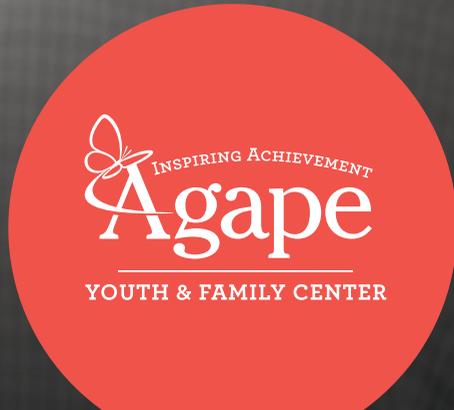


ONE

# Child at a Time

THE CAMPAIGN FOR AGAPE  
YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER



**“What does ‘Agape’ mean? In Greek, it means ‘selfless love.’ The power of love is what Agape has always been about. Eighteen years ago, the tiny but mighty dream of Agape took root and began to grow on Bolton Road. Now, a new dream emerges, energized by the hope of serving more children, families, and seniors in ever more positive, transformative ways. Share the love. Isn’t that what life’s all about?”**

**—THE REV. DR. JOANNA M. ADAMS**

## **BOLTON ROAD, ONE MILE OF HOPE**

The Bolton Road community, a one-mile radius along Bolton Road from Chattahoochee Avenue to Jackson Parkway, is only a few miles from some of Atlanta’s most affluent, intown neighborhoods.

Yet for the children who live here, life is very different.

Concentrated poverty plagues Bolton Road, where all of the families served at

Agape fall below the federal poverty line and underemployment, crime and poor housing define this impoverished community.

While these young people face daunting odds, Agape Youth & Family Center provides hope and a path toward a better tomorrow.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE, ONE CHILD AT A TIME

DUE TO AGAPE'S SAFE HAVEN AND EDUCATIONAL/SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, AGAPE'S UNDERSERVED STUDENTS ARE LESS LIKELY TO:



ENGAGE IN CRIMINAL  
ACTIVITY



BE INVOLVED IN A  
GANG



EXPERIMENT WITH  
DRUG USE



ENGAGE IN BEHAVIOR  
RESULTING IN TEEN  
PREGNANCY

## BARRIERS TO SUCCESS:



**300**  
ATLANTA GIRLS LURED  
INTO SEX TRAFFICKING  
EACH MONTH



**2x**  
AT-RISK CHILDREN ARE  
TWICE AS LIKELY TO  
SKIP SCHOOL



**3x**  
AT-RISK CHILDREN ARE  
THREE TIMES MORE  
LIKELY TO USE DRUGS



**10,322**  
GEORGIA TEEN BIRTHS IN 2013

Founded in 1997 by Trinity Presbyterian Church, Agape Youth & Family Center provides in-school and after-school academic support and family services for children in the Bolton Road community, alongside senior day services.

Of the 4,000 students in Agape's service area, more than 2,000 of them qualify for free or reduced lunch based on family income. In 2014, Atlanta Public Schools' high school graduation rate was 59.1%. Not surprisingly, a student in poverty is more likely to drop out of school than their affluent peers because children who

grow up in poverty encounter more arduous challenges.\*

At the heart of Agape's programs is supporting at-risk students. Academic achievement is an essential first step to breaking the cycle of poverty and preparing students for future life successes.

Young people who do not graduate high school are 10 times more likely to be incarcerated, have significantly lower lifetime incomes and higher unemployment than those who graduate.\*

Without intervention, the children in the Bolton Road community are most likely to enter into the complex maze of intergenerational poverty with limited education and limited opportunity for employment.

With a 100% high school graduation rate, Agape makes a difference **ONE CHILD AT A TIME.**

\*The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Jeopardy: How Third-Grade Reading Skills and Poverty Influence High School Graduation.



## EVOLVING TO SERVE A GROWING NEED

Agape gives families in the Bolton Road community an opportunity to halt the cycle of poverty.

The number of students who qualify for Agape's services by being eligible for the free or reduced lunch program in Atlanta's Public Schools is far greater than Agape's space capacity—over 2,000 children in the Bolton Road community receive free or reduced lunch.

While Agape serves 10% of the eligible population, the influence on these 200 children goes much deeper—trickling down immeasurably to the immediate family, to generations to come and ultimately having the power to transform the trajectory of a family trapped in a cycle of dependency and hopelessness.

Given the comprehensive nature of Agape's support services, there simply is not room for every child in need to matriculate into the Agape program.

Yet Agape wants to do more.

The Agape Facility only has capacity for 50 students, therefore satellite locations at Trinity Presbyterian Church and St. Anne's Episcopal Church are needed to accommodate the 150 children.

