



# 2009 Annual Report

HONOR THE PAST • EMPOWER THE PRESENT • ENSURE THE FUTURE



# About FAR

The Fund for Armenian Relief (FAR) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring the past, empowering the present, and ensuring the future for people in Armenia, Karabagh, and Javakhk.

Founded by the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern) in response to the 1988 earthquake,

FAR was reorganized into a private voluntary organization and recognized as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit by the IRS in March 1993.

Since then, FAR has implemented more than 225 relief, social, educational, and cultural projects valued at over \$285 million.

Through the support of our global partners and our worldwide Armenian family, FAR gives hope, guidance, and opportunity to those in need, empowering them to create a better present and helping them pave the way to a stronger future.

## PARTNERS IN CHANGE

Armenia Water Management Corporation  
Armenian Apostolic Church  
Bay Area Friends of Armenia (BAFA) USA  
The Cafesjian Family Foundation  
Child Protection Network of Armenia  
Constantinople Armenians Relief Society (CARS) USA  
Enterprise Incubator Foundation Armenia  
Every Child UK  
Gap International, Inc.  
GTech Committee  
Hagop S. Touloukian Charitable Fund USA  
Harold & Josephine Gulamerian Foundation  
IRD - International Relief and Development USA

Jerair Nishanian Foundation USA  
Jinishian Memorial Foundation USA  
Kevork & Sirvart Karamanuk Foundation  
John Ohannes Ounjian Foundation  
UNICEF  
United Armenian Fund (UAF) USA  
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
Women's Guild Central Council (WGCC) of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern)  
Ministries, local governments, universities, health establishments, orphanages in Armenia

## Message from the President and Chairman IN PARTNERSHIP WE CONTINUE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ARMENIA

Dear Friends,

Twenty years. Thinking back, we can clearly remember hearing the shocking news on that cold December day when the earth shook our motherland to its core. Buildings lay in shambles. Homes were demolished and thousands killed. Even those of us who weren't there to witness the scene in Spitak and Gyumri could easily imagine its horror.

In the wake of this crisis, dedicated members of our Armenian family stepped forward and rushed to the scene to help. What they saw was eye opening — an Armenia that needed not only immediate humanitarian relief, but also an Armenia that would need long-term support after the news media left and the world turned its attention to the next crisis. Their ideas became the roots of FAR, which grew into the strong organization we celebrate.

For us, it is amazing to reflect upon the past two decades over which FAR has become one of the most respected development organizations in Armenia, from our earliest aid projects to the multi-faceted development organization we have today.

We have faced challenges over the past two decades, most recently with the

global financial crisis, which is still very much a reality. Yet, through the dedication of our supporters and the resilience and innovative nature of our leadership and staff, FAR has continued to carry out its programs, improve, and even save lives. Our dedication does not waver and every member of our FAR family makes this possible.

With continued support,  
FAR will expand opportunities  
and give the Armenian  
people the tools they need  
for the next generation  
and beyond.

Over the past year, we saw how FAR's programs continued to impact our beneficiaries. One need only to look at Mariam, Tatevik, and Anna Haji-Poghosyans, three sisters who, after escaping an abusive home life, were raised in an orphanage. Today, FAR's Gulamerian Scholarship Program makes it possible for each of these intelligent women to attend college and pursue worthwhile careers.

Eduard Bayramyan was the very first FAR Mathevosian scholar to graduate medical school. The scholarship made it possible for him to study medicine and this new doctor will now return to his hometown of Dilijan to practice, where he will serve a vulnerable population who are in dire need of a qualified physician and decent medical care.

These stories are a testament to how FAR's programs invest in Armenia's most valuable resource — its people. Making such a worthwhile contribution is what has continued to strengthen our motherland since FAR's founding two decades ago. Enabling our fellow Armenians to get an education or pursue valuable scientific research, helping to bolster economic development, or meeting the crucial immediate needs for those who struggle to make ends meet every day, contribute to a stronger Armenia.

