ISSUE 2: VOLUME 7 SEPTEMBER 2011

# **AGAPE INTERNATIONAL**

Loving hands, living hope for AIDS orphans.





A. RAM GOPAL AND
AGAPE'S STUDENTS
TAKE THEIR EDUCATION
VERY SERIOUSLY.

## Agape Students Are Pursuing Their Dreams

It is an exciting season for Shiva Reddy, Shravan, Anil and Ratan (pictured). These four are among nearly a dozen Agape school graduates that we are helping pursue career goals in college.

Ratan is 16 years old and is studying A & T (Accounts & Taxation). After completing the two year junior college he would like to continue on for a Bachelor's of Commerce (BCOM) degree, the equivalent of a business degree. Before coming to Agape four years

ago, he lived with his younger brother in the Old City side of Hyderabad.

Anil is 15 and is studying MLT (Medical Lab Technician). He plans to pursue a BMLT (Bachelors Medical Lab Technician) degree after completing junior college.

"EDUCATION IS THE KEY
TO UNLOCK THE GOLDEN
DOOR OF FREEDOM."
GEORGE WASHINGTON
CARVER

Anil is one of the first six children that joined us in June of 2004, which makes this transition extra special for Agape.

Sukanya is 19 and is also studying MLT, but has not yet decided what career path she'd like to pursue. Sukanya moved to Agape six years ago with her brother Sai. They were living alone in a plastic hut in a Hyderabad slum. Sai is now in 10<sup>th</sup> class at Agape's school, and their tragic story continues to turn to triumph!



AGAPE'S KIDS TAKE DANCING AND PLAYING SERIOUSLY TOO!



SHANKAR HOPES TO BECOME AN ENGINEER.



THE CHILDREN HELP EACH OTHER
TO EXCEL IN THEIR STUDIES.

## MEET OUR AGAPE FAMILY





# M. Mounika

10 YEARS OLD

When Mounika came to Agape in 2006 she was extremely malnourished. This can seriously compromise an HIV positive child's health. With proper nutrition, medical attention, a caring home and occasional sweets, Mounika has grown into a healthy, gentle girl who loves to play waitress.

She enjoys going to the Agape school and has many friends. She is a happy girl who loves to eat and still treasures the teddy bear she received her first Christmas with her new Agape family!

## IN THE U.S.

#### The Annual Walk for Agape

For the sixth consecutive year, many friends of Agape gathered in Metrowest Massachusetts to show their support and raise funds for the work of Agape. The Walk's founder, Mildred Emmons said, "We've raised over \$28,000 for Agape!" That is enough to fund an orphanage plus six classrooms for an entire year. Thanks to everyone who participated in and donated to The Walk. Special thanks to the Vineyard Metrowest for serving up motivational marching music and a hearty meal for all who attended, and to their children who saved up to make a generous donation!

### IN INDIA

School Desks, Bunk Beds, Stationary and Support!

These are some of the things Cognizant Foundation's Hyderabad branch has provided for Agape. Cognizant's Chairman of the Board and long term Agape donor, John Klein said, "Agape is doing a great job providing quality education, health care and homes to India's underprivileged. We are happy to support your efforts." Balaji and Kavitha are Cognizant employees who volunteer their time to coordinate the Foundation's efforts for Agape. They joined John for his second visit to Agape last spring, and assisted as Cognizant blessed each Agape child with a special gift.





TOP PHOTO - MILDRED EMMONS (FRONT ROW RIGHT) AND FRIENDS AT THE 6TH ANNUAL WALK FOR AGAPE.

ABOVE - JOHN KLEIN & PRASHANT.

BELOW - THE BHOGARAJUS IN FRONT OF THE AGAPE SCHOOL WITH VASANTHA (PRINCIPAL - FAR RIGHT) AND STEVENSON (SUPERINTENDANT OF WARDENS - FAR LEFT); AND WITH THE LKG CLASS THEY SPONSOR





#### "Changing the World One Child at a Time."

That was the mission of the Student Council at Countryside School of Barrington, Illinois. Mrs. Purnima Bhogaraju, a Countryside parent, suggested Agape International for the 2010/2011 school project, and soon the goal to sponsor a class at Agape was set. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students worked hard collecting change, hosting a Family Movie Night, and holding a car wash. They surpassed their goal, raising \$2,678!

The Bhogaraju family visited Agape last spring, and graciously matched the Student Council's efforts. Mr. Bhogaraju's employer generously matching the family's contribution. What started out as a school project to sponsor one class has ended up providing funding for three! Our LKG (Lower Kindergarten), 6<sup>th</sup> Telugu medium, 4<sup>th</sup> English medium classes and Agape would like to thank everyone involved for an outstanding mission accomplished!



AGAPE'S 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FALL DINNER & AUCTION SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2011 THE SHERATON - NEEDHAM, MA

### Please Save the Date!

We look forward to seeing you at this year's Annual Dinner! We'll enjoy an update on Agape from Lynne Voggu, a great Indian dance presentation, delicious Asian food and many delights from India on the auction table. It will be a special night at a new location.

Dinner details will follow by mail and are also online at AgapeIntl.org.

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