

the heartbeat of agape

Summer 2022



Director Highlights

By: Leanna Simpson, Executive Director

Right now, I am sitting at my desk reflecting on our world and everything that is going on around us.

I think about the girl and her boyfriend down the hall from me right now. They are talking with our clinic nurse about their desire to have an abortion. I am thinking about the gal who is waiting in the lobby. I am thinking about the three young women who came in yesterday, with hard situations and conflicted hearts. Abortion is often on their minds.

I close my door. I pray. My nurse sometimes feels very alone in the counseling room. The client feels alone. BUT... the One who we serve goes before us and behind us. He is the God who sees, and He has brought every one of these women, men, and unborn babies through our doors for an appointment.... a Divine appointment.

Over these last months... I get texts, emails, and calls from people asking if we have a plan if Iowa becomes a non-abortion state.

Our plan is to keep doing what we have always done and stay true and resolute to the mission of Agape:

Agape Pregnancy Resource Center demonstrates the Truth and unconditional love of Jesus in a safe and confidential environment to women, men, and families experiencing pregnancy or the effects of sexual relationships.

Unplanned pregnancies will always be a part of a fallen and broken world. High-risk pregnancies, infant mortality, neglect, and abuse will escalate in a world where an unplanned pregnancy must continue.

So today and tomorrow and the day after that, we will do what Jesus did.

Jesus met the people where they were. He met the confused. He met the broken. He met the sinner. He met the angry. He met the woman caught in adultery. He met each of them at their place of need. So will we. We will meet them at their unplanned pregnancy.

In closing, I want to leave you with this "takeaway truth." Agape is a place that advocates for the unborn, the moms, the dads, and the family unit! We serve all life that walks through our doors to find a future of hope and purpose.

Until the day that the unborn aren't at risk, a pregnancy is always within the confines of marriage, a woman is always safe, a man lives into being the father of his children, and the family is not broken apart by the effects of sin.... that will be the day when a place like Agape will not be needed or exist.

So...until the day of Jesus' return, you will find Agape over here serving for the cause of Christ.

Sponsorship Program | Be a part of saving lives.

Join us! There are so many ways your family or business can be involved in your community. Becoming an Agape Sponsor is one of the best ways you can support our ministry. Sponsors not only make our annual banquet event possible but also help to meet the daily operational needs of the center.

Every day, Agape provides services completely free to our community. These services are fully-funded by caring neighbors like you!

It's an exciting time to minister to these young women and their families as God is clearly bringing more people to our doors and softening hearts towards the gospel message. But to continue to provide sonograms, medical tests, and education to everyone God is leading to Agape, the need for increased financial support has never been higher.

That's where your family or business can play an important role! Your fully tax-deductible sponsorship shows your commitment to helping families not just survive but thrive. As some of

our most generous community leaders, your sponsorship will be recognized at the banquet (or you can remain anonymous) and on the Agape website. Many of our business partners find this a great way to show their support to the Christian community in Central Iowa.

Some of our sponsors have shared with us that they love knowing they are taking a strong stand to support life. Others indicate how important it is to take care of new moms and help them get the training and support they need to break cycles of abuse and poverty. Still others are excited to support our expanded social services team. Some supporters want to help immigrant and non-English speaking women and their families.

Whatever your "why", sponsorship might be right for you or your business!

For more information on how you can become a sponsor, contact Leanna Simpson at director@agapedsm.com or by phone at 515.238.7343.



Christina

Team Member Spotlight

Christina joined the Agape team in the spring of 2020 as the Resource Center manager. Since joining the team, she has expanded her role, the services offered, and doubled the clients served

under the education and resource department. She has recently accepted the position of Director of Family & Community Services, as well as completed her Masters in Crisis Counseling. She is very excited to live into her new position and expanded role through community engagement, partnerships, and client services.

Christina's personal passion for working with people in unplanned pregnancies and in vulnerable places comes from both a life-calling and personal experience. Christina was the daughter of a

teenage unplanned pregnancy. In a town and a time where pregnancy centers were not available, Christina's mom found support through Catholic adoption services and chose to place Christina for adoption. Christina knows first-hand how it feels to be "out of place" and "misunderstood". She also knows what it is like to fall in love, marry, and have children as a teenager herself. Her greatest journey began when her and her husband found Christ. Finding Christ began the ultimate healing and identity that she had always searched for and desired.

Christina's story allows her to extend mercy, grace, compassion, and understanding to the clients' serves in real and tangible ways.

To learn more about Christina's story, offer her words of encouragement, or take a tour of the resource center, reach out to Christina today at resourceserve@agapedsm.com.

Since 1985, Agape has served Des Moines and the surrounding areas by offering education and quality services to help our clients make informed decisions.

Donations can be mailed to:

2550 Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy.
 Des Moines, IA 50310

515.255.0243

www.agapedsm.com/involved
 accounts@agapedsm.com

Follow us

   @agapeDSM

Hours:

Monday - Wednesday

9:00am-4:00pm

Thursdays

9:00am-7:00pm

Closed Friday-Sunday

Services offered at no charge:

- Pregnancy Tests
- Ultrasounds
- STD Tests
- Individual & Group Classes
- Parenting Support Services
- Life Coaching
- Telehealth
- Tiny Hands Boutique
- Helping Hands Pantry
- Post Abortive Healing

Ways to get involved:

- Financial Support
- Host a Pantry Drive
- Planned Giving
- Volunteer
- Service Projects

Did You Know?

