



A G A P E

CELEBRATING **35** YEARS OF

Unbridled Hope

2021 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-assisted experiences.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One of the things I love most about the work of Agape is that each day brings the opportunity for service and leadership. Throughout 2021, we continued to navigate through a pandemic while offering unparalleled services with exemplary leadership.

Together with a team of highly skilled staff, engaged Board of Directors, and dedicated volunteers, Agape **served 1,369 individuals through 6,928 lessons**. We raised a **record-breaking \$882,634 in donations**, grants and sponsorships. These efforts afforded us the opportunity to continue to invest in our Greenfield location by constructing a covering over the outdoor arena, providing financial aid to 13% of our riders, caring for our herd of horses, and serving community partners such as Dayspring Center, Lawrence & Warren Township Schools, The Landing, and Brooke's Place.

Though 2021 was a year to continue being nimble while addressing unique needs, Agape was blessed to continue its consistent and impactful work in the areas of helping individuals with disabilities and at-risk youth unlock their potential, build connection and trust with their favorite horse, learn greater communication skills, and find hope at the barn and beyond. And as most know, none of this work would be possible without the **over 200 weekly volunteers** serving with open hearts and **24 horses** providing strength and healing.

With great love and appreciation, we can't thank you enough for every minute of your time and every dollar donated. You made a real difference in 2021 as we celebrated **35 years of service and leadership!**

With a grateful heart,

Stephanie Amick

Stephanie Amick
Executive Director



ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHTS & PROGRAMMING NUMBERS

TOTAL UNDUPLICATED SERVED IN 2021

Therapeutic Riding Participants:	169
Arc of Hancock County Discovery Camp Campers:	135
Equine-Assisted Learning/Mental Health Participants:	268
One-Time Experiences at the Barn Participants:	322
Mobile Visit Participants:	379
Ascension St. Vincent Hippotherapy Patients:	96

**Total Individuals
Served in 2021:Over 1,369 Individuals Impacted**

NUMBER OF LESSONS BY PROGRAM

Therapeutic Riding Lessons:	4,088
Equine-Assisted Learning/Mental Health Lessons:	1,558
One-Time Lessons at the Barn:	322
Ascension St. Vincent Hippotherapy Appointments:	960

**Total # of lessons and
appointments provided in 2021: 6,928 Lessons Provided**

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY PROGRAM

Therapeutic Riding Classes:	1,022
Equine-Assisted Learning/Mental Health Classes:	202
One-Time Experiences Visits to the Barn:	29
Mobile Visits:	13
Ascension St. Vincent Weekly Sessions:	40

Total # of visits and classes provided in 2021:..... 1,306



13%

of all Agape Therapeutic
Riding participants
received a scholarship



100%

of therapeutic riding
participants benefited
from generous donations
to keep lesson costs
affordable to all riders
Agape serves



62%

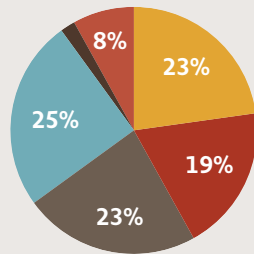
of all program costs
are underwritten by
fundraising



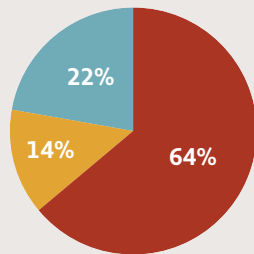
2020 & 2021 FINANCIAL PROFILES

2021

REVENUE	\$1,383,390
Programs	\$314,644
Grants	\$261,700
Events	\$318,214
Donations	\$348,887
Endowment	\$28,941
Other	\$111,004