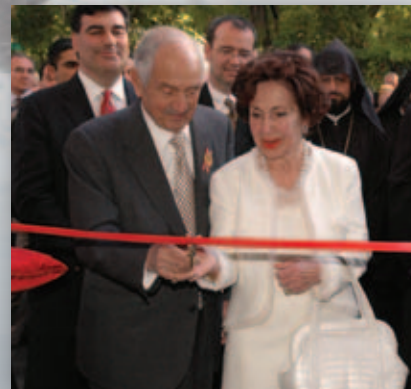
Together, we will stand firm to strengthen FAR's mission and vision to empower our Armenian brothers and sisters as we continue ahead into the future.

*Abp. K. Barsamian*  
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, President

*Randy Sapah-Gulian*  
Randy Sapah-Gulian, Chairman



# In Memoriam: **KEVORK S. HOVNANIAN** (1923-2009)



It would be impossible to pay proper tribute to Mr. Hovnanian in a few words, or to convey what he has meant to the Armenian Church, to the Republic of Armenia, and to the cause of our people. FAR was blessed to have his active presence, his wise counsel, and his bold, imaginative leadership as part of its daily experience for many years.

Mr. Hovnanian was indeed unique. He answered the call to help following one of Armenia's greatest crises. He has contributed his knowledge, fortune, and passion to the Armenian people.

With his business acumen and devotion to the community firmly established, the Armenian people called on Mr. Hovnanian following the devastating earthquake of 1988. It would have been easy for him to have sent a donation and considered his obligation fulfilled. He did not need to get further involved. His response did not end once the

tremors subsided, however.

He was the guiding force behind the founding of the Fund for Armenian Relief (FAR), one of the most important and visible relief agencies empowering the people of Armenia. He led the organization from its roots in providing relief to offering empowerment, hope, and opportunity.

Today FAR touches the lives of thousands of vulnerable Armenians through programs that provide food and medical care to the elderly; care and guidance to needy children; education and support for Armenia's students, doctors and scientists; and build roads, hospitals, and water pipelines to improve the nation's infrastructure. It was through Mr. Hovnanian's leadership that FAR has accomplished so much.

His legacy will live with FAR forever.





Through economic and social development, we change communities...



#### ARMENIAN NATIONAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION FUND (ANSEF)

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Scientific research in Armenia is typically under funded and as a result,



many researchers must look outside their nation's borders to find means of support for their work. ANSEF combats this drain by providing annual \$5,000 research grants to a select number of Armenia's top scientists whose findings contribute to innovation.

Through ANSEF, these scientists can pursue cutting edge work in the natural and social sciences, engineering, and the humanities, and further contribute to the growth of a knowledge-based economy. ANSEF is the springboard from which they can launch larger projects and ultimately bridge the path to greater scientific achievements.

Molecular physicist Astghik Shahkhatuni first received an ANSEF grant in 2006, which enabled her to pursue valuable research. In 2009, she was able to continue her work again with the help of ANSEF. With a meager salary of \$170 a month, she is normally unable to



sustain her research. But this year's grant enables her to not only continue her lab work, but also enrich it through travel, international symposiums, and meetings with foreign colleagues about advancements in the field.

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Twenty-five grants were awarded in 2009 for research in physics, radio physics, biology, chemistry, astronomy, mechanics, zoology, ecology, and art. Renowned Cornell University astrophysicist and ANSEF Chairman



Dr. Yervant Terzian led the selection and review process.

The program was generously funded by loyal supporter Armen Avaneessians and The Avaneessians Family Foundation, as well as Dr. Sarkis Kechejian; Jerry Turpanjian and The Turpanjian Family Foundation; Louise Simone Manoogian and the Manoogian Simone Foundation; and United Armenian Charities.

#### GYUMRI INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTER (GTECH)

Ever since the earthquake devastated Gyumri in 1988, the city has struggled with high unemployment, poverty, and the flight of many Armenians to larger cities and other countries seeking opportunity for a better livelihood.

