2021 IMPACT REPORT





Dear Agape Friends,

The Church. The Church is the bride of Christ. We are called to pure and thankful moments where we get to connect and love God's children. Our Father is the father of the fatherless and He fights for the broken-hearted and He calls the Church to join Him. 2021 allowed us to come together again, and it was clear that the Holy Spirit had planted seeds in our hearts for His children. I want to express deep thanks - to God and to you. I'm so grateful for how you stood for God's children this year with Agape Ranch. You showed up. You turned compassion into action and together we are creating a movement to leave a better legacy for the children in foster care in the Coastal Bend.

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. By developing a "home and" mindset, we can work to tear off years of trauma and the many lies that children with difficult pasts believe. Through a "home and" mentality, we have introduced Jesus to children to create opportunities for healing. "Home and" engaging relationships means that mentors can gently guide youth and tell them hard truths after trust has been established. This means creating moments when youth begin to understand there is hope and opportunities for them. "Home and" a vigilance and commitment to children in foster care into their adulthood means journeying through the hard and the good. "Home and" a praying Church because breaking generational cycle is hard. It's "home and" Jesus. It's "home and" <u>you</u>.

2021 marked the start of our community standing together and saying no more to passing children along. You poured out your voice, your time, and your labor; and, because of you, more children in the Coastal Bend experienced a love that let them know that God is with them. You said, "Yes" to providing another home and continued development at the Ranch. 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 glory, His Kingdom, His children,

Susan Klaus Founder & Executive Director

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OUR TEAM

Board of Directors

President Bailey Wilson

> Treasurer Tim Klaus

Secretary Rochelle Roots

Ginger DeLatte

Javier Huerta

Bobby Hyatt

Anson Nash

Ken Schuetze



Susan Klaus Founder & Executive Director



Melissa Faux Director of Operations



Jessica Blakeslee Program Coordinator



Terrell Lufburrow Program Advocate



Shannon Murphy Community Coordinator



Hannah Cummings Administrative Assistant



Every child will experience unconditional love and Understand his or her value.



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.

MORE THAN ENOUGH



The words "NOT ENOUGH" are heard every day inside of our nation's foster care system. Not enough resources. Not enough support. Not enough families. Through the faith-<u>based field guide, Until</u> There's More than Enough and cohort studies facilitated by the Christian Alliance for Orphans, Agape Ranch increased its collaborative efforts to transform foster care in our community to go from "not enough" to "more than enough."

Our Programs and Events in 2021 were a reflection of this collaborative spirit, believing that it is possible to leave a better legacy when everyone works together for the common goal of serving God's children and youth.

The vision is not just to ask for more foster homes or more churches engaged, it's for the Church to rise up so that there is more than enough.



The success of our programs and services in 2021 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.



2021 Church Partners

First Baptist Church of

Asbury UMCFirst BaptCoastal Community ChurchRockportCity ChurchFirst BaptCommunity of FaithFirst UMCCorpus Christi ChristianFirst UMCFellowshipGracePoiKelsey Memorial UMCLiving WaFellowship of Oso CreekLexingtorKings Crossing Church ofNew BegChristRockport

Rockport First Baptist Church Portland First UMC Portland First UMC of Rockport GracePoint Church Living Word Church Lexington Baptist Church New Beginnings Ministries of Rockport

New Life at the Cross New Life Church Oak Ridge Baptist Church River Hills Baptist Church Rock City Church Second Baptist Church Seventh-day Adventist Church St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Travis Baptist Church Yorktown Baptist Church

AREAS OF IMPACT

Prevention

CarePortal

Foster Care

Agape Acts Children without Placement Christmas Store Foster Family Day Foster Parent Night Out Respite Care Stillwater Camp Experience

Adoption

Agape Connection Trust Based Relational Intervention Training

Aging-out Youth

Advocacy Thrive Youth Mentorship



PROGRAMS

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. Additionally, it may be to meet the request of a biological family getting ready for reunification.



