

Agape



INTERNATIONAL



BURSTING AT THE SEAMS

Lynne founded Agape in 2003 with only six kids living in her home in Hyderabad. Since then, Agape has grown to house more than 215 children.

Yet, as our capacity grows, so do our needs. In Andhra Pradesh alone, 1,500 babies are born every year that are HIV+. Untreated, 80% of them will die before their fifth birthday.

Lynne, together with the board, has been working on a plan to move out of the city into more permanent housing. The plan is to acquire a space where dormitories for our boys and girls can be built, a technical school where HIV+ children can learn without discrimination, all with proper living spaces and amenities.

Unfortunately, land in Hyderabad is extremely expensive. To remain within an hour's drive of the local hospital and have access to discounted care for HIV+ children, our current estimate is that the land would cost approximately three-quarters of a million dollars.

AGAPE'S EDUCATION: A TRIP TO OUR SCHOOL

This past January, long-time Agape supporter Joe Joseph visited our school in Hyderabad and spent almost a week at Agape. Joe came away very impressed with the impact Lynne's work at Agape has on AIDS orphans.

"The children were all cheerful, whether they were attending classes, having their meals in the common eating area or just playing around like kids do all over the world," explained Joseph after visiting Agape's multi-floor school.



WHAT LYNNE AND HER TEAM IN INDIA HAVE ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE RENTED SCHOOL AND HOUSING FACILITIES... IT IS NOTHING SHORT OF IMPRESSIVE.

"Without exception, all the boys and girls were cheerful, high-energy, had a great attitude and were very ambitious," explained Joe after returning to Massachusetts. "[They] are proud of I am amazed at what Lynne and her team in India have accomplished with the rented school and housing facilities... It is nothing short of impressive."

This first batch of Agape children have pioneered the way, showing how to rise from the poorest segments of Indian society to young adults with an English-medium college education. They are now role models for the younger kids at Agape.

We now have close to sixty Agape

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

A SWEET TREAT FOR AGAPE'S CHILDREN



Nikki Sawhney, an Agape donor, child sponsor and long-time volunteer, wanted to give the Agape children a special meal to mark her son's birthday.

Your sponsorship of a child covers the cost of three nutritious meals every day. The daily meals usually consist of rice and vegetables along with chicken once a week and, maybe, a costly off-season fruit or vegetable occasionally.

Nikki wanted to provide ice cream to mark her son's birthday. Now, who doesn't want ice cream? For \$200, she and her family provided a special Saturday meal that made the children life-long fans of Nikki! After that meal Preeti Sayana and Preetha Chally came forward to sponsor a special meal.

At Agape, a simple vegetarian lunch for 200 children comes out to only \$100. A non-vegetarian meal with chicken costs \$165. You can add a desert special treat like ice cream for as little as \$30 keeping your cost to just below \$200.

The next time you receive a bonus, celebrate an anniversary or a milestone birthday, please consider sponsoring a meal for the children at Agape and bringing a smile to their faces. When these children find out they're being treated to a special meal, the joy they feel is indescribable. Just knowing that someone across the globe cares means more than you can ever imagine.

If you are interested in helping feed Agape's children, send an email to joe@agape.org.

AGAPE'S EDUCATION CONT.

high school graduates who go to college. And, there are many more waiting in the wings ready to go to college and become independent, productive human beings fully integrated into society.

To quote our philosophy: we cared for them from cradle to college!

This, however, costs money. We have been lucky so far that Joe and Maria, alongside Dick and Ellen Gorsey, have stepped up to fill this gap in funding. Combined, the two have ended up sponsoring over half of Agape's current college students. Their giving has allowed us to care for our kids from cradle to college.

AGAPE IS IN NEED OF MORE SPACE...FOR A SCHOOL WITH A PLAYGROUND, HOUSING AND RECREATIONAL

As Agape continues to provide excellence in care and education, more people have turned to us for aid.

"Agape is in need of more space," Joe Joseph explained. "More space for a school with a playground, more space for housing the kids and more space for recreational facilities."



WALK FOR LOVE DONORS WALK IN SUPPORT

Long-time Agape supporter & volunteer Liz Ross organizes a walk to raise money for Agape every year. This year, she held her Annual Walk for Agape on April 2nd, 2017.

Originally started and organized for many years by long-time donor Mildred Emmons to help the children of India affected by AIDS, the walk is a chance for Agape donors to come together and show their support for Agape.

This year, thirty Agape supporters, sponsored by generous donors, and armed against the spring wind with sweaters and hats, met at the Village Hall in Framingham on a beautiful, crisp, spring day to walk around Framingham Common in support of our children. After the walk everyone gathered for a lunch that featured an incredible

variety of sausages and meat. Any calories that were lost in the walk were swiftly added at lunch. It was a great way to reconnect with supporters and relax over a leisurely meal.

Liz, together with her trusted band of long-time supporters, raised over \$2,600 in just one morning. Getting this kind of an event organized takes a fair amount of work. Agape wants to thank Liz and everyone involved with the event for their efforts - the money went directly to the kids.

You can organize an event too! A walk, a run, a children's party where cookies are sold to raise money for Agape - these are all ways to help the children. Contact joe@agapeintl.org if you need help with materials or coordination.

A TEA FOR TWO (OR TWENTY)

Agape is supported by its donors. And, to better bring them together, long-time friends of Agape Preeti Sayana and her husband Raj, the only male allowed, helped host a ladies-only tea party for Agape.