In 2009, the Armenian government proposed an ambitious plan to transform



Gyumri into a center for the information technology industry. The Gyumri Information Technology Center (GTECH) — the only educational institution in the area that provides training in IT technology — is playing a major role in this endeavor. New IT businesses as well as centers for computers and Internet service have opened up in this area, bringing new opportunity and growth. GTECH is giving Armenians the skills they need to take part.

FAR, in partnership with several technology companies, created GTECH in 2005 with the goal of broadening the skills of young Armenians and expanding opportunities in the region. GTECH also helps to bolster development by providing an incubator space for new start up IT businesses.

Changes were brought to GTECH during 2009. The program continues to grow;

30 more students accepted than the previous year. GTECH also moved to a new building to accommodate this growing influx, and the program was even opened up to a select number of high school students who met the admission requirements. In addition, courses in web design, critical thinking, and technology training were added to the curriculum.

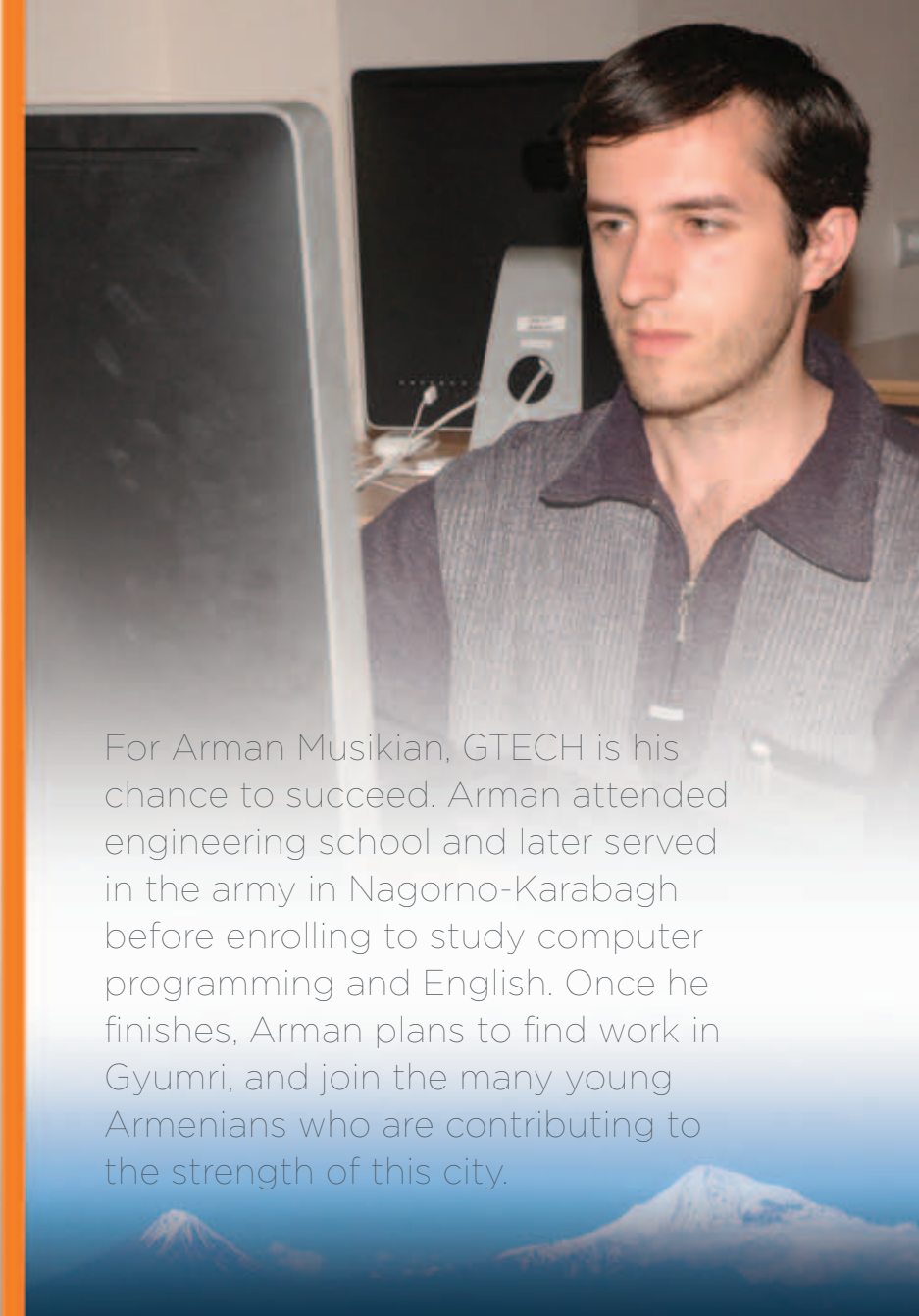
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All of this is made possible through the generous support of Arsen Tashjian, Sandra Leitner, SarkissianMason, Dr. Sarkis Kechejian, Sarkisian Family Foundation, Gulamerian Foundation, Touloukian Foundation, United Armenian Charities, and the GTECH Young Professional Committee. GTECH also received the gift of several new laboratories in 2009, including a new classroom donated by the wife of well-known Armenian John Shoukri Baran, and the SUN laboratory, whose equipment gives students the opportunity to learn new operating systems.

