





# Agape Adoptions 2019 Annual Report







## FROM THE DIRECTOR



As I reflect on 2019, I am struck by the growth of our small agency.

We expanded into another state by becoming licensed in Alaska, we hired another social worker in Oregon due to our growth there and we've hired additional office staff to work with families in the adoption process. With each of these milestones, we have been able to provide our professional services to more families and children.

# "Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together." James Cash Penney

This quote describes the Agape Adoption team - our employees and our leadership board. The ways we work collaboratively makes us who we are - better together.

This year, our team continued to educate and prepare families for the wonderful, yet sometimes challenging adoption process. We are honored to walk alongside families who make the decision to adopt internationally, knowing there are children in the world whose only viable option for a family is with an American family. While we know that international adoption is the best option for some children, we are also aware of the complexities that come when a child joins a family through adoption. In full knowledge, that both the family and the child are better together, we are committed to serving families and children through the post placement and post adoption process.

International adoptions have become highly regulated. Even with the challenges that come with additional regulations, we continue to hear from families that they are ready to join in and add a child to their family through adoption. We are honored and delighted when families make the choice to adopt a child in need. As Agape Adoptions celebrates ten years of existence, we are motivated by our firm belief that children are better, together with a family.

I'm very proud to see what our team, together with our Agape Adoptions' families and our leadership board, has been able to accomplish together in 2019!

With gratitude, Myriam Avery, Executive Director



#### FROM THE BOARD

Adoptions was formed that same year, and I was asked to serve as a Board Member. I viewed service on the Board as a small way to say thank you, and also as a way to contribute to the growth of Agape, and through that, help loving families connect with children who needed a permanent family.

Over the past decade, it has been wonderful to witness Agape's growth in the world of international adoptions—first with China, then with adding other countries. Agape has a sterling reputation in the adoption world. The ethics and integrity are beyond reproach, their understanding of the plethora and minutiae of adoption regulations is admirable, and the commitment to doing whatever they can to connect loving families with children who need them never ceases to inspire me.

Likewise, it has been wonderful to serve with other Board members who share Agape's vision of international adoptions. This past year, some of our founding Board members have moved on. In April 2019, our Board bid farewell to our long time Board President Amanda Garrett along with three other long time board members---Kathleen Olsen, Andrea Green, and Dr. Keith Vaughn. Their leadership and support is reflected in Agape's growth. We thank them for their years of service and the vast knowledge they brought to Agape. On the flip side, this year has witnessed the addition of four new Board members with a fifth member likely to be joining us at the beginning of our annual meeting in April.

As Board president, my main mission is to ensure that the Board continues to provide Agape with the support necessary for continued growth and presence in the world of international adoptions.

Ken Levey, J.D., Board President

A special thank you to Amanda Garrett who served as our Board President for 9 years! We are grateful for your vision and guidance to help get Agape Adoptions started and your years of committed service for orphaned children.

AGAPE
ADOPTIONS'
BOARD
MEMBERS

Ken Levey, J.D., Board President Sarra Vaschencko, Vice President Dr. Karen Yee-Lo, Treasurer Susie Kennedy-Gray, Secretary Dr. Sarah Stephenson John Wilson, J.D. Dr. Mimi Tutihasi Cathy McCreary



208
CHILDREN
PLACED IN
ADOPTIVE
FAMILIES



383
HOME
STUDIES
COMPLETED



**33**COUNTRIES
SERVED



1651
FAMILIES
SUPPORTED
POST
ADOPTION

#### **CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF AGAPE ADOPTIONS!**

It is a privilege to look back and reflect on the families who bravely made room in their homes for another child. We also recognize the 200+ children who received the opportunity for a permanent family with unconditional love.



# In 2019, 31 children were matched with their forever families!



**Agape Adoptions** is committed to passionate advocacy for waiting children, comprehensive training for prospective adoptive parents and ongoing support for the whole family.



#### **20 CHILDREN**

Each and every child, regardless of age, gender or special need deserves a loving and permanent family. In 2019, 20 children were adopted from Bulgaria, China and X. The lives of these 20 children have been changed forever because they will now grow-up knowing unconditional love.



