



AGAPE

2020

Annual Report



OUR VISION

We believe that lives can experience healing and joy in an environment where unconditional love and the wonderment of a horse connect, creating a haven for **unbridled hope**.



OUR MISSION

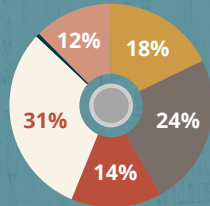
Agape cultivates personal growth by strengthening the mind, body, and spirit through unique horse-facilitated experiences.



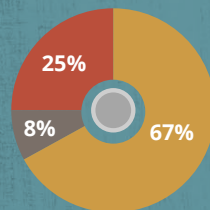
2019 & 2020 FINANCIAL PROFILES

2020

Revenue	\$1,008,761
● Programs	\$185,015
● Grants	\$241,609
● Events	\$144,266
● Donations	\$311,922
● Endowment	\$11,084
● Other	\$114,865

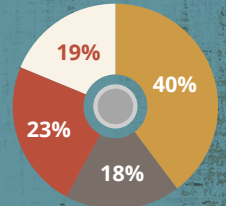


Expenses	\$878,243
● Program	\$587,656
● Fundraising	\$72,449
● M & G	\$218,138

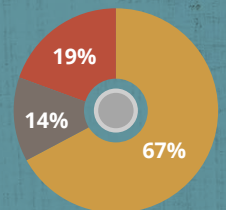


2019

Revenue	\$1,148,410
● Programs	\$456,565
● Grants	\$202,003
● Events	\$264,759
● Donations	\$219,247
● Endowment	\$3,597
● Other	\$2,239



Expenses	\$1,243,556
● Program	\$833,241
● Fundraising	\$172,069
● M & G	\$238,246





LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What a year 2020 was! Despite the many challenges and pivots the pandemic brought on, let me quantify the impact YOU made during 2020 for Agape. The numbers you'll read in this report are impressive, but I want to remind you that behind every number there is a name and a story. Every name is a rider who found hope, strength, and healing in the saddle this year. Every name is a horse who stood tall, walked on, and supported hundreds of individuals with various needs. Every name is a volunteer who graciously dedicated their time. Every name is YOU who continually gave us hope.

You can't quarantine hope!

The hope you provided allowed us to safely provide lessons for riders within new COVID safety protocols, while also doing some remote visits with our mini horses. You helped us successfully host our first virtual Boots & Bowties gala and not only met but exceeded our net fundraising goal. You continued to provide support and extra volunteer hours to care for our horses, keeping them happy and healthy.

Thank you for giving extra guidance, service, donations, and connections during a year in which our families and herd needed it even more than usual. We couldn't have done it without you!

With a grateful heart,

— **Stephanie Amick** —
Executive Director

2020 ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHTS & PROGRAMMING NUMBERS COMBINED



TOTAL UNDUPLICATED SERVED IN 2020

Therapeutic Riding Participants	199
Arc of Hancock County Discovery Camp Campers	66
Equine Assisted Learning/Mental Health Participants	249
One Time Experiences at the Barn participants	171
Mobile Visits Participants	250+
Ascension St. Vincent Hippotherapy Patients	24

Total Individuals Served in 2020



Over **959** Individuals Impacted



NUMBER OF LESSONS BY PROGRAM

Therapeutic Riding Lessons	2,840
Equine Assisted Learning/Mental Health Lessons	621
One Time Lessons at the Barn	237
Ascension St. Vincent Hippotherapy Appointments	240

Total # of lessons provided in 2020



3,939 Lessons Provided



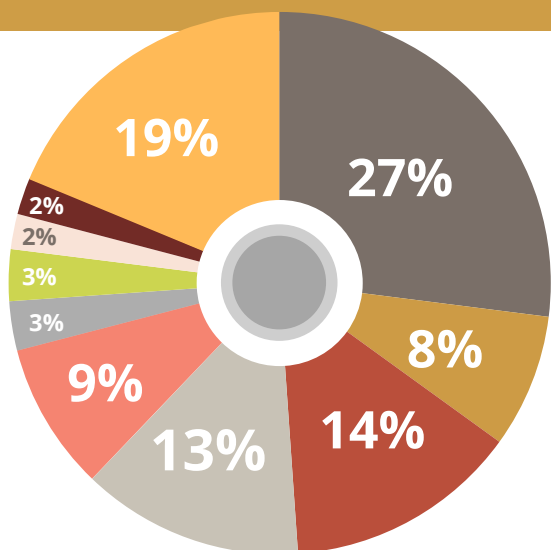
NUMBER OF VISITS/CLASSES BY PROGRAM

Therapeutic Riding Classes	796
Equine Assisted Learning/Mental Health Classes	122
One Time Experiences Visits to the barn	79
Mobile Visits	6
Ascension St. Vincent Weekly Sessions	10