For Gyumri native, Arman Musikian, GTECH is his chance to succeed. Arman attended engineering school and later served in the army in Nagorno-Karabagh before enrolling to study computer programming and English. Once he finishes, Arman plans to find work in Gyumri, and join the many young

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With child protection, we create better futures...



## FAR HOMELESS CHILDREN'S CENTER

Through its Children's Support Foundation Center (CSFC), FAR has helped children and families better their lives since 2000. The only institution in Armenia that performs crisis intervention and rehabilitation, the center is also a national, full-service facility where children and their families can access shelter, counseling, outreach services, healthcare, and legal assistance.

The toll-free Child Protection Hotline and Helpline, which is funded by Jinishian Memorial Foundation and ArmenTel CJSC, enables children in crisis to reach out to the center for support 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Many children in Armenia face hardships like abuse and neglect,

which deprive them of a happy and fulfilling childhood. With child trafficking and poverty reportedly on the rise and the government's strategy to improve child protection lagging, CSFC's services are more needed than ever.

In 2009, the center served nearly 1,000 vulnerable children who sought short-term shelter and rehabilitation services, outreach services like social and psychological counseling, and skills training.

Support from the Mardigian Foundation, United Armenian Charities, Arsen Tashjian, and the Dadourian Family enabled FAR to continue its work in this area.

CSFC launched the Safe Cell Phone and Internet program, at the end of 2009 which aims to raise awareness on the hazards of cyber threats to

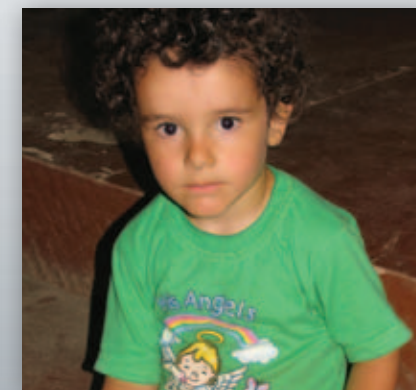
children. Further planning and implementation of the project will continue during 2010.

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The center's second annual "Best for Our Children" event, held in honor of International Children's Rights Protection Day, was another 2009 success. Thousands of people, including Armenia's First Lady Rita Sargsyan, attended the day of celebration at Haghtanak (Victory) Park in Yerevan.

In 2005, FAR partnered with the Armenian government to develop the nation's first foster care program. Today CSFC continues to work with UNICEF-Armenia to make sure children end up in good homes instead of state institutions. Many children who come to the center for help are eventually taken in by foster parents.

