

Winter  
2008

**Agape**  
International

LOVE IN ACTION

## What's New

### Medical Facility Ready To Go!



Agape has successfully rented and finished the build-out of our new medical facility, located within 15 minutes of all of our current orphanages. The building is currently serving as a temporary school for our children until we locate a new school building, but our hope is to have the hospital running soon. The building is three stories with room for 20 hospital beds. The first floor will deliver care to sick and dying parents, the second floor will provide Lab services and Dental care and the third floor is dedicated care for Agape children.

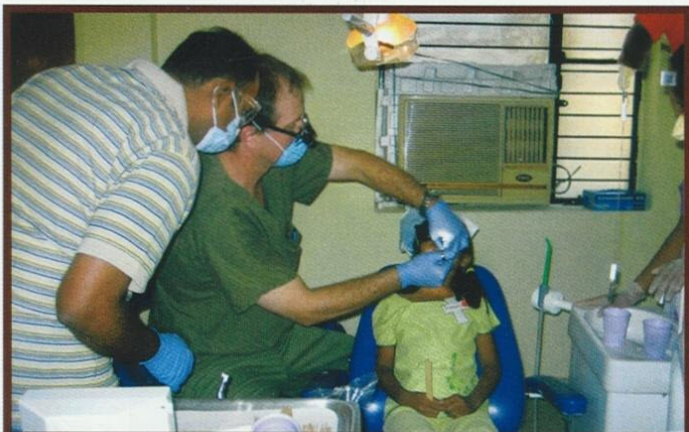
The new facility will allow our children to receive care in a convenient, comfortable and familiar environment versus the government hospital they had been traveling to. We also continue to lose some children who simply come to us too sick to recover. The hospital will allow these children a place to feel safe and loved. We are providing ARV (anti retroviral) medications to all HIV positive children where such treatment is medically appropriate. The new hospital also allows us to administer and monitor these treatments in a cost effective and convenient way.

Because of the low costs in India, we budgeted annual operating costs for the entire facility at \$50,000 a year. This includes hiring a full time doctor and nursing staff. The Edgerley family of Brookline have agreed to fund the first three years of operating expenses associated with the hospital. Thank you Edgerleys!



Paul, Sandy, Hayley, Brian, Matthew and Michael Edgerley.

In November, a team of eleven from Celebration International Church in Wayland traveled to India for two weeks. The team worked in three areas – Ken Brede, an Agape board member and dentist (Needham Laser Dentistry) funded and helped complete the installation of a full dental clinic in our new hospital facility. The dental clinic team included Jamie Marotta, Ken's sister-in-law; Pat Julier, who works at DK Brede Investment Management Co. Inc.; long term volunteer, Anita Kris; and lovely Agape teens Meena & Sumalatha, who learned useful new skills for their future at the clinic.

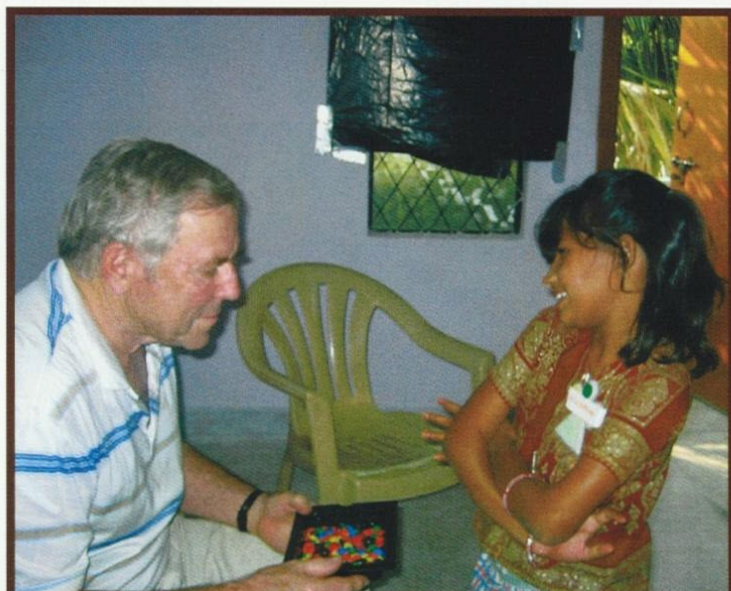


Dr. Ken Brede treats the children in the newly operational Agape Dental Clinic.

