

Dear Friends of Agape Ranch,

In 2022, you chose to step into this arena of standing in the gap for the vulnerable, foster, and adoption-ready children. Children who cannot speak up or advocate for themselves. You have chosen to stand in the gap and do it with them. I call our space of work an arena because what we get to do together, is not an easy space to choose.

It's an arena where being a spectator would be a whole lot easier. If only someone would do something about children living through the mental health challenges due to the trauma of abuse. If only someone would care for the baby born into a generational cycle of poverty and/or abuse. If only someone would mentor a teenager who believes that she is not valuable due to her history of being assaulted. If only... But for you, 2022 was a year that you chose to learn more, engage in the arena, and stand in the gap.

With you, the reach of Agape Ranch has grown beyond what we could have ever imagined. Serving vulnerable children in foster care is more than a housing crisis. In 2022 you marched forward, strengthening our programs so that children would know that they are loved and valued. Respite providers and volunteers increased to serve children and families through more Foster Parent Night Out events, respite care opportunities, and general support. We launched new programs like Foster Family Days to strengthen the bonds between foster parents and their children to create strong attachments between children and their caregivers. The Church responded as we piloted our Agape Acts program to bring real, tangible support to the every day lives of our children and families. You said, "Yes" to connections and not pushing away when the challenges arise. You said, "Yes" to giving of your talents to do the hard and show every child that is impacted by Agape Ranch unconditional love and his or her value.

Thank you for serving in this arena with us. We understand every opportunity to serve God's children allows us to reflect His love. Please take a moment now to pray for God's guidance and blessing for Agape Ranch. May He continue to use our simple, powerful vision to inspire His people and to reveal His true heart to the world for His children.

For His alory, His Kingdom, and His children,

Susan Klaus

Founder & Executive Director

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# MISSION STATEMENT

Many children in foster care feel unlovable because of the abuse they've suffered all their lives. Agape Ranch breaks that cycle by providing compassionate care, connections within the community, and now by creating a neighborhood to give them a place to call home with families that provide unconditional love.

## MEET THE 2023 TEAM



**Susan Klaus** Executive Director & Founder



Melissa Faux Director of Operations



**Tad Gilstrap** Program Manager



**Jonathan Stubbs**Operations
Manager



Jessica Blakeslee Program Coordinator



Rose Ruiz
Program
Coordinator II



**Shannon Murphy**Community
Coordinator



Jorden Tramp Donor Relations & Event Coordinator

### **2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**Bailey Wilson

**Treasurer** Tim Klaus

**Secretary**Justin Horton

Ginger DeLatte Javier Huerta Bobby Hyatt Anson Nash Ken Schuetze









# CHURCH PARTNERS

The success of our programs and services in 2022 would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of our church partners engaging in the mission of Agape Ranch, each responding to God's call to care for vulnerable children.

## **2022 Church Partners**

Asbury UMC
City Church
Community of Faith
Corpus Christi Christian Fellowship
Kelsey Memorial UMC
Oso Creek Church
First Baptist Church Portland
First UMC Portland
GracePoint Church
New Life at the Cross
New Life Church
River Hills Baptist Church
Rock City Church
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Yorktown Baptist Church













# AREAS OF IMPACT

### **Prevention**

CarePortal

#### **Foster Care**

Agape Acts
Children without Placement
Christmas Store
Foster Family Day
Foster Family Retreat
Foster Parent Night Out
Respite Care

## **Adoption**

Agape Connection
Trust Based Relational Intervention Training

## **Aging-out Youth**

Advocacy
Thrive Youth Coaching

## CAREPORTAL













As the Implementing Partner of CarePortal in the Coastal Bend, Agape Ranch connects children in need to people who want to help. This gives child welfare professionals the opportunity to share real needs in real-time.



Each request represents a child in crisis potentially facing foster care due to poverty, not abuse or neglect, and assists in preventing children from entering into Foster Care unnecessarily. Also, it may be to meet the request of a biological family getting ready for reunification.

## AGAPE ACTS

Agape Acts is a supportive care network for foster parents. It exists to empower church communities to tenderly care for the foster families that are within their midst. However, with sound supportive care, we aim to mitigate this turnover while revitalizing our foster parents, thus allowing for a stronger, healthier family foster parents in the unit

We support foster families through Agape Acts Teams that provide services such as meals, mowing lawns, prayer, and babysitting.

This care is imperative, for unfortunately, the turnover rate for **United States is as** high as 30-50%.

# CHILDREN WITHOUT PLACEMENT



Due to a lack of available homes in the Coastal Bend, there are times when children and youth come into care and there is not a home available for them. In cooperation with the Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS), Agape Ranch has made targeted efforts to reach this specific group of children to let them know they are loved and valued.