CSFC leads efforts to improve the National Child Protection System, which utilizes all available resources for children in need and lobbies to improve the government's existing child protection system. In this vein, CSFC continually builds the capacity of child and family care specialists, raises awareness for lobbying on behalf of children's rights and family protection, develops social technologies aimed to identify children and families at-risk, and expands and strengthens the nation's foster care system.



Seventeen-year-old Gayane sought refuge at the center after she fled her home where members of her own family had abused her for years. While it took great courage to leave, the risk was worth it. Gayane now has shelter at the center. She receives continual support from a psychologist, and is taking steps toward a productive adult life.

Then there is 5-year-old Armine, who has a second chance at life thanks to CSFC. Armine had lived her entire life isolated in a dark, underground hole with her parents. After a neighbor discovered the family's situation, Armine was sent to the center where she now receives psychological counseling and therapy. Step-by-step she is being rehabilitated by the center's excellent staff, who are gradually integrating her into society and teaching her basic habits like how to bathe and eat meals from a table instead of from the ground.



## CHILDREN OF ARMENIA SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

With thousands of children living in poverty, denied an education, proper healthcare, or a stable home life, FAR's Children of Armenia Sponsorship Program (CASP) gives them and their families some additional support.

For the third year in a row, FAR continued to manage CASP in collaboration with the Women's Guild Central Council of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern) to help some of the most vulnerable children in Armenia and the Javakhk region of Georgia.

Through CASP, children under the age of 18 who have lost one or both parents receive stipends from international sponsors. This support from the Diaspora may enable a child to attend school, buy food, or help with medical assistance.



During 2009, more than 1,500 children received support through CASP, up from 1,300 who were helped during 2008.

For the first time, FAR was able to expand its reach to the Syunik region, which is situated in the remote southern corner of the country near the Iranian border. Since the fall of the Soviet Union many of the local businesses, once the main sources of employment, have closed. As a result, many families were pushed into poverty. Through CASP, 25 new families now receive the support necessary to obtain their immediate needs.

Also, through a donation from John Thomas, 52 children from the Shamshadin region, on the Azeri border, received \$60 each in addition to a Christmas package during the holiday. He also generously gave stipends and gifts to orphaned and disadvantaged children and their families in Berd, near the Azeri border.



For children like Gor Muradyans, who lost both of his parents to fatal diseases just a few years ago, CASP makes a world of difference. Gor's sister Tatevik is now his sole caretaker. The support he receives through CASP enables him to attend school and for the two to live comfortably.

In addition, support from CASP donors also enabled about 100 children to have an enriching summer in 2009. Camps were held in Vayots Dzor, Shirak, Yeghnajur, and Siranush. During their stays, children were able to see a new part of their country and breathe some fresh air, laugh, play, and forge friendships. Support from the Holy Cross Armenian Students Association raised a large amount of monetary funding for these camps, as well.



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Through  
medical  
programs,  
we save lives...



## CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Thanks to loyal donors like Dr. Sarkis Kechejian, Rachel and Zaven Touloukian, and United Armenian Charities, who have a vision to improve healthcare in Armenia, FAR's Continuing Medical Education (CME) program gives doctors from Armenia's rural provinces the opportunity to enhance their modern medical knowledge and practices.

CME was created in 2005 by FAR and the FAR Fellowship Alumni Association (FARFAA) with the support of the Jinishian Memorial Foundation. CME is one of FAR's most extensive programs, as well as one of its most necessary. It has touched the lives of more than 200 Armenian healthcare providers and the thousands more who benefit from enhanced care.



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By focusing on improving the skills of providers, CME aims to bolster the overall health of the Armenian people. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union many doctors, especially those in remote regions, have not been able to refresh their medical skills due to the high cost and inaccessibility of certification programs. As a result, many are unaware of new methods of treatment or other advances in



their field. Often the sole healthcare providers in their region, they struggle in areas where resources are scarce and equipment is lacking.

