



AGAPE IN
ACTION 2010

Annual Report



LET US NOT **LOVE** WITH
WORDS OR SPEECH BUT
WITH **ACTIONS** AND IN TRUTH

ELIZA

One afternoon, Eliza found herself walking down one of the many dirt tracks connecting the rural communities scattered throughout Kenya. She was carrying nothing, just the clothes she was wearing. Much worse, however, was the fact that she had nowhere to go. She was one of the unwanted girls of Kenya. Wandering not knowing where she was going, or what the future might hold. There was no one to care for her. No one to show her love. No one to tell her things would be okay. No mother. No father. No grandparents. No friends. No mentors. No brothers. No sisters. Absolutely alone. Little did she know, her journey that afternoon would change her life.

Some time earlier Eliza's mother had died and her father was unable to provide for her. She moved to live with her grandmother, but with time she too was unable to provide for Eliza. So she moved on to a relative, but was considered a burden, an unwelcome guest. There she was made to work fermenting alcohol from early in the morning to late in the night. All she did was work, day in and day out. Her dreams of going to school faded away. Finally, she had had enough. So she left - with nothing, just the clothes on her back. A young, beautiful, teenage girl - unwanted and alone. And so she wandered. As she was walking along that dirt track she spotted a white man in someone's home. She was intrigued and wondered if maybe he was a missionary who could help her. She decided to stay close by as she was too shy and afraid to approach the home. After a few days staying nearby, she mustered the courage to enter the home where she had seen the white man. She had found her new home. The home was that of Justus and

Annette, a local Kenyan couple that for over a decade has been transforming the lives of hundreds of children in the area. And so, Eliza was added to their family.

Agape in Action has been supporting the children under Justus and Annette's care since 2007. Initially through the Child Sponsorship program and now through the Lela Home, the younger of these children are being cared for. The older young people, including Eliza, are residing in Kimbilio (Swahili for 'refuge'), which is an 'extension' to the home of Justus and Annette that was completed by Agape in Action in 2009. There are over 35 young people in Kimbilio; many have similar stories to that of Eliza. From troubled and tragic backgrounds, they have found new lives in this place of refuge. From being unwanted and unloved, they have found a family that truly cares. They are all in school or pursuing trades. Eliza has just completed her tailoring trade.

Justus and Annette encapsulate the very spirit of Agape in Action. For the past decade, this couple have put their love into action on a daily basis by taking in over 100 orphaned and unwanted children and young people. They have given these young people much more than life and opportunity. They have given them a hope.



ABOUT AGAPE IN ACTION



WHO WE ARE

Agape in Action is a registered charity run by volunteers in Canada, the United States and Australia. Agape in Action works closely with other non-governmental organizations and local communities to ensure a coordinated and effective approach to supporting those in need.

Our motivation comes from the love shown to us by the Father and the compassionate example of His Son. Although the needs are enormous, Agape in Action aims to effect change one child at a time, one family at a time. We are committed to nurturing both the physical and emotional needs of children and families living with the effects of poverty, and we are committed to their care for the long term.

WHERE WE WORK

Agape in Action is currently working in Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, India and Sri Lanka.

These countries are battling enormous challenges brought about by corruption, war, drought, food insecurity, infectious diseases and widespread poverty. Yet, in the midst of these troubles, there are many truly remarkable families that have stepped up to care for unwanted and orphaned children in their communities; and it is with these families and communities that Agape in Action partners.

HOW WE WORK

Agape in Action projects are administered through local coordinators. Our local coordinators in Africa and India are highly respected community members who have an impressive track record of helping out those in need, long before Agape in Action started working with them. They are incredibly committed and hard working individuals who have big hearts; it is a privilege for us to be working with them.

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Agape in Action is a registered charity in Canada and the United States. There are two boards of directors and a vast network of volunteers that form the administrative structure of Agape in Action. Being registered, we are accountable to the Canadian and United States governments as well as all our generous supporters throughout the world.