THE MOST COMMONLY REQUESTED ITEM TO MEET THROUGH THE CAREPORTAL IS BEDS.

A BED IS A BASIC ITEM THAT HELPS SIGNIFY THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF A CHILD. HOWEVER, SOME FAMILIES MAY FACE CHALLENGES TO PROVIDE EVERY CHILD IN THEIR HOME WITH A BED DUE TO LIMITED RESOURCES. CHILD WELFARE WORKERS WILL TRY TO OBTAIN RESOURCES, LIKE BEDS, TO HELP A CHILD REMAIN SAFELY IN THE HOME.

AGAPE RANCH PARTNERED WITH SAINT ANDREW EPISCOPAL CHURCH TO HOST TWO BFD BUILDS THIS YEAR. VOLUNTEERS FROM PARTNERING CHURCHES JOINED TO BUILD A TOTAL OF 20 BEDS, WHICH ARE STORED AT CAREPORTAL CHURCH THE FOR REQUESTS. THIS ENSURES THAT BEDS ARE READILY AVAILABLE TO BE GIFTED TO A CHILD IN NEED.

IOD T

MATTRESS FIRM STARTED A PARTNERSHIP WITH AGAPE RANCH THIS YEAR TO PROVIDE MATTRESSES FOR THE BEDS SO THAT CHILDREN CAN GET A GREAT NIGHT'S SLEEP.

ies



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 unit.

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









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 at-risk families in the Coastal Bend with gifts for the holidays. Often, families that are providing 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.







2021 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Albert Lopez C.C. Funnel Cakes City Church **Cocke Family** Contender Fitness Corpus Christi Christian Fellowship Gibson Elementary Corpus Christi Financial Group Crossbridge Fellowship Church

DeFries Family DFPS Kinship Care Emmanuel Baptist Church Trinity Baptist Church Fellowship of Oso Creek iBloom Girl Scout Troop 96067 Higginbotham

Kilgore Family Pregnancy Center Turning Point Family Church Yorktown Baptist Church

FOSTER FAMILY SUPPORT

Foster Family Day

In order to work around the restrictions posed by COVID-19, Agape Ranch partnered with Nueces Delta Preserves to support Foster Families in an educational outdoor setting. The children that attended participated in

- a beautiful nature walk,
- created a personal nature guidebook, and
- enjoyed activity stations with help from respite care providers.

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.



46 FAMILIES SUPPORTED

145 CHILDREN SERVED

275+ VOLUNTEER HOURS

2021 Host Churches

- First Baptist Church Portland (June)
- Fellowship of Oso Creek (July)
- City Church (October)
- Asbury United Methodist Church (December)





RESPITE CARE

C 3,047 HOURS SERVED







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

"Showing our foster son that others care and love like Jesus is something that I can never repay them for. We are truly grateful for every smiling face at Agape Ranch and the support that they offer." -Brittany, Foster Mom



"Agape Ranch gives every member of our family the opportunity to serve."

The Wilson Family, 2021 Respite Care Providers of the Year

AGAPE CONNECTION

Agape Connection is a festival for Texas foster children, who are eligible for adoption and for adoptive parent prospects, who desire to form forever families in a stress-free environment. Due to COVID, DFPS restricted travel and large group indoor gatherings. Therefore, we were unable to facilitate Agape Connection in 2021. However, we look forward to hosting it once again in May of 2022.



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 attachmentbased, trauma-informed intervention that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children.





THRIVE MENTORSHIP

THRIVE Mentorship Program provides a structured partnership between aging-out or aged-out foster youth and mentors and build relationships, connections, and resources with the community.



Agape Ranch and the Preparation for Adult Living program celebrated foster youth from the Coastal Bend as they graduated from high school in May.