Through CME, doctors have the opportunity to learn about innovative approaches and methodologies from top healthcare providers in Yerevan free of cost. Once they return home, they have ongoing support from their mentors and colleagues in the capital, further strengthening a national network of health professionals. They have the opportunity to continue their training throughout the year by attending various FAR-sponsored workshops and symposiums.

Forty-seven physicians completed the program in 2009. During their training they focused on a wide range of specializations, including anesthesiology, cardiology, infectious diseases, and pediatrics, among others



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FAR takes an active role in carrying on the network through the CME program. During 2009, CME held several symposiums and trainings in contemporary medical issues. They included the Fourth Annual Medical Symposium, during which doctors gathered





in Yerevan to discuss today's most pressing health issues, as well as summer trainings held in Gyumri, which focused on the diagnosis of spinal disorders. FAR also sponsored several physicians to attend these conferences and others, including the Salzburg Medical Seminars in Austria.

For Eduard Bayramyan, CME will enable him to fill a void in his hometown. Through the program, he was able to complete a specialization in oncology after graduating medical school. During a month-long internship at the Dilijian Hospital, he learned they were in need of an oncologist — a perfect opportunity for him to serve his hometown population. Upon graduation, Eduard will return to Dilijian to practice medicine.

FAR also implemented new programs in collaboration with other institutions. During 2009 FAR and the Scientific

Center of Traumatology and Orthopedics launched a program to introduce a new early detection method to prevent developmental disabilities in infants. The program was implemented at both the Austrian Pediatric Hospital of Gyumri (APH) and the Maternity Hospital in Gyumri.

#### PROVIDING MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Lack of ample medical equipment is a problem around the country. Throughout 2009, FAR distributed supplies to hospitals and medical centers across Armenia, based on recommendations from the Ministry of Health and clinic wish lists.

In addition, thanks to a new partnership with United Armenian Fund, FAR was also selected to continually monitor the distribution of medical supplies, medications, and equipment to their select recipients. Supporter Michael

Candan also generously contributed medical supplies and equipment to clinics in need.

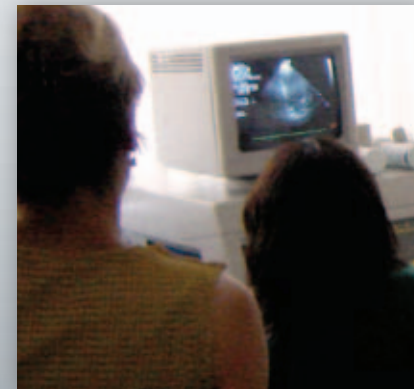
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#### THE SMILE PROJECT

The donations given by the students of Sunday schools throughout the Eastern Diocese during the 2009 Lenten Drive conducted by the Diocesan Department of Youth and Education, enabled FAR to once again

take part in the SMILE project, which provides corrective surgery for lip and cleft palate. Between 45 and 50 children with such defects are born in Armenia every year, and that number could be much higher as many cases are unreported.

Through SMILE, FAR partnered with Hope for Armenia, the Armenian Ministry of Health, Arabkir Medical Center in Yerevan, and Hand-in-Hand Foundation in Nagorno-Karabagh, to help 100 children receive corrective surgeries free of charge during 2009. In addition, they worked to raise public awareness about this issue and teach the community that this condition is no reason for abuse or neglect.



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With education  
programs,  
we empower  
individuals...



## SCHOLARSHIPS

Support for higher education is another major component of FAR's work. Tuition fees at both private and public institutions are increasing, and as a result many students are unable to afford college. With myriad scholarship programs, FAR provides a vital opportunity to Armenian youth who wish to continue their education at both state universities, private universities, or trade schools.