Signed agreements are in place with each local coordinator that clearly outline their roles and responsibilities. All expenditures must be approved and accounted for with original receipts. Almost daily email contact is made with each coordinator and annual (self funded) visits are made to project sites by board members to review and evaluate the work.

WHAT WE DO

- We put our love into action in practical ways that help alleviate the challenges and hardships brought about by extreme poverty.
- We work with children, young people, and communities over the long term to ensure that lasting and positive changes are realized.
- We reach out to both the physical and emotional needs of individuals and families living in poverty.
- We listen, we respect and we value the direction and advice of our local coordinators, community members and other organizations. We realize that we are partners and that true development comes from the collective response of a community.
- We realize that poverty is not just the lack of physical resources and that meaningful assistance requires more than the provision of material goods.
- We constantly review and reflect in an effort to continually improve.
- We seek to inform, engage and involve those who support the work of Agape in Action.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Canadian Board

James Flint
 Deb Flint
 Rick Sales
 Nathan Badger
 Allan Crandlemire

United States Board

Jeff Paggi
 Nissa Paggi
 Brad Foltz
 Jerusha Foltz
 Christian Russell
 Jennifer Russell

KEY ACTIVITIES IN 2010





INTRODUCTION

The power of a collective response is nothing short of amazing. When we first presented the concept of Agape in Action 5 years ago, we had no idea it would develop into what it has become today. The growing network of volunteers across the globe and the generous support from around the world has made a tremendous difference in the lives of 1000's of children, young people, women, widows and families in Africa and India.

Giving is very rewarding, especially when you have confidence that your gift is making a real difference. And that is our commitment to you - unparalleled value for each dollar donated. The directors, volunteers and administrators are all deeply committed to helping those in need and do so without seeking any personal gain. The word 'Agape' is a Greek word that means a 'self-sacrificial and intentional love of service'; it is this 'love' that is the motivating force behind all the activities of Agape in Action. Our in-country Agape in Action coordinators were all selected on the basis of a long standing commitment to caring for those in their communities. The Agape in Action team is committed to building real partnerships to realize real change. We take the time to build relationships, listen to communities members and continually seek direction and counsel from our coordinators.

We are rich in so many ways, and having the opportunity to share with others only serves to increase the richness of the blessings that have been entrusted in our care. As one individual said, "it is one of the most beautiful compensations of life, that no man can sincerely help another without helping himself".

"The generous prosper and are satisfied; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."

Proverbs 11:25

The global recession has increased the financial strain on many families, yet, despite this Agape in Action continued to grow in 2010. Your support has been tremendous. Thank you.

James and Deb Flint, Agape in Action



CHILD & YOUTH SPONSORSHIP

Child sponsorship remains at the heart of Agape in Action and was the program that started this organization. It is a simple yet effective model that engages both the children and sponsors in a long-term relationship. The support focuses on children and families living in extreme poverty (<\$1/day). Child sponsorship is the beginning of a journey of transformation and change, for both child and sponsor alike. It is a long-term investment requiring a long-term commitment.

Child sponsorship offers the opportunity to help children and families with the very basics of this life – food, clothing, clean water, shelter and education. In addition, Agape in Action provides an opportunity to encourage the children and their guardians through letter writing.

Agape in Action offers an opportunity to support the physical, intellectual and emotional development of those living in very trying and challenging circumstances. The aim of the sponsorship program is twofold; to support the acute needs of a family while investing long term in the future of a child. It is our hope that each child will be supported until they are in a position to support themselves, their own families and their communities. The Atashinda program ensures that each child in a sponsored family is able to complete a high school education and/or a trade.

The child sponsorship program is operating in Kenya, India and Sri Lanka.

Picture below: a sponsored family in Kenya, a grandmother, caring for 12 lively children.