Total # of visits/classes provided in 2020



1,013 Visits/Classes Facilitated

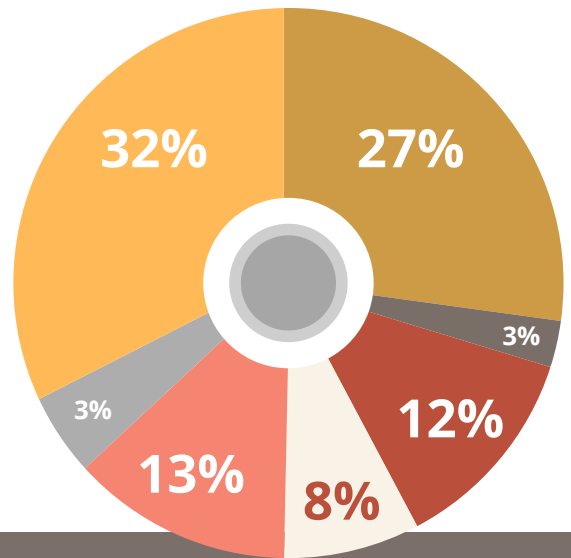


DEMOGRAPHICS

Special Needs Served: **44** different diagnoses served in 2020

- Addiction Disorder
- At Risk Youth
- Autism
- ADHD
- Anxiety & Depression
- PTSD
- Cerebral Palsy
- Down Syndrome
- Cognitive Delay
- Other Social/Emotional/Physical Cognitive Disabilities

- Hamilton County
- Hancock County
- Madison County
- Marion County
- Morgan
- Johnson
- Other surrounding counties or not specified



THERAPEUTIC RIDER PROGRAM SURVEY RESULTS

TOP AREAS OF SKILL PROGRESS

- Emotional - Confidence, Adapting to Change, Expressing Needs and Trust
- Social - Independence, Verbal Communication, Building Relationships, and Teamwork
- Cognitive - Following Directions, Focus, and Task Completion
- Physical - Core Strength, Posture, Balance

14% of all Agape therapeutic riding participants received a scholarship

80% of all program costs are underwritten by fundraising

92% of those surveyed felt it was highly important that Agape offered programming during the pandemic.

96% of those surveyed felt that Agape provided lessons safely during the pandemic.





“

Agape has been my son's saving grace. Tim loves Agape with all his soul, both people and horses.

Angie McGinnis

”

RIDER

Impact Story

Tim has been a rider at Agape for over 20 years and has ridden at all of Agape's sites, most recently Agape's East site in Greenfield. With multiple diagnoses including Autism, Mild Intellectual Disability, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, Vision Impairment, and amongst others, Tim has faced many challenges in his 35 years. With his mom, Angie, by his side they have found a second family and a place that Tim can shine!

His mother shared that because of horses, Tim is calmer and uses softer communication after being with the horses, he has a tendency to use a loud voice. His focus has also improved, which is a huge success for him. His confidence has grown significantly and his oppositional defiant behaviors have not once happened while at Agape. Tim works hard physically and mentally while following directions from his instructor. The friendships that he has developed have been very important and he asks about everyone at the barn when he is away.

Tim loves every aspect of Agape, even scooping poop. He loves to help! One evening after class, because of his joy for scooping poop, the other 3 riders in his class wanted to do the same. It was a great moment to see others following Tim's example.

AGAPE VOLUNTEER

Impact Story



of volunteers across central Indiana **294**

of service groups: **20**



Total Number of Volunteer Hours Donated to Agape:

6,525 HOURS



Equivalent value of

\$177,480

donated by volunteers to Agape in 2020!

