



To the Attorney General, Governor, and people of Missouri,

The We Warned Them Campaign, undersigned individuals, and undersigned organizations call upon the state of Missouri to take immediate measures to shut down Agape Boarding School, due to Agape's use of unsafe and controversial practices on youth in their current care. We further urge the state of Missouri to take immediate action by addressing the civil rights violations and seeking justice for the countless young people who have been victimized by Agape Boarding School.

Since its opening in the 1990's, Agape Boarding School has had overwhelming reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Numerous students have come forward, alleging abuse. Based on interviews conducted by the Missouri Highway Patrol (1) to determine whether abuses had occurred at Agape, the Attorney General recommended pursuing 66 charges against about 20 defendants (2) who were former staff. Of those 66 charges recommended by the Attorney General's office, Cedar County Prosecutor Ty Gaither, who has a personal connection to Agape's staff (3), chose to pursue only 13 of the charges (4), and only charges which were misdemeanors or Class E felonies (5). The fact that there is a personal connection between the County Prosecutor and Agape Boarding School staff undermines the possibility of satisfactory completion of the case (6).

Survivors of Agape have spoken of alleged maltreatment on various platforms. These allegations include:

- Improper restraints on children lasting for more than 2 hours (7)
- Abuse towards autistic teens (there is currently an active court case) (8)
- A survivor of Agape school alleges that he personally witnessed 50-100 youth engage in a range of behaviors from attempted suicide to self harm. Examples of this include: drinking bottles of poisonous liquid, hangings, and youth throwing themselves down flights of stairs. Despite protocols, these incidents were never reported (9).
- As of late of 2021, 5 Agape Boarding School workers were charged with assault (10).

The recent reports of abuse prove that youth are fundamentally unsafe in Agape's care. The only way to stop this cycle of abuse is for Missouri to take further legislative action (11) to establish preventative measures while also ensuring there are no potential loopholes. We are urging you to take immediate action by shutting down Agape Boarding School, and to support the introduction of legislative action to prevent organizations like Agape from abusing more youth. The survivor reports of physical and sexual assault, high rates of c-PTSD, and suicide rates amongst survivors are all calls of urgency (12).

The We Warned Them Campaign looks forward to your public response.

In Solidarity,

The We Warned Them Campaign

CHILD  
USAdvocacy

NYRA  
NATIONAL  
YOUTH RIGHTS  
ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL  
JUVENILE JUSTICE  
NETWORK



CHILD  
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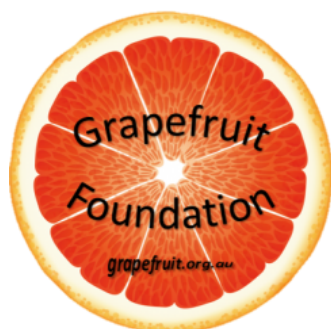
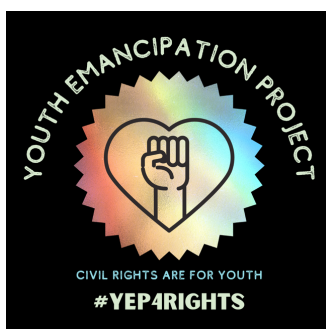
HENRY M.  MARTIN  
FOR CONGRESS



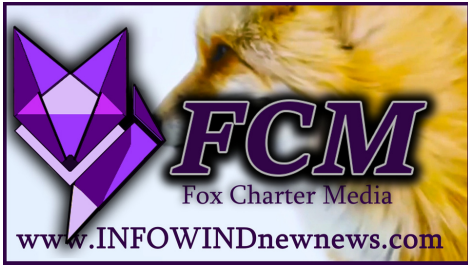
**ALLIANCE  
AGAINST**

**SECLUSION  
&  
RESTRAINT**

**TROUBLED TEEN  
ADVOCATE GROUP**



UNSILENCED  
UNSILENCED  
UNSILENCED  
UNSILENCED  
UNSILENCED



**INTEGRITY**  
**AMERICAS**



|                       |                      |                       |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Adib Murshed          | Paige Hansen         | Kim Renninger         |
| Kangombe Linda        | Dominique Gansanti   | Maggie Gelen          |
| Dhanvi Shah,          | Amanda Simmons       | Amanda Smith          |
| Lillian Speerbrecker  | Simone Hirsekorn     | Sophia                |
| Georgia Kane          | Kyra Frankowski      | Lisbeth Olmos         |
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| Jasmyne Arianna       | Jack Holtzman        | Amber Duke            |
| Barbara Foreman       | Buddy Nahay          | Sarah Spence          |
| Robert Bucklin        | Makayla Blake        | Brooke Armstrong      |
| Hope Savage           | Janja Lalich         | Ann Dunning           |
| Chelsea Maldonado     | Nathan Schleiden     | Mary Melgaard         |
| Caitlin Whitaker      | Neva Mielke          | Susan M. Sowell       |
| Katherine McNamara    | Shayna Persky        | David Heinemann       |
| Kaylynn Rohde         | Jenna Bulis          | Stefan Cepko          |
| Sherry Hill           | Beth Matenaer        | Christine Andrew      |
| Sasha Oates           | Casey Akerhielm      | Emma Nelson           |
| Babbie Holden         | Nicholas Findley     | Hilary Joann Sweeney  |
| Zoe Bentley           | James Angst          | Shari                 |
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| Carl George           | Josh Cook            | Amanda Clidence       |
| Karli Robertson       | Brett Harper         | Tay Arrow             |
| Scott Chisholm        | Kayla Muzquiz        | Allen Knoll           |
| Dan Sawyer            | Jenna Roberson       | Michael Wilson        |
| Amy Axtell            | James Matthew Lawson | Lee Veltman           |
| Joshua Lobsien        | Kenneth Edmonds      | Jack Holtzman         |
| Steven Arviso         | Kayla Riley          | Chelsea Filer         |
| Ralph Barry Iken      | Becky Gillespie      | Patricia Mayer        |
| Julie Olayiwola       | Marci A. Hamilton    | G. George             |
| Aaron Rother          | Kathryn Robb         | Judith Krueger        |
| Kelly Heise           | James Griffey        | Stephanie Chen        |
| Mark Torrender        | Carl George          | Pastor James Clidence |
| Brett Seago           | Austin Kmiotek       | Derrick Nowlin-Chair  |
| Timothy Wilson-Foster | Colton Schrag        | Terra Vance           |
| Megan Matters         | Kristin Wallace      | Elisa Hunt            |
| Amiee Yelinek         | Caroline Cole        | Jay Shirley           |

Kim Renninger

Veronica McShane

Addison Torrence

Yolanda Evans

Henry Martin

Kimberly Maxwell

Sue Gibson

Idzie Desmarais

Ronnie Ward

R Chapman

Russel Kogan

Rebecca Burkhardt

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