The Numbers

620 Children in the regular sponsorship program

150 Young people in the Atashinda sponsorship program

>1400 children overall are benefiting from the sponsorship programs (including siblings)

AGAPE IN ACTION HOMES

India Faith Home – this home, run by a couple in Kadiam India, supports 17 orphaned children. The highlight this year has been a major building project at the home. A new 2-story building had been built which includes a room for the boys, a room for the girls, toilets, a kitchen, an eating area and a fieldworker's room.

Kimbilio – This 'refuge' is home to 40 teenagers who are under the care of a Justus and Annette in Western Kenya. Supported by Agape in Action, these young people are now all in school or learning a trade, eating well, healthy and happy. At the end of 2010, a special 'excursion' was arranged to Lake Victoria; for most of these young people, it was the first time they had ever gone beyond where they could walk.

Kamukuywa Lela Children's Home – This home supports 60 children in Kamukuywa Kenya. These children were initially supported through the Agape in Action sponsorship program while they were living with Justus and Annette in Western Kenya. 'Lela' (caring) home was built and the children now have a roof over their heads, are in school and are being well fed.





Lela Children's Home, Kenya



Faith Home, India

2010 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

MICRO-LOAN 'PILOT' PROGRAMS

While acute care is needed, Agape in Action also recognizes the importance of sustainable development. As the old proverb goes, "give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." In 2010, Agape in Action started a number of sustainability projects including a pilot 'micro-loan' program. While this program has been based on existing micro-loan models, there are significant and fundamental differences in the underlying philosophy of Agape in Action's micro-loan program. The emphasis is not on individuals making money, but on the group as a whole helping each other build successful small businesses so they are able to help others.

Agape in Action has pilot programs running in 4 different areas of Kenya. They are focused on agriculture, tailoring (top left picture) and other small businesses such as computer services (middle left picture), hairdressing, clothing retailer, stationary store, charcoal retailer, etc. There are currently over 50 men and women in receipt

of Agape in Action micro-loans. In 2011, the program will undergo a detailed evaluation. If all goes well, Agape in Action will expand the program and invite supporters to invest in these small businesses. The 'investment' will be paid back into a fund that will then be re-invested in another small business for continued growth.

COASTAL FARMING INITIATIVE

In 2010, as part of the sustainability program, the Coastal Farming Initiative was launched. This project sees farmers receive agricultural training, a micro-loan for seed and fertilizer, and ongoing mentorship by a local farmer (brother). An Agape in Action team visiting in 2010 explored drip irrigation options for farmers in this semi-arid region of Kenya. One system was installed (pictured below) and is being monitored before additional systems or other solutions are put in place.





Benefits of Agape in Action Schools

- Small class sizes to enable individual attention for all students
- Teachers actively seek out children in the community who are not in school and work with parents to ensure the children are regular attendees
- There are no fees of any sort for any child
- The schools provide a caring and supportive environment for children from troubled homes
- High quality education through the employment of motivated and committed teachers (Good Samaritan Academy has already outperformed all the other schools in the area!)
- Nutrition program for every child
- Medical program for every child
- Dental program for every

NURSERY-PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Agape in Action's nursery schools are certainly lively places to visit. There are close to 300 children attending one of the 3 Agape in Action schools.

Before the Agape in Action schools started, children were walking long distances to get to school (in one case, over 10 kms each way). These schools were also over crowded with class sized of 100 students or more. It is not uncommon to visit a school and see several classes meeting under a tree outside as there are not enough class rooms. And inside the classrooms, many students sit on the floors as there is no desk space available.

Agape in Action schools offer a great alternative to the distant and overcrowded schools. The three schools are as follows:

Bukigai Day Nursery School, Uganda – is located in Mt. Elgon,

Uganda. This school supports 90 needy children from the community. In 2010, Agape in Action built a classroom and a kitchen at the school. A full nutrition program is provided to each child.

Good Samaritan Academy Mwando, Kenya – is located in Mwando, in the coastal region of Kenya. The school supports 120 children, most of whom are in the Agape in Action sponsorship program. This school has provided quality education, a feeding program and a medical program.