We have a new volunteer coordinator! Email her today to get involved: volunteercoordinator@agapedsm.com.

Donor Spotlight: Garlich Family

“About seven years ago, my wife and I first heard about Agape through a friend. We immediately became inspired and moved by the work that is being done at Agape Pregnancy Resource Center. Agape’s mission felt personal.



Dave and Carrie Garlich and their family

Around twenty-two years ago, my wife and I found ourselves faced with an unplanned pregnancy and an uncertain relationship. We know how hard it can be to face the “unplanned” alone. Since that time, we have witnessed firsthand how Christ can redeem and restore all the broken pieces of any story and how He can make beauty from the ashes.

After reading Agape’s mission statement, we felt called to get involved through giving. We support Agape because they not only meet people at their physical need but offer the solution for their spiritual need through a relationship with Jesus Christ.”

My Agape Story: Stassia

Stassia walked into Agape in 2019 when she was pregnant with her first child. She knew that she needed to learn more about being a mom and taking care of her baby. She was so excited to hear that the classes were going to offer credits to earn supplies, furniture, car seats, and the necessities to be prepared for her new baby.



Stassia

The team at Agape has seen Stassia’s unwavering desire to continue to learn and grow in her parenting skills and her walk with the Lord. She would tell you that life still hasn’t been easy, but Stassia has been faithful, resolute, determined, and dedicated to her family and her personal growth through all the obstacles that she and her husband have faced.



Visit the “Our Stories” section of our website to read the rest of Stassia’s inspiring story & learn how you can offer her some encouragement.

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PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER

2550 Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy.
Des Moines, IA 50310

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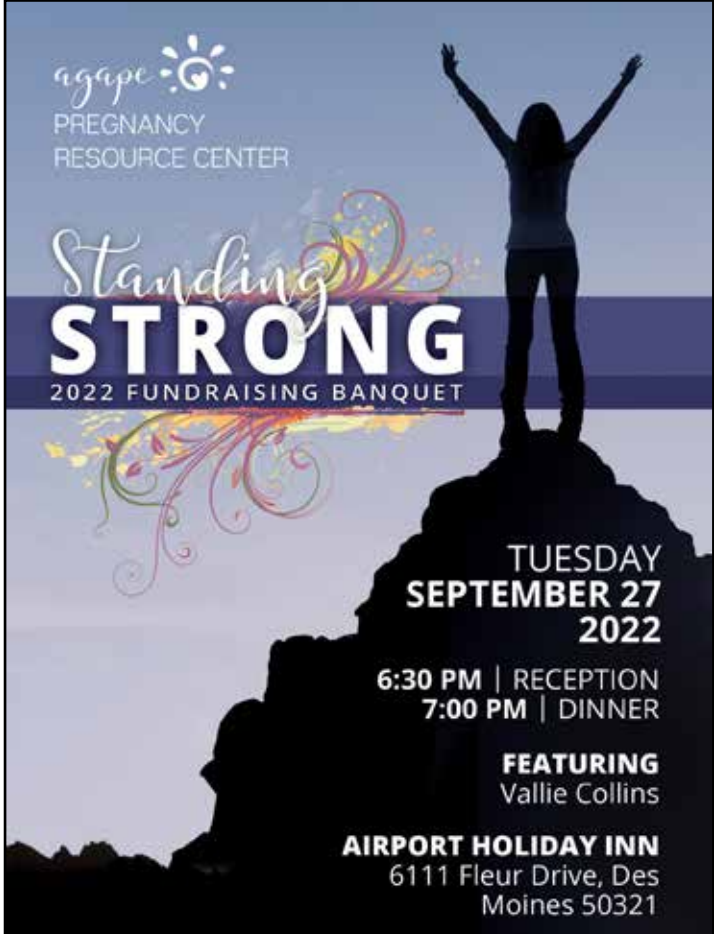
- Be a part of saving lives with our Sponsorship Program.
- My Agape Story: Stassia
- Donor Spotlight:
Dave and Carrie Garlich
- Board of Directors Corner


Board of Directors Corner



Doug Ohlfest

Doug Ohlfest has been a part of the ministry of Agape since the fall of 2019 and joined the Board of Directors in the spring of 2020. He is passionate about service and has used his abilities and talents at Agape in the areas of construction, project management, and renovations. As you walk through both buildings, Doug's handiwork can be noted in so many ways: a new door, a kitchen renovation, a flooring repair, a plumbing problem....no matter the task, he has been willing and able to help. Even though his work is often behind the scenes, there is not a person who does not benefit in tangible ways from the work of his servant's heart. He says that he is just excited to be able to help in any way that he can. One of his foremost passions is being part of a ministry that supports the stance for life and offers love, grace, and the ultimate Truth of the gospel to those that are served every single day.



agape 
PREGNANCY
RESOURCE CENTER

Standing
STRONG
2022 FUNDRAISING BANQUET

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 27
2022

6:30 PM | RECEPTION
7:00 PM | DINNER

FEATURING
Vallie Collins

AIRPORT HOLIDAY INN
6111 Fleur Drive, Des
Moines 50321