

Summer Programs Start Soon

SUPERSTARS Ages 6-11

May 27 - May 30
and
August 4 - August 8

GOGIRLSGO! Girls Ages 9-15

June 2 - July 25

FIT Camp Boys Ages 12-15

June 2 - July 25

All summer programs
operate 5 days a
week, 7 hours each

AGAPE Launches PAC

In Spring 2008, AGAPE implemented the Parent Action Committee, a support group for single mothers in the community. The overall goal of PAC is to provide a support network for parents who meet monthly to participate in trainings and workshops on such topics such as nutrition, housing, and health-care to name a few. The group also goes on outings throughout the year, which are being designated as Parents Night Out! For additional information, please contact Tonja Davis, Community Organizer at 404 355-1877.

Nell Benn Celebrates Fifth Anniversary



Nell Benn

In January of this year, Nell Benn celebrated her fifth anniversary as Executive Director of the AGAPE Community Center.

In honor of the occasion, the Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church established a resolution honoring her five years of outstanding leadership. The resolution was presented to Nell by Scott Black Johnston, Senior Minister of Trinity, at the January AGAPE Board meeting. Allen Moseley and John Shepard of Trinity's Mission Council were on hand for the presentation.

Allen Moseley, AGAPE's Board Chair in 2003, has commented that the search committee interviewed many qualified candidates for the Executive position but when the group met Nell there was an enthusiastic consensus that she was the right person to lead AGAPE's future. Nell often expresses her gratitude to Allen for "giving her a chance" as she had experience as a Program Director, and this was her first opportunity to prove herself as an Executive Director – and that she has done!

Under Nell's leadership, the AGAPE Center staff has expanded from 3 to include 15 highly qualified, committed staff members, with the recent addition of a Director of Volunteer Services and Partnerships and a Youth Program Coordinator..

The After-School program has grown from tutoring 35 students one day per week to include 100 students, and the middle and high school student are involved in AGAPE enrichment activities five days per week. The summer programs provide physical fitness and life-enrichment experience for ninety students five days per week for eight weeks. The Ginger Kaney Mentoring Institute has been initiated to assist high school students in planning for "life after high school." In June, AGAPE will expand summer programming and tutoring to students in nearby Moore's Mill Apartment complex. An evening enrichment program for AGAPE parents began in March.

The senior program continues to enhance the lives of thirty-five to forty seniors two days per week and the AGAPE Senior Gospel Choir has recently performed at several events in the Atlanta area.

The volunteer base has expanded in order to meet the growing needs created by new, dynamic programs. Committed and creative volunteers now hail from many churches, schools and colleges in Atlanta.

Nell is a strong, professional administrator and her work and her tireless efforts have accounted for a 267% increase in AGAPE's operating budget with a diversity of funding sources while effectively raising AGAPE's visibility in the Bolton community and the city.

Nell is known for her pleasant demeanor, integrity and her commitment to AGAPE's mission. She truly embodies the spirit of AGAPE through her love and caring for each individual and for the mission of the Center.

Thank you, Nell, for five incredibly successful years of service to AGAPE and the Bolton Road Community.