Godo School of Light Nursery, Kenya – located in Godo which is a very remote area in the coastal region of Kenya, close to the border with Tanzania. This school supports 70 very needy children. The children attending this school would otherwise not be going to school because the next closest school is too far away. It is

Those who bring
sunshine into the
lives of others,
cannot keep it from
themselves

James Barrie



“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, ...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Matthew 25: 35 & 40

indeed a ‘light’ in the area. In 2010 a new classroom was built by Agape in Action. There has also been some tree planting, the installation of rain-water tanks and the introduction of the nutrition drink program at the Godo school in 2010.

NUTRITION DRINK PROGRAM

This program is based on the nutrition drink program that has been successfully running in India for many years. All the ingredients for the drink were

the visit of an Agape in Action team in January 2010. The formula for the drink was developed by a nutritionist and is jam packed with protein and vitamins, tastes great and costs just a few cents! Agape in Action started the nutrition drink program in two very poor areas in Kenya with high rates of malnutrition. The children have the drink 3 times per week. Before the program was started, an Agape in Action medical team took measurements (picture bottom left) and assessed all the children to establish a ‘baseline’. Since the introduction of the nutrition drink, the children have undergone regular assessments to monitor the impact of the drink. The results so far are very encouraging.



WIDOW'S PROGRAM

The widow's program was started in 2010. It supports 14 widows who were living in extreme poverty. Without enough to eat, no support systems or families helping them, life was very difficult for these widows. Many were also battling their own health challenges. Two women oversee the administration of this program and the willing volunteers are the teenage girls residing in Kimbilio. The girls make regular visits to the widows taking care packages with food and other items provided by Agape in Action on a regular basis. During their visits, the girls share a cup of tea and help out around the widows' home doing chores such as collecting water, digging in the garden and such like.

HYGIENE KIT & MOSQUITO NET PROGRAM

In 2010 Agape in Action were able to supply 7 communities with insecticide treated mosquito nets (picture top right). Malaria remains the number one killer of children in Africa.

In addition, Agape in Action was able to supply 2 communities with hygiene kits (picture middle left). These simple kits help to prevent infectious disease and ensure the children stay healthy. Studies have shown that improved hygiene and sanitation can reduce diarrheal disease (the 4th biggest killer in the world) by up to 50%.



“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress.”

James 1:27

WATER PROGRAM

In 2010, Agape in Action installed sixteen 10,000L rainwater tanks at Agape in Action project sites. These rainwater tanks will provide clean drinking water for adults and children in areas with water shortage or poor water quality. Again, research has shown that rainwater tanks in semi-arid regions of developing countries can reduce diarrheal disease by 50% and save lives.

Much work was done on researching small water pans to assist in growing crops, the digging of small water dams will commence in 2011.



MOZAMBIQUE MAIZE MILL

This was a new project in 2010. The project involved providing a grant and micro-loan to set up a maize (corn) mill in a refugee camp in Mozambique to employ 15 men and women. The workers are all refugees who fled the war in the Congo and have been settled in Mozambique on a long term/permanent basis. The mill has been a success so far and is generating a good income that is allowing these men and women support their own families.



A good deed is never lost: he who sows courtesy reaps friendship; and he who plants kindness gathers love



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS IN 2010

REGISTRATION IN THE UNITED STATES

We were happy to become officially registered as a charity in the USA to enable tax benefits for our USA sponsors. Thanks to the board of directors in the USA for their willingness to be a part of this work.

TOUR D'AGAPE FUNDRAISERS

2010 saw the expansion of the Tour D'Agape bike ride fundraisers. For the third year the event was held in Ontario Canada. It expanded to a very successful event in Adelaide Australia and Brisbane Australia.

Let's see who else can pick up on this idea in 2011...

Thanks to all those who have organized these fundraisers and also to all those who fundraise in other ways for Agape in Action (such as 'cafe agape', pictured immediately below) – every bit counts!