With a successful history of evolving incrementally, Agape plans to expand with a new youth and family center—one that would permit an eventual expansion of services to more than double the number of children served today.

As one of the few nonprofits assisting Atlanta Public Schools in serving the academic needs of the Bolton Road area, Agape needs additional program space to enhance its impact on this community.



**2,000**

**CHILDREN IN THE BOLTON ROAD COMMUNITY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH**

**10%**

**OF THE ELIGIBLE POPULATION IS SERVED AT AGAPE**

**25%**

**OF THE ELIGIBLE POPULATION WILL BE SERVED OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS WITH THE NEW FACILITY**

# AGAPE, WHERE POTENTIAL MEETS OPPORTUNITY

## MISSION:

To empower and support underserved families within the Bolton Road community to discover and embrace their full potential.

### PROGRAMS

- After-school for Elementary & Middle
- In-school program for Elementary, Middle and High
- The Ginger Kaney mentoring Institute for High School Students
- Ragtime: A Day Program for Seniors
- GOGIRLGO! & F.I.T. Camp for Boys
- Camp JumpStart
- Reading Readiness Program

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Extreme Bedroom Makeover
- The Great Backpack Give-away
- The Great Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway
- The Agape Holiday Gift Store

“Serving as a homework buddy at Agape is challenging, engaging and rewarding. Matthew, my ‘buddy’ of six years, is currently a fifth grader. He is a bright kid that needed some motivation for his homework and has come a long way! One of the things I enjoy the most is teaching the children how to make rational decisions that will help prepare them for lifetime success.”

-ELSIE HENDERSON, AGAPE VOLUNTEER FOR 10 YEARS

### IMPACT

Agape is fully enrolled and operating at capacity with 200 students in K-12 in after-school programs and 80 students in the summer enrichment programs. The students served by Agape are 77% Hispanic/Latino and 23% African American.

#### AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS



#### SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS



#### IN-SCHOOL SUPPORT



#### TOTAL HOURS PER YEAR PER CHILD

**947**



## A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN A CHILD'S FUTURE

Eighteen years ago, Agape began as a weekly after-school program with 25 elementary, middle and high school children. The program expanded to three times a week in 2003 and five times a week in 2004; and now serves over 200 children, five days a week, at three locations—during the school day and after-school.

On average, students participate in Agape's program for seven years. The length of engagement is growing as

Agape now recruits children as young as Kindergarten. By design, Agape also recruits siblings, knowing that influencing the entire family maximizes the program's impact.

Agape has steadily grown, thanks in large part, to the overwhelming commitment of volunteers who bring this program to life each day.

The lasting effect of Agape is the positive, long-term relationship with an adult—one who can expose that boy or girl to

opportunities beyond Bolton Road and make a difference in how he or she views their place in the world.

**7** AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

**7** AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT

# CHANGING THE COURSE OF CHILDREN'S LIVES

## A DAY WITH AGAPE



Agape offers individualized care that is impactful and ensures that the complete needs of each child are fully met. This is what sets Agape apart from other programs—the depth of work, with not only the child, but the entire student’s family and, in fact, the broader Bolton Road community.

In 2014, over 100 homework buddies and reading buddies participated in the after-school program. Once a child is matched with a buddy, that adult will typically continue to provide academic support throughout the student’s participation with Agape.

“The homework buddies are so much more than a tutor. We care deeply for each child. We ask about their day and, along with the staff at Agape, we support them through whatever challenges they face.” —RUTHANNA BOST

**“Agape has helped me with academics most of all. It has also helped me to become a better person. Agape has taught me more about God. It has given me book-bags and produce. It has helped me to understand life in many ways and to appreciate what I have. My Agape counselors this year have taught me to appreciate, respect, and to be myself. Agape has always been there for me and always will. They have always taught me to have faith in myself no matter what.”**

—AGAPE SIXTH GRADER, 6 YEARS IN THE PROGRAM

## AGAPE IN COMMUNITY, SINCE 2010

From delivering fresh produce and nutrition services to a community that lacks access to healthy food; to offering community educational programs; and providing community emergency assistance; Agape works to ensure the neighborhood is a place where the entire community can succeed and thrive.

In 2014, more than 1,500 backpacks, 1,000 holiday presents and over 500 holiday turkeys and baskets of food were donated to the community through Agape. Since 2010, the Agape Extreme Bedroom Makeover Program has provided bedrooms for more than 110 children.

