Community Involvement with Agape
How we are working together to love and serve

Last year, we learned how much better it is to work with the community to provide a much more enriched, beneficial, and effective program. While the Agape Service Project never operated alone, it is in this past year that we truly began branching out. This summer some of the groups we are working together with include:

- Bellingham, Ferndale, and Lynden Food Banks along with Northwest Harvest, Kids Need More Books, Christ the King Church, Comunidad Católica Restauración, Johnson Team Real Estate, and the Third Christian Reformed Church to provide a more expansive and well rounded distribution;
- Northwest Educational Service District’s Migrant Out-of-School Health and Education Program and the Lynden School District to support their programs in getting a summer school and meals program out at the camps;
- Bellingham Country Gardens, Growing Veterans, Brekenridge Blueberries, and more farms to create a space of solidarity and empathy for our youth and volunteers to understand what it might be like to labor on a farm each day;
- And of course Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Church of the Assumption, and WWU Catholic Newman Center who have been working with us to physically host our program as well as provide invaluable support and connections such as volunteers and donations.

In addition this Spring we were invited to meet with certain non profits, businesses, and governmental organizations to discuss and put into action pertinent ways in which we as a Whatcom County community can better serve immigrants, migrant workers, and undocumented peoples who are living in our area. This includes working to ensure families have access to quality food and health care as well as legal services and protection especially for people who are undocumented. It has been incredible to see this community truly come together to protect the human dignity of every person in our midst. We are excited to continue these conversations, and hope they spread state, country, and world wide as every person has god given human dignity that deserves respect.

Ways to for You to Get Involved
How you can support the Agape Service Project

Agape is a community effort, not just locally but everywhere. We may be run by our student staff and myself, but we thrive through your community support!

Ways to get involved:
- **Prayer Team**— Join our prayer team! We send out a quarterly email with a list of prayer requests related to various parts of our programming. We ask that you keep these intentions in mind as you pray for us over the following months.
- **Support Team**— Join our monthly or annual support team! Your financial donations truly do make our program possible. Know that your support makes our vision of teaching youth from all over the state and beyond about Christ’s love, service, and social action, and serving and building community with our migrant brothers and sisters a reality.
- **Donate to our Food Bank**— We are collecting non-perishable food, baby items, toys, and clothing for our summer food bank. You can bring your donation to Sacred Heart parish in Bellingham, or with your local parish youth group coming to Agape.
- **Volunteer**— For those who live locally, we are starting for the first time a summer volunteer program! Join us by helping prepare each week for the program by preparing meals and activities for the youth groups, or help us with shopping and set up of our food bank distribution.
- **Advisory Committee**— We are excited to announce for the first time ever, our Agape Advisory Committee! We are looking for committed friends of Agape to be on a committee which will work with the Director to advise Agape in areas such as program development, vision planning, and accountability. Members do not need to be local as they will meet monthly through an online platform. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity!

We would love for you to share your Time, Talent, or Treasure with us! To get involved with us in any of the above mentioned ways, please contact us at agape@wwunewman.com or visit our website at wwunewman.com/Get-Involved. Thank you so much if you are already supporting Agape!

Peace and blessings,
- Melina Sergent, Agape Director

Summer Updates
How you can stay in the know this summer

Follow us on our blog, Instagram, and Facebook as we will post daily updates such as reflections from the youth and staff about all we are doing this summer... and lots of pictures!

- **Blog**: agapeserviceproject.blogspot.com
- **IG**: agape.service.project
- **FB**: facebook.com/agapeserviceproject

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