

## Monitronics Provides \$20,000 in Equipment and Monitoring to Agape Center

It's hard to imagine anyone who appreciates the value of security more than women who are trying to escape crisis situations such as domestic violence, homelessness, poverty, or even human trafficking. But once they display the remarkable strength required to change their lives, it's still hard to shake the fear that the past will return to threaten them.



That's why Monitronics recently joined forces with the local philanthropic group [Women With Promise](#), which focuses on women's issues and provides valuable resources and mentoring. This year, the group is working with [Agape Resource and Assistance Center](#) in Plano, Texas, which helps women who are trying to establish a new beginning in their lives.

Monitronics HR Director Stacy Young spearheaded an effort in which the company provided \$20,000 in home and business security equipment and free monitoring services for Agape. The equipment was installed on June 20 in Agape's transitional housing units, as well as the organization's main office.

Agape (pronounced "ah-GAH-pay") provides critical transitional housing and life-skills education to help women escape homelessness, abuse, poverty, and other negative situations. While Agape is not an emergency shelter, it does offer a safe and encouraging environment for single women, single mothers and children. Agape's transitional housing can provide a home for up to 12 months during the transitional period, with three or four women in each facility.

When Young joined a longtime friend, Women With Promise founder Leisha Cadwallader, at a meeting earlier this year, she heard a presentation by Agape Executive Director Janet Collinsworth.

"Agape mentioned the security of the women, because many of them are coming out of violent situations," she said. "Even while they're living in the transitional residences, they are still very concerned about their safety. I thought 'This is what Monitronics is about'!"

Young pitched the idea to Monitronics executives, who quickly agreed to take part. The result for Monitronics is the satisfaction of giving back to the community and playing an important role in safety for women and children. In return, Agape residents have gained an invaluable sense of security.

“Agape is elated because it has helped the women feel safer and it gives them a peace of mind which is so important in their situations,” she said.

Collinsworth agreed with that assessment, particularly when it comes to peace of mind. She noted that one of the residents had to have three locks between the outside and her bed just to be able to sleep peacefully.

“The result has been amazing,” she said. “It’s a priceless gift for women who are trying so hard to overcome living each day in fear. All of our women are healing from various degrees of abuse, and living in a safe place is a critical part of their healing.”

Bruce Mungiguerra, senior vice president of Operations for Monitronics, said that the company was “humbled” by the chance to make a difference in the lives of women who are facing challenges head-on.

“These women often face unimaginable struggles on a daily basis,” he said. “We are grateful for the opportunity to bring safety and security back to their lives, along with our generous industry partners, [Alarm.com](#) and [Nortek](#), who joined us in donating some of the products we installed.”