### DONATED OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS



**6,500**  
BACKPACKS WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES



**4,500**  
HOLIDAY GIFTS



**2,500**  
HOLIDAY TURKEYS & FOOD BASKETS

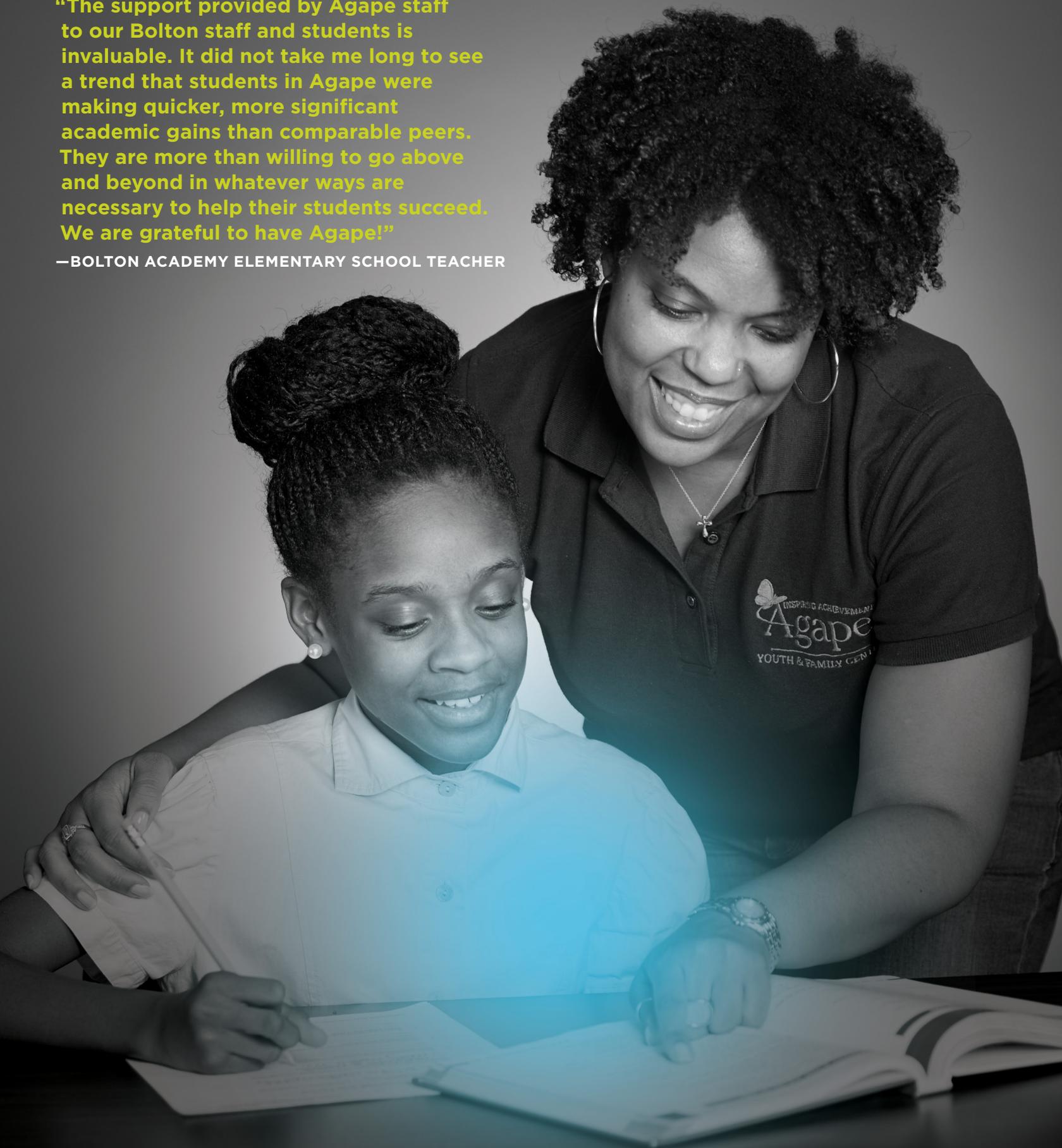
### SINCE 2010



**125**  
BEDS AND BEDROOMS PROVIDED AND TRANSFORMED

**“The support provided by Agape staff to our Bolton staff and students is invaluable. It did not take me long to see a trend that students in Agape were making quicker, more significant academic gains than comparable peers. They are more than willing to go above and beyond in whatever ways are necessary to help their students succeed. We are grateful to have Agape!”**

**—BOLTON ACADEMY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER**



# FOSTERING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

## ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS 2014-2015



**100%**  
ELEMENTARY STUDENTS  
RECEIVED PASSING  
GRADES IN ALL SUBJECTS



**88%**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
STUDENTS RECEIVED  
PASSING GRADES IN  
ALL SUBJECTS



**64%**  
AGAPE STUDENTS  
RECEIVED A 3.0+ GPA



Students that have been enrolled in the program for more than 2 years exhibit greater academic success than those that have been in the program for 2 years or less.