“My journey at the Agape Therapeutic Riding Center began January 8, 2020 when I walked into the barn for volunteer training. My business coach had put me up to a challenge for 2020. What was the one thing I wanted to do and one fear I wanted to overcome. Being in contribution to others and overcoming my fear of horses is where we landed. And so it began...”

Little Foot was the first horse I met that night. It was the first time in many years I was even close to a horse after a scary encounter as a child with a horse. I went through training and signed up to be a side walker. Needless to say I was more than nervous and yet very excited to become a part of Agape and all that they do. I knew nothing about working with horses and the staff at Agape immediately worked with me to educate, guide and encourage me along the way. They are AMAZING! Their understanding of horses and “the Agape way” of working with them shows a true dedication and passion for these wonderful animals and the participants they serve at Agape.

As a side walker, working with a horse handler and a participant, I witnessed first hand the miracles that happen in the arena. When you put a child who has certain challenges in life with a horse that has been gifted the “job” of carrying these wonderful kids so much is discovered. My first experience was with a child that had limited verbal communication but became “alive” when she was on her horse.



The very first night we were paired together she recognized the horse had the same color of hair as I do...blonde. She patted Butterbean and then patted my head and spoke the name 'Buttterrbean'. While not totally clear, it was VERY clear she knew Butterbean and I shared something in common. As I have experienced a variety of participants working with the horses, and developing so many life skills, I truly felt blessed to be a part of Agape, almost selfish in fact. Was I giving as much as I felt I was learning?

AND THEN COVID HIT March of 2020. Things began to shut down, staff had to be let go and the fundraising was being affected dramatically. Watching the staff scramble through an unknown environment made my husband, Jeff, and I want to help in any way we could. Due to the drop off in staff and limited volunteers we started cleaning the lots on Saturdays. Some would say cleaning up horse poop isn't exactly the most glamorous, or fun thing to do, but it gave me time to learn to be closer to the horses and it truly was therapeutic.

I have since been a student in a Volunteer riding lesson, learning how to groom and tack a horse to prepare them for their rider and class. In the short time I have been at Agape I have learned what it means to partner with a horse, respect them and their contribution and am enjoying my time even more at the barn.

And then there is March 1, 2021. A MONUMENTAL day for me. For the first time in 51 years I sat on my first horse. Buzz has become my BEST friend and I couldn't have done it without Caroline's AMAZING patience, help and support. To say I was nervous is an understatement and Buzz felt that but being the true "professional" he is he was as patient with me as Caroline. I got off Buzz almost in tears for the accomplishment I felt Agape had provided me and so many others. Just a horseback ride...oh no, there is so much more this program does and I only wish everyone could come experience the miracles this wonderful organization provides....AND IN THE MIDDLE OF A PANDEMIC!

What started out as me just wanting to give back and get over my fear of horses has turned into a passion for these horses, the people at Agape and the work that they do to serve so many. The results can truly be seen and felt while at the barn!"



— Amy Corey —

AGAPE EAL PARTNER

Impact Story

Sheridan Middle School has been fortunate enough to have funding to bring students to Agape; we have always been so grateful. This year stands out though because of COVID and all we've had to endure because of it.

In the past coming to Agape was a treat. It was something extra and fun while still providing a valuable learning experience. This year it has been an absolute necessity for our students to be able to come. With the stresses our students are facing daily at home and school they have needed Agape. When I ask them what they like most about going, the first thing they say is "I immediately feel calmer when I get there ". Parents tell me that having Agape in our schedule has helped get their kids excited about going to school again.

Our school works very hard to teach the kids about SEL, social emotional learning. We have wonderful programs and a caring staff, but none of that can do what Agape has done for the social emotional wellbeing of my students during this pandemic. They say they feel calmer, have less anxiety, and feel safe at our sessions.