# CHRISTMAS STORE



The annual Agape Ranch Christmas Store blesses atrisk families in the Coastal Bend with gifts for the holidays. Often, families that are caring for vulnerable children have large sibling groups in their care. To help fight the challenges of providing beyond basic needs, we offer the Christmas Store.



21 GIFT PARTNERS

106 VOLUNTEERS

940 CHILDREN SERVED



### **2022 COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Adamson & Co
Ashley Cocke
Church Unlimited
City Church
Coastal Bend Pregnancy Center
Contender CrossFit Padre Island
Corpus Christi Christian Fellowship
Corpus Christi Financial Group
CrossFit Kohen

Crossbridge Fellowship Church
DFPS Kinship Care
Elim Assembly of God
First United Methodist Portland
Gibson Elementary
Higginbotham
Hollon Safe
IACC
Kaffie Middle School

MC Least of Saints
Oso Creek Church
Padre Island Baptist Church
STCH Ministries
Trinity Baptist Church
Turning Point Family Church
Yorktown Baptist Church
100 Women of the CB

# FOSTER PARENT NIGHT OUT

## **Foster Parent Night Out**

Foster Parent Night Out allows foster parents to enjoy a well-deserved child-free evening at no cost to them. This event welcomes foster parents to register their foster children, adopted children, and biological children.

#### **2022 Host Churches**

- Oso Creek Church (March)
- First United Methodist Portland (June)
- Emmanuel Baptist Church of Alice (June)
- New Life Church South Campus (July)
- New Life Church South Campus (October)
- Asbury United Methodist Church (December)



52 FAMILIES SUPPORTED

182 CHILDREN SERVED

365 VOLUNTEER HOURS



# FOSTER FAMILY DAY & RETREAT



"We left the weekend feeling so blessed to be part of the Agape Ranch family."

-Wilson family

During the hot summer months, we treated foster families to a day out at the movies! Families gathered to enjoy a cool activity with all-you-can-eat popcorn. For some children, it was their first movie theater experience!



New in 2022, the Foster Family Retreat is an opportunity for foster families to connect at a deeper level with both their foster children and biological and/or adoptive children.

The demands placed on foster parents are great. Dedicating a time away as a family and gathering in a distraction-free environment allows the time and space needed for all to recharge and create lasting memories.

# RESPITE CARE









Agape Ranch works with the Department of Family and Protective Services and local Child Placing Agencies (CPAs) to license individuals to become certified childcare providers, known as Respite Care Providers.

Foster parents face unique challenges due to the challenges that arise when caring for children coming from a place of trauma. In order to avoid burnout, their sacrificial lifestyle must be balanced with support

"For months, I've felt alone, unsupported, incapable, and in general, not enough.

I am absolutely overwhelmed by the support and kindness I have been shown."

-Darra, Foster Mom

## AGAPE CONNECTION



## **Agape Connection**

Agape Connection is an annual festival in May for Texas foster children, who are eligible for adoption. Adoptive parent prospects, who have completed an adoptive home study, attend this stress-free environment that allows children and families the opportunity to play, connect, and interact with the goal of forming forever families. Participants engage in a variety of activities that include crafts, sports, bounce houses, photo booth, bookstore, and lunch.

63 CHILDREN

36 FAMILIES SERVED



# TRUST-BASED RELATIONAL INTERVENTION (TBRI)

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) training is a practical therapeutic model that trains caregivers to provide effective support and treatment for at-risk children. Agape Ranch conducted this valuable training for foster parents, child advocate professionals and volunteers, and caseworkers.

The TBRI method, developed by Dr. Karyn Purvis and Dr. Davis Cross, is an attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children.

PARTICIPANTS TRAINED

84 TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED

## TBRI TRAINING

TRUST-BASED
RELATIONAL INTERVENTION

# THRIVE COACHING

The Thrive Program works directly with youth ages 16-23 that have or will age out of the foster care system and connects them to coaches and organizations to help them succeed as they enter into adulthood. While many events are scheduled throughout the year, below you can learn more about our graduation celebration and Christmas event.



Agape Ranch celebrated six bright individuals in the foster care system that graduated from High School in May 2022. Four graduates were in attendance during the graduation ceremony held at the Agape Ranch office.

Agape Ranch hosted a Christmas party for aged-out foster children and coaches in December. A total of 31 youth gathered to play games, gather in community, and celebrate the joy-filled time of year together. We also hosted a March Madness networking event and a summer fun at Hurricane Alley.







# LEAVE A LEGACY 5K/10K

Leave a Legacy 5K/10K raises awareness and funds for foster, adoption ready, aged-out, and vulnerable children, youth, and families in the Coastal Bend.







## **FEBRUARY 12, 2022**

#### **2022 SPONSORS**

### **Legacy Sponsor**

**Everest Water** 

#### **Agape Sponsor**

Nexit, Inc.

