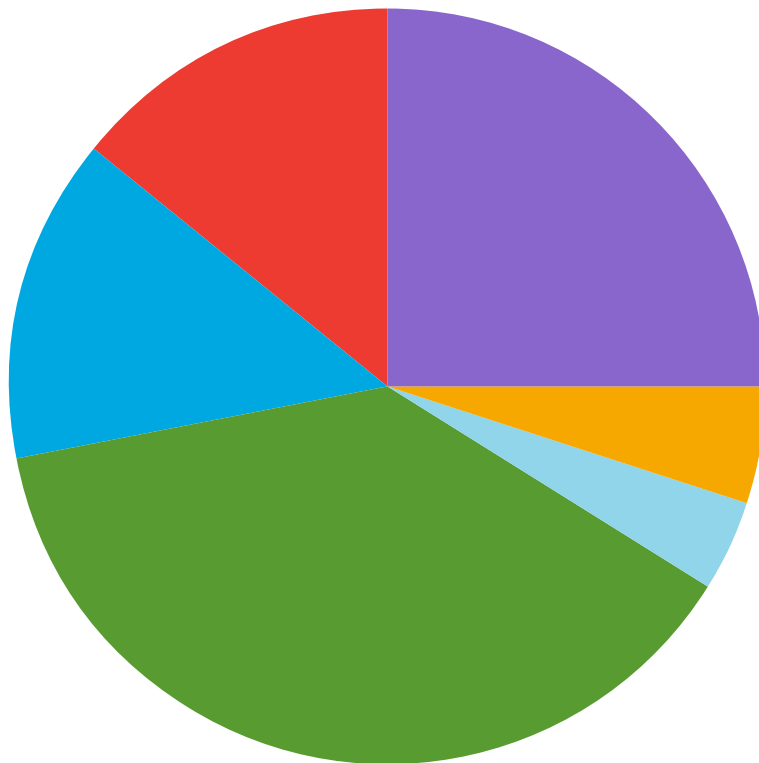
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
FIT	\$804,141	-	\$804,141
Adoption Services	\$244,419	-	\$244,419
Memphis Family Connection Center	\$304,465	-	\$304,465
Powerlines Community Network	\$2,259,762	-	\$2,259,762
Total Program Services	\$3,612,787	-	\$3,612,787

Supporting Services

General & Administrative	\$649,625	-	\$649,625
Fundraising	\$562,109	-	\$562,109
Total Support Services	\$1,211,734	-	\$1,211,734

Total Expenses **\$4,824,521** **-** **\$4,824,521**

Change in Net Assets **\$153,867** **\$367,782** **\$521,649**



Net Assets <i>(beginning of the year)</i>	\$778,532	\$505,268	\$1,283,800
Net Assets <i>(end of the year)</i>	\$932,399	\$873,050	\$1,805,449



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