“ I look forward to a continued relationship with Agape. Students benefit no matter what when coming here, but getting to come “to horses” has been exactly what the students have needed this year. ”

*Molly Heil,
Sheridan Middle School Resource Teacher*

“ A group of ten 8th grade students, who were not in the same friend group, were able to learn and demonstrate skills such as teamwork, cooperation, perseverance, communication, and many more by working with the horses. The outstanding leaders at Agape were incredibly positive, caring, and attentive to our students! ”

*Nikki Zachery,
Sheridan Middle School Counselor*

“ Agape is a great place to be, once you step in, all your worries go away. I have learned communication skills, confidence and still learning. They are very calming. ”

Sheridan Student

“ Going to Agape provides an escape from school and stress. When I go, I immediately feel more relaxed and calmer throughout the rest of the day. Going to Agape also gives me the motivation to do my work and go to school. The horses have helped improve my mental health, they’re also very amusing which helps me relax. ”

Sheridan Student



PARTNERS SERVED *in 2020*

- *Arc of Hancock County*
- *Bradford Woods - Indiana University*
- *Bridges of Hope Treatment Center*
- *Brookes Place for Grieving Young People*
- *Easterseals Crossroads*
- *Elwood Community Schools*
- *Grit Into Grace*
- *Hickory House Recovery Center*
- *Hillcroft Services*
- *Hope Academy*
- *Lutherwood Residential Treatment Center*
- *Martinsville Youth Development Center*
- *MSD of Martinsville*
- *Mosaics - Hamilton Boone Madison Special Services*
- *Noble of Indiana*
- *Rush County Schools*
- *Sheridan Community Schools*
- *St. Vincent Ascension Pediatric Rehabilitation Services*
- *Prevail Inc.*
- *VA Domiciliary*



During the COVID shutdown Agape visited various senior living facilities to greet residents through the windows to bring smiles to hundreds of residents and their caregiving staff. Agape also hosted two Barn Drive Thrus, one in the spring and one for Christmas, where our riders, volunteers, donors, and members of the community could enjoy the decorated barn and be greeted by horses in their cars.



BUTTERBEAN, ROSIE, LITTLEFOOT AND CARSON

LOYAL • SERVANT HEARTS • PATIENCE

These are words that describe the 10 horses we said goodbye to in 2020. Some of those horses had been with us for several years; others had only served a short time. What connects them all are the three qualities above.

Their names were Littlefoot, Rosie, Dusty, Patch, Daisy, TC, Buddy, River, Butterbean, and Carson. Each was so loved here at Agape, and each did so much for their people. Littlefoot, Rosie, and Butterbean brought smiles, joy, and independence to countless numbers in their combined 39 years of service. River and Dusty were two ponies with personalities about twice as big as they were. Patch and Daisy were the Paint Horse Dynamic Duo once they came together at East. Many students fell in love with them after just one session together. Buddy had a personality to match his name and befriended anyone that needed a little boost in their life.

Each therapy horse served Agape in a unique way that truly embodied our mission of Unbridled Hope. We were sad to say goodbye to them, but most went on to happy retirement homes where they continue to bring joy and fulfillment to their families. To our four that have departed our company forever--Littlefoot, Rosie, Butterbean, and Carson--we can't thank you enough for dedicating your whole hearts to the Agape Family.

Thank you!





THANK YOU FOR DONATING

in 2020!

At the beginning of March 2020, it became obvious that Covid-19 would be here sometime soon. Staff at Agape found themselves planning quickly for the worst--shutting down classes--and by the end of March we rolled out a pandemic action plan. Part of this plan, incredibly, involved sending 18 of our 34 horses to temporary homes with our volunteers. It was nothing short of a miracle for Agape. Volunteers opening their homes to one, two, and even three of our horses, taking on their expenses, providing the daily care they needed, and keeping in touch with the Equine Director for ongoing support. What's more, they did this with very little notice. Some took our horses within days of being contacted. Within a week and a half of contacting volunteers, all 18 horses were placed in their temporary homes and had all that they needed to enjoy an extended spring vacation.

In total, our volunteers helped Agape save more than \$60,000 in horse care expenses. During a time of great uncertainty, this was a huge blessing to us. While Agape offered to cover expenses for our horses needs, many volunteers took on this expense themselves. This included feed, farrier, and minor vet care. The generous gifts from our volunteers housing horses was truly a game changer during the pandemic. We'd like to honor those who were able to house, care for, or contribute to coverage of care for our Agape herd in 2020.

Thank you!