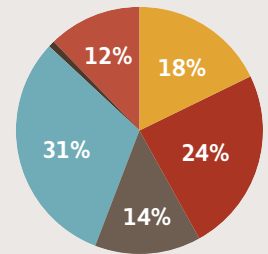


EXPENSES	\$1,071,869
Program	\$681,616
Fundraising	\$156,429
M & G	\$233,824

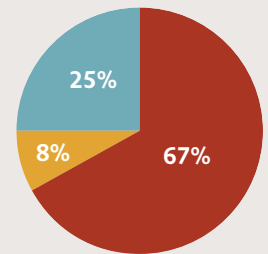


2020

REVENUE	\$1,008,671
Programs	\$185,015
Grants	\$241,609
Events	\$144,266
Donations	\$311,922
Endowment	\$11,084
Other	\$114,865

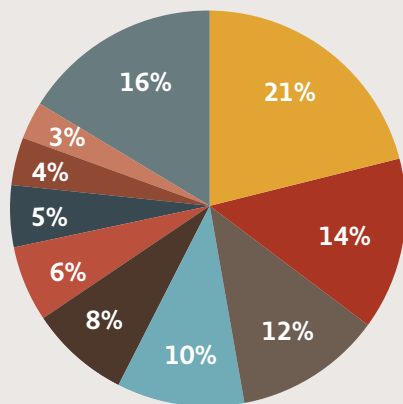


EXPENSES	\$878,243
Program	\$587,656
Fundraising	\$72,449
M & G	\$218,138



DEMOGRAPHICS

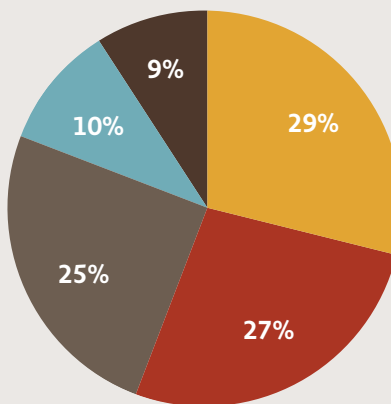
57 Different special needs diagnoses served in 2021



Autism
Addiction Disorder
ADHD/ADD
Depression/Anxiety
At Risk Youth/No Diagnosis
Cognitive/Developmental Delay/MID
PTSD
Cerebral Palsy
Down Syndrome
Other Social/Emotional/Physical/Cognitive Disabilities

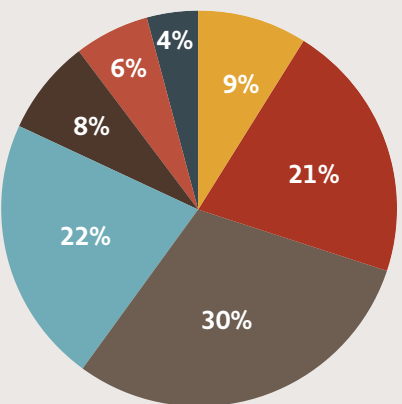
COUNTIES SERVED

20 Counties represented among participants in 2021



Marion County
Hamilton County
Madison County
Hancock County
Other surrounding counties

AGES SERVED



Ages 4-8
Ages 9-12
Ages 13-18
Ages 19-30
Ages 31-40
Ages 41-50
Ages 51+

WE ♥ OUR RIDERS:

Paisley's Story

"After graduating from occupational therapy using hippotherapy just before COVID began in 2020, we knew our daughter, Paisley, needed to be back with horses as everything began to reopen. Extreme prematurity has left her with severe anxiety, and we have found that connecting with the horses has been powerful for her. We found Agape East in the spring of 2021. While it is a far drive, we love the country setting and the ability for her to explore nature while she connects with the horse. What we did not expect was the connection she would also have with the humans.

"Our daughter is terrified of men; it is one of her anxiety triggers. When we showed up for lessons one afternoon and she saw 'Tim' next to her name, she immediately wanted to go home. We encouraged her to try it and that she might enjoy having Tim as her side-walker. Convinced this was going to be the worst lesson ever, she agreed to at least go groom her horse. I watched as Tim stood several feet away, with no eye contact or interaction from our daughter. Then when it was time to ride, Tim was made to stand in the middle of the arena far away from her or her horse while other volunteers helped her.