Agape is uniquely embedded in the school system, resulting in a positive impact on educational outcomes—and ultimately helping children beat the odds they face growing up in the Bolton Road community.

As advocates for the children, Agape staff—one person at each elementary and middle school, and one person at the high school—monitor progress to ensure students are meeting all requirements and work with teachers and counselors as liaisons between the school and the family.

# LIFE AFTER AGAPE

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SINCE 2009



**100%**  
AGAPE STUDENTS HAVE  
GRADUATED FROM HIGH  
SCHOOL ON TIME SINCE  
2009



**40%**  
ATTEND COLLEGE



**40%**  
ATTEND VOCATIONAL OR  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE



**20%**  
FULLY EMPLOYED

An emphasis of the Agape high school program is to ensure that each student has a viable plan following graduation. Faced with the prospect of being first generation college students, most Agape students have no idea where to start.

Agape steps in and supports each student through the PSAT, SAT and ACT process; identifies schools, conducts college and university overnight tours; and assists students with applications. If college is not being considered, Agape explores technical or vocational school options or helps the student successfully enter the workforce.



## A COMMUNITY IN NEED

The needs of the Bolton Road community have simply outgrown what Agape can provide at the small, inflexible community center and at satellite locations.

While the Agape Youth & Family Center is already transforming the lives of children who, without Agape, would remain trapped within the confines of poverty, the \$8.5 million campaign will amplify Agape's capacity to impact more children and their families and serve them better in a space thoughtfully-designed for the unique and demanding needs of this intensive program.

The purchase and renovation of a warehouse in the Bolton Road neighborhood will allow Agape to gradually increase enrollment to 500 children over the next 10 years, while also bringing the elementary and middle school after-school programs into one location.

A central location will reduce transportation time, allowing the children to spend more time on their schoolwork and engaging in activities. The new space will permit more robust programing, alongside enhancements that include a commercial kitchen, gymnasium, computer lab, and additional classroom and work areas.



## ENHANCEMENTS IN THE NEW CENTER



The new facility will be a place the kids and their families can call their own. A second home. The current satellite locations are outside the Bolton Road community.



Food, program supplies, reading materials and enrichment materials will no longer need to be transported to and from the satellite locations daily.



The new space will be flexible to the students' academic needs, offering private tutoring and quiet areas more conducive to learning.



The new kitchen will provide adequate space for food preparation and will serve as a venue to provide culinary training for parents.



The new facility will allow for more creative partnership opportunities with the community for programming for children and adults.



The new gym will provide a multi-use space for sports and exercise instilling healthy lifestyles, facilitating large group gatherings and indoor events.

## THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME

While the new center will bring Bolton Road many new resources, from an expansion of the parent education program to increased summer camp offerings, the space will have the most transformative effect on the elementary and middle school students who call it home every weekday afternoon.

In a warm and attractive space they can call their own, children will have access to computers in a new state-of-the-art computer lab and learn in comfortable and functional study areas. For perhaps the first time in their lives, these children

will have a space to take pride in decorating. They will maintain the new center and enjoy ongoing and special enrichment activities that will be offered in the new gymnasium.

The new kitchen will transform the volunteer food program at Agape, offering the benefits of a spacious commercial kitchen.

During the day, the space will continue to be utilized for Bolton Road seniors, with a planned program expansion from 2 to 5 days a week with the average attendance increasing from 35 to 50 seniors a day.

Plans will be developed to bring the community into the space through “Mommy & Me” activities, ESOL classes, parenting classes and job readiness programs through collaboration with other social service providers, such as the Latin American Association and Buckhead Christian Ministries.

## THE NEW AGAPE YOUTH & FAMILY COMMUNITY CENTER

### The 35,000-square-foot building will provide important program enhancements:

- An Environment Conducive to Learning
- Library and lounge space for quiet one-on-one tutoring
- Access to 50 computers in a state-of-the art computer lab
- On-site storage for educational materials
- Multi-purpose classrooms for tutoring and studying
- An Environment Connecting Community
- 5,000-square-foot gymnasium
- 1,800-square-foot multi-purpose dining room also available for community seniors, arts and crafts, games and enrichment
- Community and family living room
- Improved food delivery in a 800-square-foot kitchen and servery
- Offices and open work stations for 30 staff
- Outdoor patio and 48 parking spaces
- Space for neighborhood meetings
- Space for community physical fitness programming for seniors, moms and children