Dana Jones
Amy and Erin Richardson
Anne and Scott Ramey
Maryanne Kirkhoff
Zach Henry
Denise and Paul Lunsford
Angie and Jeff Hutter
Michele, Greg, and Anna Durthaler
Tricia Milto
Debi and Cary Teeple, and Ashley Lusby
Mary and Oscar Meza
Jamie Kenworthy
Vicki Criswell
Lyn and Al Penfound
Lynn and Rob Fedorchak
Lauren and Zach Crimmins

Triple Crown Club \$25,000 and Over

Tina Anderson
Care for Kids Foundation
E.A. and Frances Reichart Charitable
Foundation
Lilly Endowment, Inc
Steve & Tracy Line
Seabury Foundation

Grand Champion Club \$10,000 - \$24,999

Apple Technology Company
Caesars Entertainment
Steve & Cheryl Cosgrove
Hancock County Community Foundation
Douglas & Tracy Ingersoll
Blair and Martha Rieth Family Foundation
Chuck & Peggy Stewart
The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation

Hunt Club \$5,000 - \$9,999

Children's Bureau
Richard Dirks, Millie Mott & Stefanie Dirks
Facebook
Phil & Nicole Grove
J. E. Fehsenfeld Family Foundation
John and Betty Ober Foundation
Michael & Tacy Kacer
Nicholas H. Noyes Jr. Memorial Foundation
Paul & Katie Simons
Corby & Julie Thompson
Jon & Linda Moran
Smiles for Life Foundation
Scott & Kim Whitlock
Ben & Doneta Wire

Trail Blazers Club \$1,000 - \$4,999

Jim & Beth Admire
Cliff & Lisa Allen
Michelle Ancil
Matt & Stacey Anderson
Tina Anderson
David & Inge Baird
Michelle Baker
Janna Beale
Chance & Kyler Benbow
Linda Benson
Linda Bergsman
Bill Binder
Margaret Blevins
Adam & Amanda Bocik
Brian & Cheryl Bosma
Central Indiana Communications, Inc.
Cigna Foundation
Community Reinvestment Foundation
Jeff & Amy Corey
Yvonne Dean
Kaye Diener

Duke Realty
Fidelity Charitable
Keith & Faith Gates
Jake Gibson
Glick Family Foundation
Janet Grube
Hart Drive-In Bakery
John & Janet Hawkinson
Joe Hess
Charley & Sheryl Hutchins
Jeff & Angie Hutter
David & Janette Hutton
Indiana Morgan Horse Club
Indiana Sports Corporation
Indiana Standardbred Association
IREM Indianapolis - Chapter 24
Vic Isbell
Melinda Kean
Amy Kirkpatrick
Brent Klemme
Knights of Columbus Council #14476
Elizabeth Kreeger

Ron Leising
Paul & Denise Lunsford
Mark Lyons
Tammy Marrs
Patty Meister
Debbie Melter
Fred & Nancy Merritt
Michael & Stacy Miller
Howard Mohler
Morgan Stanley Foundation
Brian Myers
NineStar Connect
Steve & Betty Petrick
Tom and Susan Sams
Jatinder Bir (Jay) Sandhu
Doug Sharkey
Steve Skinner
United Way of Central Indiana
Rod & Deb Usher
Wells Fargo Bank
Susan Wurster

**OVER 350 CHAMPIONS GAVE TO AGAPE IN OUR
WRANGLERS CLUB (\$1 - \$999) IN 2020!**

Thank you so much!



TRIBUTES

In Memory of...

Chris Bruno
Bugatti (horse)
Rita Mariani
Ernest F. Voegtlin
Littlefoot (horse)
Kaitlyn Isbell
Rosie (horse)
Sergeant Jonathon Hackworth
Dave Arnold
"My old horse gal Dotty"
Jessica Gibson
Janis Caudill
Trish Egleson's Grandma
Janis Caudill
Kenedei Rich
Carson (horse)
Martha Handley

In Honor of...

Angie Hutter
Dan Hicks
Matt Meils
Laura Briggs
Susie (horse)
Karen Farrell
Jill Snyder
Rebecca Spitzig
Michael & Sarah Bruno
Michelle Ancil
Trisha Egleson
Ashley Petrick
Lori Wagner



AGAPE

U N B R I D L E D H O P E

agaperiding.org