TEAM VISITS, 2010

January a team went to Kenya tasked with the ominous job of updating all the photographs of sponsored children for their sponsors. During this trip there was the distribution of hygiene kits, mosquito nets and school materials. There was also carpentry work done, installation of rainwater tanks and guttering and tree planting.

July a medical team went to Kenya (photographs next page). A series of large 'picture' flip charts were produced based on the book 'Where There Is No Doctor'. These were used to train adults and young people on basic health issues relevant to the different areas such as hand washing, HIV/AIDS prevention, malaria prevention, prevention of bilharzia, good nutrition, etc. This team also attended to sick children and provided medical check-ups for women in the widows program.

September a small team visited Kenya to launch the Coastal Farming Initiative, an agricultural program designed to support farmers in the coastal region of Kenya. The team researched different drip irrigation and water options for the farmers, which will be implemented in 2011.

Throughout 2010 there have been a steady stream of volunteers assisting at the Faith Home in India. They have helped out at the home as well as the school. The volunteers room will be completed in early 2011 making the field visits a little more comfortable.

In addition, there have been individuals from the AiNA board visit India, Kenya and Uganda this year both individually and with teams.

All travel expenses and internal costs are covered by the fieldworkers.





**“We get to make a living;
We give to make a life”** Winston Churchill

Sammy &
Christine

Justus &
Annette

Joseph &
Mary

Andrew &
Shuba



COORDINATORS AND VOLUNTEERS

The work of Agape in Action would not be possible without the genuine commitment, hard work and faithful oversight of the local Agape in Action representatives in Kenya, Uganda and India. These men and women (pictured above) were already putting their love into action well before Agape in Action partnered with them; they have dedicated their lives to helping the needy in their communities. They, in turn, have an army of volunteers who help them deliver the support on the ground. We will be featuring some of our remarkable Agape in

Action representatives in our 2011 newsletters.

Also, there are lots of coordinators and volunteers in Australia, Canada and the United States who have taken on the ever growing workload of Agape in Action. One reason we have been able to keep administrative expenses so low, while maintaining a very high level of accountability, is because of this network of volunteers who donate their time to do the 'grunt work' required to run Agape in Action.



I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do or any kindness I can show to my fellow human being let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Stephen Grellet, 1773-1855



FINANCIALS

Our goal is to ensure that every gift provided makes lasting change in the life of those who need it the most. We have been blessed with another year of generous giving. Thank you.

We continue to be moved by the selfless decisions people make when giving to the work of Agape in Action and the positive and faithful attitude in which people give.

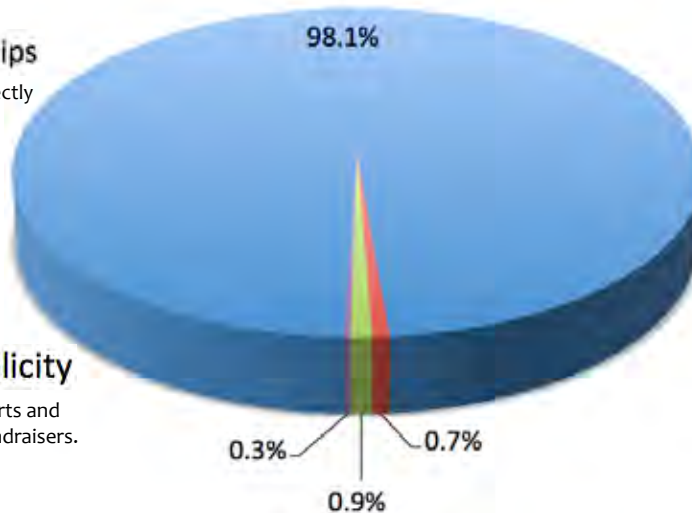
Overall Expenditure 2010

Projects & Sponsorships

these are all the activities that directly benefit those in need.

Fundraising & Publicity

this includes mail-outs, DVDs, t-shirts and misc expenses associated with fundraisers.



