



Transforming Lives in the Caribbean for Over 40 Years

WRITTEN BY MONICA M. MEDINA & PHOTOS PROVIDED BY AGAPE FLIGHTS
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Flying through our blue skies with soaring compassion is a team of dedicated individuals ready to assist others in need. With a commitment to service, integrity, excellence, and shared purpose, Agape Flights works alongside affiliated partners living and working in Haiti, the Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic to meet their ministry and community needs, and also delivers humanitarian aid into Cuba as regulations allow. Each week, the support of devoted volunteers and spirited staff propels the organization's principal mission to deliver cargo, mail, humanitarian aid, and, most importantly, hope.

Describing the mission at Agape Flights, CEO Allen Speer says, "We believe we have been called upon to supply the needs of missionaries throughout the Caribbean. Essentially, it's about so much more than meeting their needs; it's about spreading the joy and love of Christ." Established in 1980, this 501(c)(3) nonprofit has been graced by the continued generosity from loyal donors who make it possible to cover operating

ORGANIZATIONS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

expenses (\$1.6 million) and serve hundreds of missionaries in any given year. "Aviation is expensive, but if you ask any missionary, they will tell you it's priceless."

Two amazing aircraft—the primary plane, the Embraer 110 or "Bandit," and secondary plane, a Piper PA 31-350, also referred to as "The Chieftain"—enabled the group to complete over 75 flights last year. Typically, 60 mission flights a year carry 32,000 mail items and 200,000 pounds of supplies. In times of disaster relief, such as the 2021 Haiti Earthquake response, the number of flights and amount of supplies increases dramatically.



and Hurricanes Matthew (2016), Maria (2017), Irma (2017), Dorian (2019), and Iota/Eta (2020). While each year may pose different challenges, Agape continues to utilize its networks, aircrafts, and generous community, switching into "disaster relief mode" when these islands most seek help and healing.

At the local level, volunteers essentially assist with tasks each day such as shopping, cargo preparation, reception, maintenance, and construction. In a single year, over 11,000 hours are contributed by these individuals. Allen tells us, "Our volunteers do significant work here and enable Agape affiliates to keep pressing on in their service. Whether for their ministry or community outreach, we want to help them share God's love in word and deed."

Within this usual cargo, Allen explains, "We deliver textbooks, school supplies, medications, and filtration systems that help decrease problems surrounding polluted water." Through the nonprofit's affiliated missionaries, resources for agriculture, education, construction as well as health and dental care are also distributed. "Agape is a Greek word meaning 'God's unconditional love,'" tells Allen, "and we want to partner with other missionaries to share that love."

Upholding 41 years of impressive service, Agape Flights also demonstrates grace by assisting in major relief efforts in the Caribbean. Networking with churches, donors, organizations, volunteers, and missionaries to gather medical supplies, tools, food, and simple comforts, this warmhearted team consistently shares love, compassion, and hope to families and individuals whose resources have become scarce. Throughout its years in service, Agape Flights has supplied aid following several natural catastrophes such as the Haiti earthquakes (2010 and 2021)

See for yourself what strength in numbers looks like by calling today and learning more about how to become part of this team's purpose.

For more information about this advertorial, call 941.488.0990 or log on to AgapeFlights.com. Located at 100 Airport Avenue E., Agape Flights is open for guests and interested volunteers 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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