Agape Ranch hosted a Christmas party for aged-out foster children and mentors in December.

aging out of foster care will end up HOMELESS TRAFFICKED **IN PROSTITUTION** INCARCERATED DEAD within **3** years. *According to the Department of Family and Protective Services,

90% of youth

EVENTS

LEAVE A LEGACY 5K/10K

MARCH 20, 2021

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.



2021 SPONSORS

Legacy Sponsors

Everest Water Nexit, Inc.

Family Sponsors

First Title Company: Ashley & Brent Chesney Frost Bank Kennedy Dental Care

Ranch Sponsors Phoenix Technology Consulting Walmart

Hope Sponsors

First Baptist Church Portland Postal Annex State Farm: Bobby Hyatt Yorktown Christian Academy

GRAND OPENING



This ribbon cutting celebrated the expansion of Agape Ranch. The continued growth of programs and services to support foster and adoptive children and the families that serve them required a centralized space to thrive.

We share the office space with Agape Harbor which is a Child Placing Agency. Agape Harbor equips and license individuals and/or couples to become foster and adoptive families. Dedicated space where others can grow professionally while serving vulnerable children in the Coastal Bend Community marks an important moment in the life of Agape Ranch as an organization.

THANK YOU TO THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF







MARCH 31, 2021

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NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

MAY 2021

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.





MAY 4, 2021

Agape Ranch joined the Buc Days NavyArmy Night Parade on Sunday, May 2. The parade of floats, spirited marching bands and high-stepping equestrian units made for a fun evening as we presented our "Home Under Construction" float celebrating the groundbreaking of our home on the Ranch and supporting vulnerable children in our community!



THE LEGACY GALA



SEPTEMBER 25, 2021



— \$100,000 match —



— Legacy sponsor —







Bobby Hyatt

--- Table Sponsors ----Corpus Christi Financial Group HEB Lynn Engineering New Life Church Office Pride Bill & Bailey Wilson





We are in awe of how God showed up for His children through His Church! This is the only thing that explains the \$369,000 raised through the efforts of the Legacy Gala: A Matter of Time presented by Chick-fil-A. The Frazier Family Foundation, Inc. for providing the \$100,000 match opportunity and joining us as we seek to serve vulnerable children in the Coastal Bend.

Thank you to all of those that provided financial support, volunteered, and prayed for the success of the event, aimed at fully funding our home for aging out foster youth. Your action has allowed for the the continued development at the Ranch.

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

NOVEMBER 2021



Agape Ranch joined the Coastal Bend Day of Giving - a 24-hour charitable challenge administered by the Coastal Bend Community Foundation. The Coastal Bend showed its generosity, and Agape Ranch received \$65,386 in support of vulnerable children in foster care.





20 years of observance



Agape Ranch partnered with 12 church campuses to observe Stand Sunday, a global day of prayer and observance. On this day, each church found ways to advocate for children in foster care. Collection drives, foster-related sermons, and testimony opportunities filled the Church to help raise awareness for the need for Christians to engage at a deeper level to leave a better legacy for the children in our community.



Agape Harbor, Agape Ranch, and CASA of the Coastal Bend initiated the "Sleeves of Support" campaign in conjunction with nine local coffee shop locations to increase awareness and provide opportunities for people to serve children in desperate need of love and support. 12,000 coffee sleeves flooded the community to place resources right in the hands of the community.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

NOVEMBER 13, 2021

<image>

2021 brought the return of one of our favorite events - Volunteer Appreciation! The dedication of the volunteers is how Agape Ranch is able to reach vulnerable children in our community.

Community Partner of the Year

Doc's Seafood and Steaks

Respite Care Provider of the Year

Trey and Bailey Wilson and Family

Volunteer of the Year

John Pisarek

Volunteers serve to ensure that children and youth know that they are loved and valued.

CHRISTMAS IN THE COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 2021

We strengthen our faith with the words from our Lord Jesus "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35



In addition to supporting foster children in kinship placement through our annual Christmas Store Program, Agape Ranch was able to collaborate with New Life Church's Christmas in the Community initiative.