### **Ranch Sponsors**

HEB

Mattress Firm

Rock's Supplements

### **Family Sponsors**

First Title Company: Ashley & Brent

Chesney

Gulf Coast Federal Credit Union

Kennedy Dental Care

Jennie Dibala State Farm Agent

Third Coast Strategies

Yorktown Baptist Church

## **Hope Sponsors**

ACE Global

Cervantes Electric

First Baptist Church Portland

Fleet Feet

KCTA 1030 AM Radio

Postal Annex

Todd Hunter Law

Yorktown Christian Academy

# NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

**MAY 2022** 

National Foster Care Month is a time to recognize that we can each play a part in enhancing the lives of children and youth in foster care.















# LADIES LEGACY BRUNCH

**MAY 2022** 



The inaugural Ladies Legacy Brunch welcomed 100 ladies from around South Texas to learn about the mission of Agape Ranch.

Thank you to our Sponsors



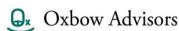
# THE LEGACY

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2022** 

presenting sponsor



social Hour sponsor



valet sponsor



Horal sponsor



hope sponsor



Agape sponsors











#### Table sponsors

Ruben Bonilla Insurance **Bart Braselton** Will & Ashley Cocke D & C Fence Co. **Driftwood Coffee Co.** Frost Bank HEB **Hose of South Texas** Mrs. Vicki Loeffler & Dr. **Rodney Johnson Nash Pressure Washing** 

**New Life Church PureTree Remolding and Building RBFCU** Brian and Ginger DeLatte Revolutionary Insurance Group **Rotary Club of West Texas Rock City Church Glenn and Tammy Rollins Carlos Vargas DO PLLC** Jamin & Rebecca Welch **Bill & Bailey Wilson** Yorktown Baptist Church

\$125K

**FUNDS RAISED** 



Thanks to the generous support of Gala sponsors, Gala attendees, and the community, \$125,000 was raised in support of the mission of Agape Ranch during 2022 Legacy Gala: A Starry Evening. continued development and The Ranch as well as the existing programs and services offered to support foster children and the families that serve them is critical in our community.

Thank you to all of those that provided financial support, volunteered, and prayed for the success of the event.

## NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

NOVEMBER 2022

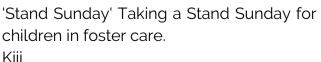




Stand Sunday provided seven churches with videos, information, and engagement ideas to support vulnerable children and youth in our community. On that day, all across Corpus Christi, churches learned about the needs of vulnerable children and opportunities to serve via Agape Ranch.

A total of 125 volunteers wore custom Agape Ranch T-Shirts. These advocates received inquiries regarding how to serve, give, and become a licensed foster parent.





November 13, 2022



Agape Ranch raises awareness for National Adoption Month KRIS6 November 23, 2022



## THE RANCH

## **UPDATES**







- First House 90% complete.
- Water/sewer access from City of Corpus Christi and Planned Unit Development expected by Summer 2023.
- In 2023, begin construction on Phase 1 of the Ranch, including 10 homes, Community Center and Multi-Purpose Building.



# 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### **INCOME**

Fundraisers - \$266,142 General Support - \$122,614 Program Support - \$13,949 Grants - \$416,679 Interest - \$22,145 Other Types of Income - \$54,718 Total - \$896,247

#### **EXPENDITURE**

Programs - \$96,428 Operations- \$25,500 Fundraiser - \$65,668 Payroll Expenses & Taxes - \$128,550 Total - \$316,146

#### **ASSETS**

Land, Development, and House - \$378,890

# CALL TO ACTION

#### **PRAY**

As we look forward to 2023, will you join us in prayer? We are seeking wisdom in continuing to innovate our programs to best meet the needs of the foster children, youth, and families.

#### **DONATE**

You can support the work that Agape Ranch is doing to serve foster and adoptive children, youth, and families. <a href="www.agaperanch.org/donate">www.agaperanch.org/donate</a>.

#### **BECOME A LEGACY MAKER**

Your monthly commitment allows us to be able to plan more effectively and efficiently for Agape's programs, The Ranch, and events.

www.agaperanch.org/legacymaker

### **VOLUNTEER**

There are many ways you can get involved to make an impact. Volunteer for several hours at one of our events, be an ongoing support for foster families by becoming a part of Agape Acts or Respite Care programs, purchase a Christmas gift, provide a meal for a foster family, or become an adoptive or foster family. <a href="https://www.agaperanch.org/volunteer">www.agaperanch.org/volunteer</a>

#### **BECOME A FOSTER OR ADOPTIVE PARENT**

Agape Ranch partners with six Child Placing Agencies in the Coastal Bend. Should you be interested in opening your home as a foster or adoptive parent, please contact us at admin@agaperanch.org.