#### **72 HOME STUDIES**

Children who join families through adoption deserve those families to be well trained and prepared to meet their needs. In 2019, 72 families received comprehensive training through our rigorous and supportive home study process. This training will enable them to be prepared to parent a child from a hard place.



#### **243 FAMILIES**

Post placement reports serve two main purposes. They keep sending countries informed. They also provide encouragement and support to adoptive families. In 2019, Agape Adoptions completed 243 post placement reports; providing care to adoptive families and fulfilling the obligation to sending countries.

#### SERVING FAMILIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY



In 2019, Agape Adoptions expanded into Alaska by achieving our state licensure. Our team of professionals is now able to complete home studies and post adoption reports in Alaska, Oregon and Washington.

#### **OVERWHELMING GRATITUDE**

We are grateful to our donors who have shown such wonderful support to our agency with their generous giving. Their continued support allows us to provide an increased number of grants to waiting children year after year.

## **CORPORATE DONORS**

Alderbrook

**AMC** 

Bentons

Bowlero Corporation
Bullwinkle's Edmonds

Caffe Ladro

Cheesecake Factory

Children's Museum of Tacoma

Climb Tacoma

Costco

Dave and Busters

**Defy Seattle** 

Disney

Duke's Chowder House

Dutch Bros El Gaucho Flla + Mila

Feld Entertainment

Good Shepherd Veterinary

Hospital Grand Cinema

Great Wolf Lodge

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Hello Cupcake

Heritage Distilling Co.

Ivar's Seafood Jet City Improv

Kroger

Maryhill Winery

Melitta

Museum of Glass

Museum of Pop Culture

Nordic Museum

Northwest Railway Museum Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Oregon Zoo

Pacific Science Center

Panera Bread Pinot's Palette

Portland Children's Museum

Rhein Haus

Seattle Bouldering Project

Seattle Children's Museum

Seattle Chocolate Seattle Mariners Seattle Seahawks

Seattle Shakespeare Company

Seattle Sounders

Seattle Storm
Seattle Symphony
Seattle Theatre Group

Skyriver Front Spokane

Sports Clips

Storyville Coffee

Sunbreak Cafe

Tacoma Art Museum
Tacoma Comedy Club

Tacoma Comedy C Tacoma Rainiers Tacoma Stars Teatro ZinZanni Tell All Signs

Top Pot Donuts

Total Wine and More

Trader Joe's

University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History

Urban Brewing Wanna Cupcake

Willamette Valley Vineyards

Wolf Haven

The fact that he had a grant provided by the Zoe! Fund, helped us say "YES" without hesitation... His life will be changed forever because we had the opportunity to say "YES!"



# INDIVIDUAL DONORS

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Dr. Karen Yee-Lo



# HOPE ALWAYS Lemonade Stand Fundraiser

Each summer, the Fitzgerald family runs a lemonade stand to raise funds for a non-profit organization. In 2019, because of their adoption journey, as a family, they chose to donate their proceeds to the ZOE! Fund!

#### The ZOE! Fund

Donations to the ZOE! Fund allow Agape Adoptions to offer grants for specific waiting children who are on our advocacy list. These grants make the costly adoption process more manageable for families who are ready to welcome these precious children into their homes.

#### CHILDREN ALWAYS COME FIRST

As a licensed Child Placing Agency and 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Agape Adoptions' work is supported solely through funding from adoption fees and the generous support of our donors. We work hard to keep our fees among the lowest in the field and place a high priority on fiscally lean operations so that families and children always come first.

## TOTAL REVENUE: \$831,992

Adoption Activities: \$781,666

Special Events: \$9,135

General Contributions: \$40,531

Zoe! Fund Designated Donations: \$760

## TOTAL EXPENSES: \$682,914

Program Services to Children and Families: \$297,586

Administration & Operations: \$384,036 Fundraising (Special Events): \$1,292

#### STATEMENT OF POSITION

Total Assets: **\$311,229** 

Total Liabilities: \$21,032





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Agape Adoptions is a 501(c)(3) Child Placing Agency and charitable organization in the state of Washington.

All donations are deductible to the fullest extent of the law.