"This process went on week after week. Tim would show up. Paisley would show up. There would be little interaction, but Tim stayed consistent and, as time passed, our daughter began to give eye contact and a few words each lesson. By fall, Tim and Paisley were singing songs on trail rides and interacting with each other each week.

"We love Agape not just because of the opportunity to connect with incredible horses, but the opportunity to connect with incredible people. Through their assignment to the same horse, Paisley had to overcome her struggles and learn how to work within her anxiety so that she could do something she loves. This is such an incredible life lesson as she grows and learns how to live with her anxiety, but still function and enjoy life!"



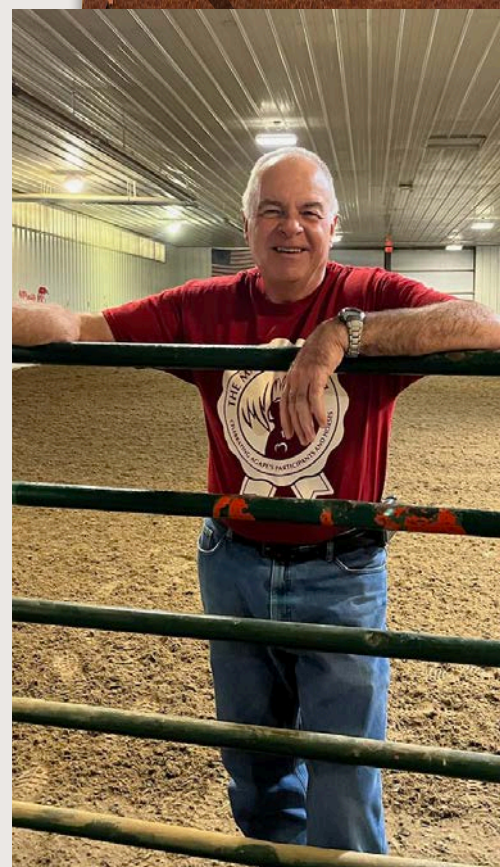
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WE OUR VOLUNTEERS: *Steve's Story*

Steve's Agape journey began about 5 years ago. "I knew about the place and had stopped by it before I started volunteering. I grew up on a farm but had never experienced working with horses. I thought it would be fun, and it is close by, so I took a chance.

"I have been involved with several volunteer opportunities during my time at Agape, from mowing, to moving hay, cleaning lots, and even fixing some things that ended up broken. **But the best experience of all is getting to make a difference in the lives of the riders you work with.** Every week we see the impact coming to class makes for them. The most memorable class for me was getting to work with a rider who had been riding for a while but was new to the class. I asked her if she was ready to trot. She stated, 'Yes, but we would need to get another handler to help.' I asked why we needed another handler's help and she replied, 'Because you're too old to trot.' I laughed so hard and still, to this day, when I think back on this moment it brings a smile to my face. When I look at my time here, and as I think about the people I have seen come and go over the years, the one thing that sticks out to me about my time here is that this is a WONDERFUL place filled with good people and horses. And if you stick around long enough, you might just find your niche!"

—STEVE, AGAPE NORTH VOLUNTEER



2,068
Volunteers across
central Indiana



11,098
Hours given by
volunteers for the year



25
Work groups



\$316,736
Equivalent value
donated by volunteers



When asked
'What is Agape?'
I would say it is magic.

WE ♥ OUR VOLUNTEERS: *Tim's Story*

"Six years ago, I moved to Johnson County to be closer to my children and grandchildren. After one year of leaving my friends and being in new surroundings, I needed something to connect me with others. That is when I heard about Agape and the work they do with horses and children—two of my favorite things. When I entered the barn the first time, the smell, noise, and petting the horses all brought me into the comfort zone I had been looking for.