**“The greatest success for Agape comes from students finding their own paths and their own voices, entering post-secondary schools and colleges and achieving dreams they never knew they had.”**

**—NELL BENN, AGAPE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SINCE 2003**



**ONE**  
**Child  
 at a  
 Time**

THE CAMPAIGN FOR AGAPE  
 YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER



YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER

PROPERTY ACQUISITION GROSS PURCHASE PRICE	<b>1,750,000</b>
SITE DEVELOPMENT & RENOVATION	<b>4,950,00</b>
FURNITURE, FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT	<b>325,000</b>
OPERATING RESERVE	<b>500,000</b>
FINANCING COSTS	<b>500,000</b>
PROFESSIONAL & CONTINGENCY COSTS	<b>495,000</b>
<b>FUNDING NEEDED</b>	<b>\$8,520,000</b>

The Agape program has the power to reverse the succession of intergenerational poverty that plagues Bolton Road. The children of this community deserve an opportunity for a brighter future and Agape can help them achieve their better tomorrow. Agape Youth & Family Center is ready to forge ahead into its next chapter and invites your support to change lives together.



The reality is that a child cannot succeed academically when the challenges of home overwhelm his or her school life. While from loving families, many of the Bolton Road parents are simply unable to provide the means for a future beyond their own.

The new community center will broaden Agape's capacity and change the trajectory of more than double the children presently served—from 200 to 500 children by 2026! And a centralized location will allow the volunteers and staff to operate more cohesively as a team.

Children who otherwise may have been left behind have graduated from high school. A new home for Agape will allow many more children and families to articulate their dreams and apply the appropriate resources to achieve their potential.

Agape is now poised to make transformational change for the Bolton Road community. With your investment, Agape will continue to empower children in a new community center—a vibrant, well-loved building that rises to the highest and best purpose for the community.

Nell Benn, AGAPE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Marie Foster, BOARD CHAIR  
Lisa Herron Bankoff, CHAIR-ELECT  
Lesley Carroll, CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIR  
Bonnie Harris, CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIR

**200-500**  
CHILDREN SERVED OVER THE  
NEXT 10 YEARS





# Child at a Time

THE CAMPAIGN FOR AGAPE  
YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER



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Lisa Herron Bankoff, CHAIR-ELECT  
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Molly Battin  
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Kathryn Cook  
Andrew Crews  
Jorge De Castro  
Elizabeth Fairman  
Laurie Hood  
Clara Jefferson  
Fontaine Lee  
Noah Levine  
Gay Love, HONORARY  
Felicia Moore, NON-VOTING  
Melissa Moseley  
Laura O'Neill  
Lucille Perry  
Tom Puricelli  
Stella Ringer  
Shayla Rumely  
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Holly Sims  
Jim Stokes  
Lauri Strauss  
Brandon Van Orden  
Sarah Williams  
Patrice Wright-Lewis  
Nell Benn, AGAPE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Joellyn Bass  
Berney Bridges  
Jack Calhoun  
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Ashley Groome  
Jane Hardesty  
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Chuck Johnston  
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Garry Long  
Bill Montgomery  
Sidney Nurkin  
Jack Sawyer  
Linda Sewell  
Forrest Speed  
Richard Yancey

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Bonnie Harris, CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIR  
Lisa Herron Bankoff  
Ashley Carson  
Marianne Craft  
Cindy Ferguson  
Marie Foster, BOARD CHAIR  
Allen Moseley  
John Oglesby  
Elizabeth Richards

## NON-PROFIT PARTNERS

### • SOCIAL SERVICE PARTNERS

Boy Scouts of America  
Buckhead Christian Ministries  
Carl E. Sanders YMCA  
Girls on the Run  
Latin American Association  
Northwest Branch at Scotts  
Crossing Library  
PowerMyLearning, formerly Computers for Youth  
United States Tennis Association

### • SCHOOLS SERVED

Bolton Academy Elementary School  
E. Rivers Elementary School  
Sutton Middle School  
North Atlanta High School

### • SCHOOL PARTNERS

Atlanta Girls' School  
Pace Academy  
The Lovett School  
The Westminster Schools  
Trinity School

### • CHURCHES

Atlanta Westside Presbyterian Church  
Cathedral of Christ the King  
Collins Memorial United Methodist Church  
Northside Drive Baptist Church  
Northwest Presbyterian Church  
Peachtree Presbyterian Church  
Peachtree Road United Methodist Church  
Saint Anne's Episcopal Church  
Trinity Presbyterian Church

### • OTHER PARTNERS

National Charity League



YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER

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[www.agapeatlanta.org](http://www.agapeatlanta.org)