Greetings from Nell Benn, Executive Director

A 100% Graduation Rate is Not Enough!

High School graduation rates in the Atlanta area are becoming an area of community focus. Currently only 52% of students receive a diploma.

After graduating high school less than 30% of students in Georgia go on to receive post-secondary education. It is estimated that by 2020 more than 60% of the job market will require post-secondary education.

For students, vocational school or a college degree mean more job stability, opportunities, and on average an increase in yearly pay by $10,000 over their peers with only a high school diploma. Our students should not have to compromise their dreams due to lack of educational opportunity.
Agape has recently hired 2 Post-Secondary Specialists to help high school students meet graduation requirements and achieve their post-graduation plan. For the college-bound the focus is on application requirements, scholarships and preparation to navigate university culture for first generation college students. Non-college bound students are educated on their options such as vocational training and career assessments. Every student deserves the opportunity to work to achieve their dreams.

**Exciting College Announcements**

A big congratulations to Ms. Datesha Russell who has been accepted to Clayton State University and Ms. Knoketta Miles who has been accepted to Spelman College! Both of these bright young ladies have been in the Agape after school programs since elementary school. Knoketta started in 2nd grade and Datesha in 3rd grade. These North Atlanta High School Seniors worked hard in our Ginger Kaney Mentoring Institute and it paid off. We wish these ladies much success in the coming years!

We are so proud of all of our Seniors and we look forward to more exciting announcements and acceptance letters from the Graduating Class of 2013!
Spelling Bee Champion Elizabeth Rios

Agape would like to congratulate our three participants in Bolton Academy’s annual spelling bee. Third graders Elizabeth Rios, her brother David Rios, and Michael Garcia were all excellent competitors.

Elizabeth was this year's champion making this her third consecutive win!

Congrats to all who participated! We look forward to another great showing next year!

Save the date for the 2013 Spring Benefit
Presented by Capital Directions

This year's Spring Benefit will be held on Thursday April 18th at the beautiful Atlanta History Center. We are proud to welcome Ambassador Andrew Young as this year's Keynote speaker!

Tickets are $125 per person purchase tickets here
Corporate and Individual Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Contact Tony Conway, Development Director for more information at tconway@agapecc.org or 404-367-3943

Thank You Morris Brandon Elementary!

Students from Morris Brandon Elementary School recently held a fresh produce drive and visited Agape to take part in the Agape-To-Go program.

The kids helped send fresh produce home to 35 families!

Thanks for all your hard work!

Morris Brandon

click here to host your own Agape-To-Go fresh produce drive!

NCAA Final Four in Atlanta and Agape Community Center partner up! 150 Volunteers needed!

Agape Community Center needs 150 volunteers to help with the NCAA Final Four Shoe and Food Distribution on Thursday April 4. This is the kick-off event for the year's NCAA Final Four weekend. Please consider volunteering. We will be distributing over 1,000 new shoes and over 1,000 boxes of food for local low income families.

View our flyer here
Volunteer orientation begins at 12:30 pm on April 4 and distribution will continue until 7:00 pm. The location of the event is Agape Community Center, 2353 Bolton Road Atlanta, GA 30318.

- **Pre-registration is required!**
- Registration is managed on the NCAA website please register at this link: [http://www.volunteerfinalfouratl.com/](http://www.volunteerfinalfouratl.com/)
- For the event, select April 1-4, Samaritan's Feet/Feed the Hungry, and then select Agape.
- Shoe distribution volunteers will be participating in "ceremonial" foot washing for each recipient.

Thank you for volunteering! It is going to be a great day of service!

For more information contact Jared Sulc at jsulc@agapecc.org

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**Special Thanks...**

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Connolly Family Foundation  
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PNC Bank  
The Realan Foundation  
The Sartain Lanier Family Foundation

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**Fulton County**

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Your generous gifts make the work at Agape possible. Thanks again!