"When asked 'What is Agape?' I would say it is magic. The way a class begins and the way it ends are vastly different. Sometimes riders start out shy, scared, nervous, slow to trust, do not want to get on the horse, and are just plain unhappy. This is when Team Agape shines. The instructors do their magic, side-walkers and horse handlers do what they have been taught, and the wonderful horses do what they have been trained and asked to do for their riders. **That scared and nervous rider is changed into a confident, happy, and comfortable rider who is not ready to quit riding.** When he gets off the horse, he hugs it and kisses it goodbye until next week. This is the stuff that makes me proud to be part of Team Agape for the last five years."

—TIM, AGAPE EAST VOLUNTEER

WE ♥ OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS: *Dayspring Center's Story*

“Residents at the Dayspring Center are part of Indy’s homeless population that is more than 70% children. Homelessness encompasses far more than a loss of shelter—it is a complete disruption of safety, security, stability, and peace of mind. The world quite literally falls apart for them.

“Discovery Camp, the summer program at Agape East, provides residents of Dayspring Center with a positively unforgettable summer experience. For one summer, they get to just be kids. They get to experience the quintessential joys of childhood without the burden of disadvantage and socioeconomic restraint crushing their spirits.



“Agape played a monumental role in aligning with Dayspring’s mission of lovingly supporting families as they find their way back home. The staff do not just host our children, they truly saw them. With the horses at their sides, the immensely qualified staff therapeutically eased the children’s worries, revitalized their esteem, and cultivated their once fleeting smiles. Agape and the majesty of their horses restored a bit of home, internally, in the hearts of children who have long been displaced from a home of their own.

“**Felicia**, an old soul, hard to please, too-cool-for-anything middle schooler, and sufferer of crippling anxiety and depression, **softened, grinned, and participated more than we had ever seen before.**

“**Adrian**—whose trauma coupled with anger challenges and autism spectrum disorder often complicated his ability to remain present, engaged, and cheerful became an unrecognizable child that **beamed with light and jubilation.**

“**Ashley**, who struggled with a low sense of worth, **lifted her head up as if she had a crown atop it.**”

—DESTINY, CHILDREN SERVICES CASE MANAGER, DAYSPRING CENTER

**Note: Names have been altered to protect the legal and confidential interests of the children.*

EQUINE-ASSISTED LEARNING PARTNERS SERVED IN 2021:

Ascension St. Vincent Pediatric Rehabilitation Services

Arc of Hancock County

Bridges of Hope Treatment Center

Brooke’s Place for Grieving Young People

Children’s Bureau Older Youth Services

Dayspring Center

Down Syndrome Indiana

Easterseals Crossroads

Elwood Community Schools

Grit Into Grace

Hillcroft Services

Holy Family Shelter

Lutherwood Residential Treatment Center

MSD Lawrence Township

MSD Warren Township

Mosaics - Hamilton Boone Madison Special Services

Noble of Indiana

Rush County Schools

Sheridan Community Schools

The Landing

Teen Challenge

Prevail Inc.

A Look Back AT 2021



PAR 4 THE HORSE ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

116 GOLFERS

\$67,329 RAISED



HOOFIN' IT FOR HOPE

20 TEAMS

\$47,190 RAISED

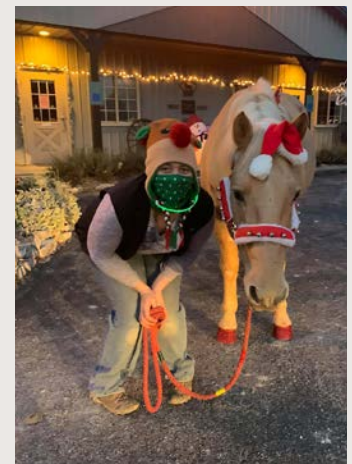


MANE EVENT HORSE SHOW

53 RIDERS
48 VOLUNTEERS
15 HORSES



**BOOTS & BOWTIES
GALA**
289 GUESTS
\$188,787 RAISED



CHRISTMAS AT THE BARN

THANK YOU FOR DONATING IN 2021!