Helped by Nikki Sawhney, Preeti, this past May, invited twenty of her lady friends to meet Lynne and learn about the work Agape does. Having worked their way around a table groaning with sandwiches, cookies, cakes and various other calory loaded snacks, they listened to Lynne make a presentation about Agape.

This was the first time most had heard about Lynne's work with AIDS orphans. They were so moved that many of them signed up right there to sponsor a child's school expenses. \$39 per month pays for an English-medium school education - something a poor child in India can only dream off. Very often schools don't allow HIV+ children to attend class - our school is the onlhy chance these kids have of getting an education.

Hosting events for friends and family is a great way to spread the word about Agape. Consider hosting an event of your own to tell your friends about Agape. Word of mouth is the best way of building the trust that allows a friend to become a new donor.

AGAPE INTERNATIONAL

PO Box 51, Ashland MA 01721
(978) 443-3180 - AgapeIntl.org

Lynne Voggue, Executive Director
lynne@agapeintl.org

Joe & Maria Joseph, Directors of U.S Operations
joe@agapeintl.org

FROM CRADLE TO COLLEGE: AGAPE'S GRADUATES



DEEPIKA

Deepika came to Agape in 2007. She was living with her HIV positive brother, Deepak, and her father after the death of her mother. Deepika's father, an alcoholic, left them.

Unable to pay their rent, the landlady turned her and her brother out onto the street. A social worker found Deepika and her brother and brought them to Agape. She recently started college and is ranked third in her class at the end of her very first semester. Deepika hopes to become a doctor once she graduated.

Nagarjuna was brought to us in 2011 with his older brother. They, along with their HIV positive mother, struggled financially and were dependent solely on their elderly



LAVANYA

grandmother. The brothers came to Agape to find a stable environment. Now, Nagajuna has completed high school and started college this past June to study engineering.

Agape's sponsorship program has allowed these students to not only live in a stable environment, but to go on to learn and thrive.

Deepika and Nagarjuna are only a few of the many Agape children that are moving beyond our walls to find higher education. And they are joining other Agape alumnus who have already graduated from local colleges and made lives for themselves.

Jyothi was brought to us in 2007 after her father died from AIDS.



AKASH

Her mother, a laborer, could not feed her and she was brought to Agape to find a home. With her living, schooling and college expenses sponsored by friends of Agape, Henry and Nancy Utter, Jyothi was able to attend a residential program at St. Pious Junior College and graduate with a Bachelor's of Commerce (BCOM) degree and a Master's of Business Administration (MBA).

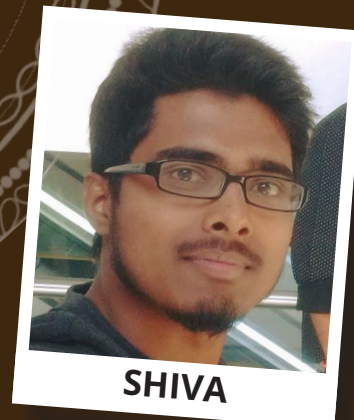
Shravan's parents had passed away from AIDS when he came to Agape. Unable to find support from his living relatives, generous donors paid for his education through high school and his entrance into college. With the help of Agape board member Eleanor and Dick Gorse's sponsorship of his living and college expenses, Shravan completed two years of



DEEPIKA



SUSHMA



SHIVA

& NEW STUDENTS



RAVALI



NAGARJUNA

Junior College and then got into a Chemical Engineering program at the reputed Osmania University. He graduated last year and is now working as a plant safety engineer at a local drug company.

The continued support of our donors helps keep Agape a safe and nurturing place for Indian children to grow and thrive. But supporting a child out of high school and into college not only opens the door for them to find new success in life, but inspires other Agape children to work hard and achieve.

When you sponsor a child, you are sponsoring a life and helping it grow.



MEENA



SHRAVAN



SPONSOR A CHILD SPONSOR A LIFE

Agape's sponsorship program has allowed these students to not only grow in a stable environment, but to learn and thrive.

This year, we are proud to announce that your donations have allowed these children, as well as over sixty others, to go off and attend local Indian universities.

However, more eager and dedicated students want to go on to higher education. Their work and spirit have allowed them to excel in Agape's advanced studies, but the only thing preventing them from moving onward to a better education and employment is our funding restrictions.

Sponsoring a student requires little, and will help secure a chance for these children to grow and prosper.

Child Sponsor

- \$29/month - HIV- Child Sponsor
- \$54/month - HIV+ Child Sponsor

Education Sponsor

- \$39/month - School Expenses
- \$42/month - College Co-Sponsor
- \$125/month - College Sponsor

Visit www.agapeintl.org to see how you can best donate to fund a child's education.



Thursday, October 5, 2017

6:00 - 10:00PM
Cocktails, Appetizers, and Silent Auction
Special Entertainment and Activities
Agape Update
Dinner and Dessert

Holiday Inn Boston - Brookline

1200 Beacon St, Brookline, MA
Complimentary indoor parking is available for the dinner.

Join us for a very special evening!



Please RSVP online with the number of guests at
<http://agapeintl.org/evite/14thannualdinner>
by September 25, 2017.

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
PAID
US Postage
Medfield, MA
Permit No. 22



Agape International,
PO Box 51,
Ashland, MA 01721