

The Agape Center NRV

Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill
the law of Christ. ~Galatians 6:2



Directors' Corner

As we enter a new season as directors of Agape Center NRV, we want to express our sincere appreciation to all the wonderful people who make Agape Center NRV the God centered place that it is. We have recently been blessed with new volunteers, new church partners, new business partners, new neighbors, new opportunities, and a new vision for our path forward in this community. We must not, and will not, forget that things happen not in our time, but in God's time... and we will not make haste. So together, let's walk the path that He is laying down before us.

Reg and Diana Crockett

1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God.

If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever.

reg.crockett@agapecenternrv.org

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Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for a way to serve at Agape? Some of our current needs:

~Food pick-up at area grocery stores who donate to Agape.

~Organize a food or diaper drive at a local grocery store, your church, or your place of business!

~Serve on the cleaning crew at our center on Cambria St. in Christiansburg, which will soon be expanding!

~Sort and box food for clients, work in our clothing ministry, or help with furniture distribution.

~Be a mentor. Mentoring and praying with our clients is at the heart of the ministry of Agape. Training is provided!

For more information on volunteering:
info@agapecenternrv.org

Client Testimonial

Hello, my name is Theresa, and I would like to share how coming to the Agape Center for the past two years has transformed my life. Talking with the mentors has been such a benefit and blessing to me. They don't preach at you, but instead they truly just listen and really care. Just having someone to listen to me and my situation has made such a difference in my life. Even though they never pushed religion or God on me, after coming to Agape for a year, I bought my very first Bible and began attending church. I am still reading my Bible today and going to church! I was very sour on the world back then, but now I have hope for myself and the world today!! I have been to other food banks before, but this is so different because this building is so filled with God's love no matter what you have or who you are. I have not just received food and clothing, but I have received blessings for my heart! Thank you, God, for the Agape Center and all the mentors and volunteers who serve You so faithfully!!





The Lord is expanding the reach of The Agape Center in the NRV!

Food Pantry Clients:

September 2021
Households Served 88
Individuals Served 242

September 2024
Households Served 293
Individuals Served 1,128

The Agape Center recently received USDA certification! This will provide new ways to offer more to our clients!

Current Needs of the Food Pantry:

- laundry detergent
- pet food
- toilet paper
- paper towels
- feminine products
- deodorant
- salt/sugar
- canned meat
- chili
- soups
- crackers
- mayo/ketchup
- dry milk
- coffee
- peanut butter

To donate or organize a food/diaper drive:
info@agapecenternrv.org

Agape's Community Garden Takes Root and Grows!

The Community Garden had an explosive 2nd growing season! We are so thankful to all the volunteers and donations that made this year's garden so successful. This season the Community Garden team was able to harvest 239.5 pounds of organic vegetables grown right on the Agape Center NRV's campus!

An element that was added to the Garden this summer was workshops. The June workshop was Gardening 101. Led by Kim Lee, we went over basic gardening skills and container gardening. We were able to put together 6 container plants to be given to our clients. Our July workshop was Flower Arranging. This workshop went over how to properly cut flowers for an arrangement and then how to make a beautiful bouquet for your home. We were able to put together 7 additional bouquets to be given to our clients. Our final workshop was in September where we partnered with Sarah Gibbs of Blue Sky Botanicals in Blacksburg to learn all about herbs. Sarah taught us about different medicinal properties that herbs possess and how to properly store and prepare recipes to use them correctly. Participants were able to taste different herbs and imagine new and different ways to incorporate them into their routines and cooking.

We are continuing to look to the future and hoping to yet again be able to expand the garden. We would love to add an in-ground planting option, additional raised beds, a permanent fence, concrete steps to make the area more accessible, a permanent frost-free water spigot, and a picnic shelter for workshops. Our first step would be to add a permanent water source. We would appreciate your prayers as we expand this part of the ministry of Agape!

The Garden Team is so thankful for the rain we received in July and August as we were able to harvest 176 pounds in August alone. We are even more thankful for all the prayers, love, and support we have received. Please continue to love and pray for the project. We have wrapped up for the 2024 season, but we will be getting together in mid to late March for our first planning and informational meeting. Please be on the lookout after the first of the year for important Community Garden dates for the 2025 Spring season!

Kate, Community Garden Liaison



For more information on how to be involved in Agape's Community Garden:
info@agapecenternrv.org

Thank You For Your Support!

We want to thank our local churches and businesses who partner with The Agape Center NRV:



Bethel Community Church	Hope Valley Church
Blacksburg First Church of God	Midway Community Church
Blacksburg Christian Fellowship	New Life Christian Fellowship
Blue Ridge Church	New River Fellowship
Cambria Baptist Church	NorthStar Church
Cedar Springs Union Church	Providence Presbyterian Church
Christiansburg Baptist Church	The Bridge
Christiansburg Church of the Brethren	The River Anglican Church
Christian Growth Center	Tried Stone Christian Fellowship
Cowboy Church of Pulaski	Trinity Community Church
The Dwelling Place	Valley Bible Church
Christiansburg First Church of God	Victory Restoration Church
	Meridian Bird Removal
	Wellspring Tree Care

Prayer for the Agape Center

Every month a prayer team gathers at the Agape Center to pray for all things related to the ministry, our supporting churches and businesses, and the greater community.

Anyone is welcome to attend! We meet one Monday afternoon every month at 1:30 PM.

If you'd like to attend a meeting or receive monthly prayer updates by email, please contact us. We'd love to have you partner with us in prayer!

info@agapecenternrv.org

Another Brick in the Walk Campaign

Help Pave the Way!

Renovations are underway on the old schoolhouse on Cambria Street! The new facility will allow us to greatly expand our services in the New River Valley. The proceeds of the "Another Brick in the Walk Campaign" will go toward renovating and updating the old school building and adjacent warehouse rooms, new bathrooms, and a new meeting space for our Getting Ahead Training Course. Agape Center's heart is to serve our community by reflecting God's love through giving and acts of service. Our goal is to use the brick walkway as an act of love to our community. We are offering two sizes of bricks for purchase, with many options for graphics and personalized inscriptions! We request that you choose a scripture or word of encouragement to inscribe on your brick. What a wonderful way to greet everyone who comes to The Agape Center NRV!

For more information, follow the link to [agape](https://thatsmybrick.com/agape/) (thatsmybrick.com/agape)!

You can also email us at info@agapecenternrv.org