TRIPLE CROWN CLUB

\$25,000 and Over

Care for Kids Foundation
E.A. and Frances Reichart
Charitable Foundation
Phil & Tracy Line

GRAND CHAMPION CLUB

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous Donor
Caesars Foundation
Capital Group Companies
Charitable Foundation
Steve & Cheryle Cosgrove
Crosser Family Foundation
DuCharme, McMillen &
Associates (DMA)
Hamilton County Community
Foundation
Michael & Tacy Kacer
KassieKares
Jon & Linda Moran
OrthoIndy Foundation
Blair and Martha Rieth Family
Foundation

HUNT CLUB

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous Local Family
Ascension St. Vincent
Therapeutic Services
Debra Baker
Bobby & Christy Barnes
The Boren Foundation
Brian & Cheryl Bosma
Fidelity Charitable
Phil & Nicole Grove
Hancock County Community
Foundation

Harrah's Hoosier Park
Racing & Casino
Jennifer Jaspers
Charley & Sheryl Hutchins
John & Betty Ober Foundation
Lilly Endowment, Inc.
Cheryl Melancon
Fred & Nancy Merritt
Nicholas H. Noyes Jr.
Memorial Foundation
NineStar Connect
Chuck & Peggy Stuart
Corby & Julie Thompson
United Way of Central Indiana
Scott Whitblock
Ben & Doneta Wire

TRAIL BLAZER CLUB

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Cliff & Lisa Allen
Bernie & Maureen Allen
Matt & Stacey Anderson
Ron & Carol Angela
Jason & Lindsay Baile
David & Inge Baird
Jeff & Michelle Baker
Benji & Megan Banks
Chance & Kyler Benbow
Linda & Dave Benson
Biddle Memorial Foundation
Adam & Amanda Bocik
Christopher & Anita Bohn
Linda Britt
Michael Byers
CarDon & Associates
Central Indiana
Communications, Inc.

Bud & Karen Colglazier
Lee Coomler
Jeff & Amy Corey
Connor Cosgrove
Katelyn Cosgrove
Cowpokes Work & Western
Wear
Kaye Diener
John & Debbie Diersing
Chris Douglass
Duke Realty
Dan & Trish Egelson
Chris & Heather Ernst
Lynn & Robert Fedorchak
Betty Ference
Glick Family Foundation
John & Janet Hawkinson
Heartland Church
Joe & Myra Hess
Andy & Angie Hilton
Dana & Ann Hird
Jerrold & Holly Hochstedler
Jeff & Angi Hutter
Indiana Sports Corporation
Indiana Standardbred Association
Indiana Youth Institute
IREM Indianapolis- Chapter 24
Tracy Johnson
Shelly Leadley
Mark & Erin Lyons
Vic & Rhonda Isbell
Janssen Veterinary Clinic
Erika Kacer
Melinda Kean
Brent Klemme
Vicki Knorr

Kyle & Andrea Lacey
Paul & Denise Lunsford
Tim & Tammy Marrs
Patty Meister
Microsoft
Michael & Stacy Miller Howard
Mohler
National Bank of Indianapolis
Oliver-Hoffman Foundation
Seth & Lauren Paladin
Steve & Betty Petrick
Gene & Lori Pingatore
Fred & Kristin Punke
Roche Diagnostics
Sagamore Gas
Doug Sharkey
Penny Siml
Steve Skinner
Brad & Emily Smith
St. Louis de Montfort
Catholic Church
Kurt & Mary Steckbeck
John & Suzanne Stewart
John & Susan Sweezy Jr.
Schulstad Family Foundation
Scott & Leslie Thompson
Thrivent Financial
Tipton County Community
Foundation
Sean & Michelle Trivedi
Rod & Deb Usher
Wells Fargo
Matt & Tammy Welsch
Westfield Lions Club
Thomas Weirs & Michele Martin
Susan Wurster

TRIBUTES

IN MEMORY OF...