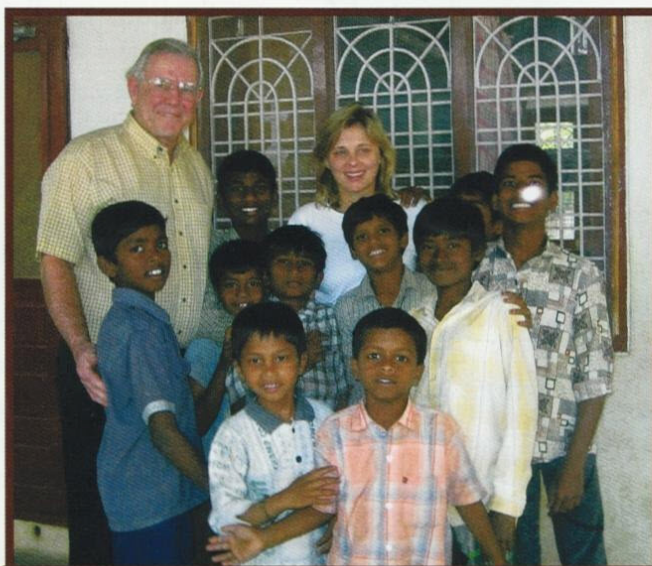


Agape girls do plaque education and screening.

Ken's wife Debra Brede, also an Agape board member, and principal of DKBrede Investment Management Co. Inc. in Needham (Lynne's employer before Agape) and Dick Gorsey, President of Eastern Bearings, Inc., an international company with headquarters in Waltham, MA, led the effort to purchase and install screens on all the orphanage windows. They were surprised by the excitement the kids expressed as they watched them work. The children thanked them over and over. Dick reports that one little 3 ½ year old boy sat on his lap, held his hand, and would not let him go. Dick's eyes fill with tears as he relates his experiences at Agape. Dick sent a letter about his experiences at Agape to his Dartmouth friends, and they responded with checks to sponsor and help these beautiful children.



Dick Gorsey makes new friends (handing out M&M's!)



Dick Gorsey and Debra Brede in front of newly screened windows with some grateful Agape boys!

# CIC Team Cont.

Dick Gorsey's wife, Dr. Ellen Gorsey, and the CIC team: Pastor Joe Sapienza, his daughter Christy Sapienza, Sam Rodriguez, Mary Ann Miller & Ja Firmingham, organized VBS classes and activities for the children including songs, games, crafts, videos, and classes in English as a Second Language. Ellen, who is the Director of the Bedford Learning School, Inc. in MA, marveled at the kid's enthusiasm for everything the team introduced. "These children are so well behaved, so loving and giving. It is obvious that Agape is living up to its name—'unconditional love.'"

At one point, Pastor Joe and the CIC team washed all the children's feet as a gesture of love and service, telling them, "As we have served you, so should you love and serve others." "It was a very powerful experience; I can't even describe how moving it was for all of us, especially the children," commented Ellen.