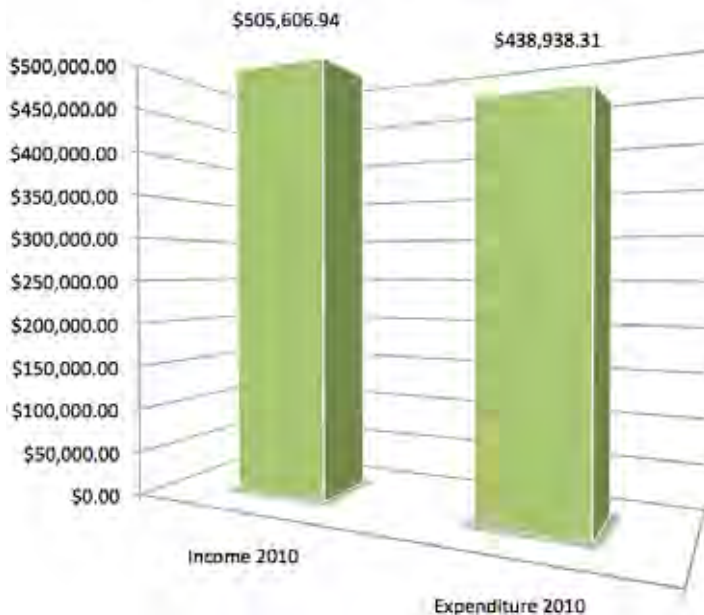
Postage

letters to and from sponsors are an integral part of the sponsorship program; all our mail is registered to ensure it arrives at its intended destination. When you see a child or young person read a letter from his or her sponsor, you'll know how important this part of the program is.

Running Costs/Administration

these costs include things such as bank fees and general office supplies and equipment. Agape in Action is committed to keeping these costs to an absolute minimum.

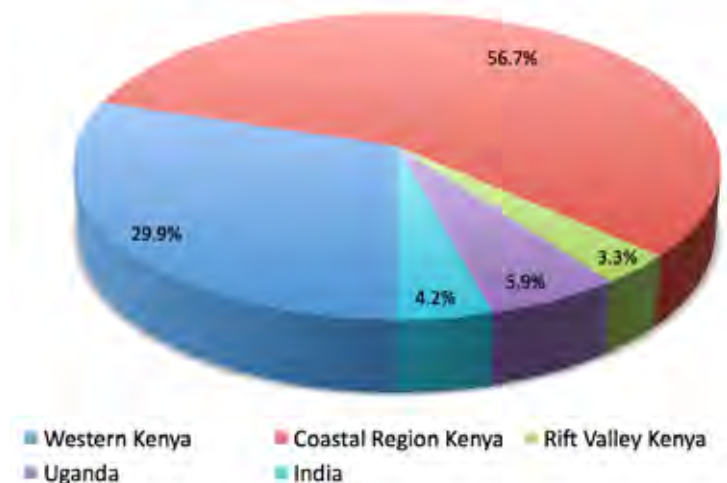
2010 Income vs. Expenditure



*the difference between income and expenditure is due to:

- (a) end of year donations that will be spent in 2011
- (b) sponsorship paid several months in advance
- (c) earmarked donations for 2011 projects

Child Sponsorships by Region



“He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, And He will pay back what he has given.” Proverbs 19:17



AGAPE IN ACTION

Life. Opportunity. Hope.



Canada, UK, NZ and elsewhere



United States



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HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Sponsor/Donate

Whether it is a child, youth or project sponsorship, it is the key to making lasting change in the lives of our families living in poverty. General donations are used to support other programs outside of sponsorship such as water, buildings, emergency medical needs etc. Want to support the work? Visit www.agapeinaction.com or contact us.

Fundraise/Volunteer

Want to organize a fundraiser? We have lots of ideas. Want to share your ideas? We are happy to hear them.

All photographs in this report are of adults and children associated with Agape in Action; thanks to the field workers who have taken and provided these photographs to Agape in Action.