Receiving Organizations

A World for Children Ark Agape Harbor Dept. of Family & Protective Services • Nueces County

• Kleburg County Beacon of Hope Children's Coalition Circles of Care Habitat for Humanity Hope House Juvenile Detention Center Preparation for Adult Living

THE RANCH

© The Bend Magazine (Rachel Benevides)

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

JANUARY 20, 2021

Despite delays caused by COVID-19, Agape Ranch was able to host a successful Groundbreaking Ceremony for the first foster home located on The Ranch. The Meaney Family also gifted an additional three acres of land adjacent to the existing Ranch.



Groundbreaking Sponsors and land donors prepare to flip the dirt. From left to right: Edmond Long (Chick-fil-A), Kevin Sharp (Chick-fil-A), Javier Huerta (CLK Architects), Will Cocke (General Contractor), Francette Meaney (Land donor), Yessica Buentello (Chick-fil-A), Susan Klaus (Executive Director, Agape Ranch), Paul Rodriguez (Chick-fil-A), Denise Martinek (Chick-fil-A), Mary Meaney (Land Donor), Ryan Dewbre (Dewbre Family).

> THE GROUNDBREAKING PRESENTING SPONSOR



HOUSE SPONSOR

FOUNDATION

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THE RANCH

UPDATES



- First House 90% complete
- Water/sewer access from City of Corpus Christi by May 2022
- Planned Unit Development expected by Spring 2022
- Begin construction on next two homes one for aging out foster youth and one standard-capacity home in 2022



2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

Fundraisers - \$384,142.16 General Support - \$138,502.27 Program Support - \$42,621.36 Grants - \$110,106.92 Interest - \$8,351.35 Other Types of Income - \$128,799.56 Total - \$812,523.62

EXPENDITURE

Programs - \$30,732.85 Operations- \$20,129.67 Fundraiser - \$26,111.86 Contract Services - \$4,679.60 Business Expense - \$5,366.11 Payroll Expenses & Taxes - \$9,971.09 Programs - \$35,015.60 Operations - \$33,620.75 Community Relations - \$6817.00 Total - \$172,444.53

ASSETS

Land, Development, and House - \$331,868.48

DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Ranch Development and House - \$978,000

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022

PROGRAMS

We are excited to see the full return of our programs in 2022 to include Agape Connection. This past year gave us the opportunity to increase awareness of the need in our community to show love and value to vulnerable children in foster care. Leaving a better legacy for the foster children and youth in the Coastal Bend is a big goal, but we serve a big God. Together, we can accomplish the work that God has set before us to do. We are blessed to be able to provide the support services and programs needed for children and families to heal and thrive in the darkest moments of their lives.

Our programs and community engagement have increased and we look forward to continuing that expansion as we extend CarePortal into Kleberg County to broaden our reach to vulnerable children in 2022. We are greatly anticipating the return of Agape Connection. Due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19, the number of children waiting for adoption has dramatically increased.

THE RANCH

The first home on The Ranch will be completed in 2022. Delays in permitting and materials should resolve and we are ready to celebrate with the first foster family as they move in to serve foster children at the Ranch. We are deeply thankful for the support of our friends, community, and foundations for making this vision into a reality. The Ranch will be a place where every child will experience unconditional love and understand his or her value. Pray with us that God will anoint every square inch of The Ranch for His work for the sake of His children.

CALL TO ACTION

PRAY

As we look forward to 2022, will you join us in prayer?

- Join us for weekly prayer on Friday mornings at our offices at 8:15 a.m.
- Completion of first home on The Ranch.
- Raising funds for future homes on the Ranch.
- 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. <u>www.agaperanch.org/donate</u>

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. <u>www.agaperanch.org/legacymaker</u>

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. <u>www.agaperanch.org/volunteer</u>

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.



AGAPE RANCH | 5151 FLYNN PKWY, STE. 106 | CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78411 | 361-742-6330