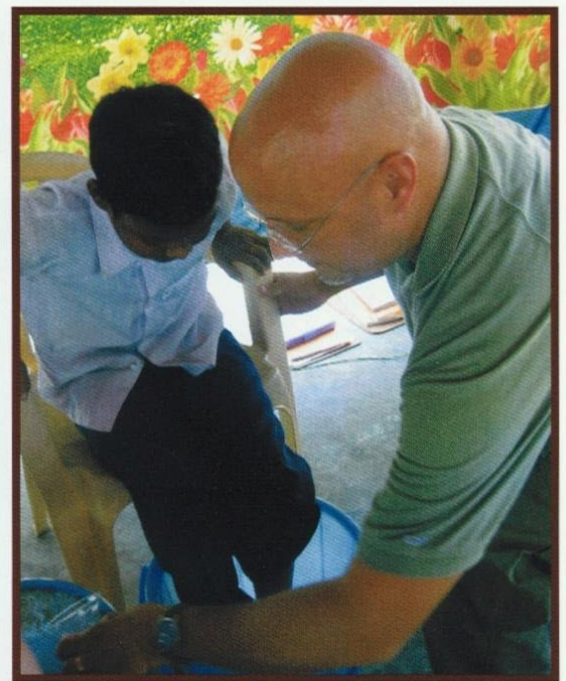
Ellen Gorsey and some of her new friends.



Mary Ann Miller washes feet.



Pastor Joe Sapienza sings to the kids.



Sam Rodriguez washes feet.

# CIC Team Cont.



The Agape kids are thrilled to participate in the CIC program.



What a show the CIC team put on!

The team continues to work for Agape while back in the States. The Bredes and the Gorseys have continued to spread the word about their trip and have generated much needed funding for Agape as a result. Ellen took 10 pictures of children who remained unsponsored – and found sponsors for every single child. She tells everyone about Agape and as a result, even her banker volunteered to help. Ellen was invited to put up a display table through the holiday season at Citizens Bank in Burlington (thank you Shruti Saraf, manager of this branch). Even Ellen and Dick's grandchildren got into the act – both Brittany and Bonnie Filker volunteered their time at the Agape office (Kim's home) helping with administrative work. Ken continues to look for additional dental equipment to send on a planned container shipping to India and to recruit other dentists.



Ellen's Citizen's Bank display.



Bonnie Filker and her friend demonstrate their "box heads" while stuffing Agape envelopes.

# Here In The U.S.

## More Kids Helping Kids



Back row: Maya Ambady, Sadie Zuch, Jacob Zuch  
Front row: Eva Gauferg, Sophia Gauferg, Leena Ambady, Rachel Gauferg

Maya Ambady (age 13) and Leena Ambady (age 10) of Winchester, Massachusetts first heard about Agape International from their mom, Nalini Ambady, a professor of psychology at Tufts University. Learning about the children that Agape serves—children with very few resources, options, or hope—inspired the girls not only to do something themselves, but to mobilize and involve the larger community in the effort.

Instead of simply asking people for money, they decided on a more entrepreneurial (and artistic!) approach. In true community spirit, a local artist who had heard about their aspirations happily donated a large assortment of natural and decorative papers. Maya and Leena then recruited a group of friends and neighbor children together. Sadie Zuch (age 12), Jacob Zuch (age 10), Eva Gauferg (age 10), Sophia Gauferg (age 8), Rachel Gauferg (age 12), joined Leena and Maya to fashion beautiful handmade greeting cards from the donated papers. Matched with envelopes and tied into small bundles with raffia ribbon, these children had created a stationary line ready for sale!

Tapping friends, neighbors, and other local groups, the girls the cards in various venues, donating all proceeds to Agape. The donation brought special satisfaction in two ways: that so many had contributed, and that so many would ultimately be helped though the value they'd created!

# Agape International



We had over 200 attend last year's Fall Dinner and are hoping for even more at this year's 5th Birthday celebration!

## Get Involved

**Join Us For Agape's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration!**

We've outgrown our space at Regis so this year's dinner will be held at the Charter Oak Country Club in Hudson (less than 5 minutes from the Sudbury town line) on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> (the weekend before Thanksgiving). We'll have plenty of fun – including a bigger than ever silent auction featuring items from India, mehendi hand painting, and a delicious Asian themed meal. Please come and help us celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> birthday and the more than 200 children already part of the Agape family.

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