Mackenzie Barnes
Nanette Blackburn
Butterbean (Horse)
Chris Bruno
Perry Coon
Terril David "Terry" Furnish
Jessica Gibson
Kaitlyn Isbell
Pat Korff
Cindy Peyton
Neil Skaggs
Mike Walker
Randy Walker

IN HONOR OF...

Agape Volunteers
Patti Gravitt
Angie Hutter
Nancy Merritt
Mary O'Brien
Patricia Korff
Nick Shewman
Anna Sheppard &
Mark Engelberg
Sarah Thielking



Mackenzie Barnes



BO & BUZZ: *Always Living Large*

As summer 2021 ended, Agape prepared to honor two wonderful horses that had served many, many riders over the years. Buzz and Bo, two older geldings that had become good friends over the years, were ready for retirement. While we were all sad to say goodbye, we were happy to recall their stories and send them off to a much-deserved retirement. Buzz returned to his previous owner and is living in southern Indiana. Bo went to live with an Agape volunteer and has been a joy to his new family.

These two geldings were steady, kind horses that could do any job we asked of them. They served in numerous summer camps, riding lessons, school groups, trail rides, and hippotherapy. They truly helped to carry out the Agape Way, facilitating personal growth in everyone they encountered daily.

Buzz came to Agape in April 2017 on a short-term lease to serve in summer camp. His steady and kind nature, and his size, made him an ideal horse for camp. We found he was so patient and willing in his work that we asked to extend his lease another year, and later received a grant that allowed us to make Agape his permanent home. In all that time, Buzz remained a sweet, loving, go-to horse. He always had the special ability to give others confidence and help them achieve their goals. One such individual is our volunteer, Amy Corey. Amy volunteered in classes and around the barn. In 2020 she had the

opportunity to participate in volunteer riding lessons. She partnered with Buzz, and thanks to him, she achieved things she was not sure were possible.

"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."

Bo's story is similar. He came to Agape in July 2016 when his owner leased him to our program. He was dependable and unshakeable in any situation. Everyone loved his bright, spotted coat! During his time at Agape, Bo served some of our highest-need riders. One such rider, Dan, looked forward to his time with Bo every week. As a young man Dan was involved in an accident that left him with a severe traumatic brain injury. His sister said coming to see Bo was the highlight of Dan's week and the outing he looked forward to most. Dan found motivation to get active and gain strength at home so that he could come ride Bo. Best of all, Bo and Dan shared a secret language—Dan loved to go fast, and Bo could always tell just the right moment to step into a smooth, slow trot that would bring a beaming smile to Dan's face.

Bo and Buzz, we cannot thank you enough for your service. We hope you are living just as large in retirement as you did in service at Agape!



AGAPE CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michelle Baker, Board Chair
Facilities Operation Manager, Roche

Amber Iskander, Vice Chair
Executive Director of HR,
CarDon & Associates

Randy Yust, Treasurer
Co-Owner & Manager,
Business Analytics & Modeling, LLC

Lisa Allen, Secretary
NPO Management Consultant

Chance Benbow
Executive, Prolific

Joe Fonderoli
Sr. Director of Events & Operations, Colts

Janette Hutton
International Banking Managing Director,
JP Morgan

Tracy Johnson
Portfolio Manager, Pearson Education

Kyle Lacey
Senior Vice President & Relationship
Manager, Wells Fargo Commercial Banking

Tammy Marrs
Financial Advisor, FORUM Credit Union

Michele Martin
Sales Professional, Wiers International

John Stewart
President, V-Forward

Cheryle Cosgrove, Emeritus Member
Educational Therapist & Consultant,
Cosgrove Partners

Ben Wire, Emeritus Member
Indirect Lending Manager,
FORUM Credit Union



AGAPE
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