The Gulamerian Vocational Training and Education Program is truly a flagship endeavor, which FAR implemented almost a decade ago. It caters to a very important population of young Armenians. Each year, many young adults who have grown up in orphanages transition to the outside world, often with little opportunity to continue on to higher education. The Gulamerian Program provides

older orphans access to education through tuition coverage and monthly living stipends so they can gain the skills necessary to compete in the job market. FAR builds relationships with these recipients throughout their education and assists them with job searches once they graduate.

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Seventy students participated in the program during the 2009 academic

year, adding to the nearly 300 students who have already benefited and moved on to careers in a wide range of fields, including nursing, medicine, law, and the arts.

The Haji-Poghosyans sisters receive great support from this program. After escaping an abusive home life Mariam, Tatevik and Anna spent their childhood in the Vanadzor Orphanage. Now these young women are able to embark on career paths in law and medicine because of the Gulamerian program.

For the 12th year in a row, FAR's Mathevosian Scholarship Program provided much-needed assistance to students from extremely poor families. Fifty-one students received scholarships for the 2008-2009 academic year. That number increased to 59 students in the 2009-2010 school year. More than half of these

recipients grew up in households with only one parent or with disabled parents. As Mathevosian scholars they have the opportunity to study at leading institutions. This year's students are focusing on international relations, economics, law, and linguistics, among other subjects.

The Mathevosian Scholarship enables Haykaram Avetisyan to study at the Armenian State University of Economics. Son of single mother, Haykaram was unable to afford tuition until he applied to FAR. Now, he receives excellent grades and is able to assist his mother through the additional stipend he receives.

Through the *Jerar Nishanian Scholarship Program* about 50 students at Gavar State University, Yerevan State Engineering University, and Yerevan State University of Architecture and Construction receive tuition coverage





and monthly stipends to cover basic living costs, including transportation and school materials. The program also provides an additional \$1,200 to improve Internet connection at selected schools.

*The Sayan Scholarship Program* supports the 20 best students at the Yerevan State Conservatory through a partial scholarship.

Finally, the *Ashot Hayrapetyan Education Grants Program*, first launched in 2007, was revived in 2009. Grants were given to 150 brilliant young students who will be able to continue their academic careers at universities throughout Yerevan.

Other scholarship programs, including the Ghazarosian, Takushian, Vicki and Raffi Honhannisian, and the Philadelphia Armenian Education funds, enabled 19 students to continue

their studies at the National Academy of Fine Arts, Yerevan State University, Yerevan State Conservatory, and Gitelik University.

#### OUNJIAN SCHOOL RENOVATIONS

More than 500 teachers and students reaped the benefits of the Ounjian School and Scholarship Program in Gyumri.

Despite the fact that high school education in Armenia is free, a range of social and economic hardships contribute to the nation's high drop out rate. In addition, since the collapse of the Soviet Union, many schools have deteriorated significantly. While institutions like the U.S. State Department, World Bank, and the Social Investment Fund have made

significant efforts to reconstruct schools, more needs to be done.

In 2009, FAR engaged in major efforts to improve and support two high schools to combat this problem. More than 500 teachers and students reaped the benefits of the Ounjian School and Scholarship Program in Gyumri. FAR provided meals, textbooks, and heating costs for the school, in addition to much-needed stipends to underprivileged students, and even to one retired teacher who continues to assist at Ounjian. More exciting plans are in progress. The Ounjian School cannot adequately accommodate all of its students, but with support from the Ounjian Foundation, expansion began on the building in 2010.

The Ounjian School is made possible through one of FAR's most dedicated and caring partners, retired New York doctor and philanthropist John

Ounjian. The building that housed the Ounjian School was initially destroyed in the 1988 earthquake and was rebuilt thanks to Dr. Ounjian. Always actively involved, Dr. Ounjian visits regularly and attends graduation every year. In addition, he offers scholarships to students who attend university in Gyumri.

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Each year, many young adults who have grown up in orphanages transition to the outside world, often with little opportunity to continue on to higher education. The Gulamerian Program provides older orphans access to education through tuition coverage and monthly living stipends so they can gain the skills necessary to compete in the job market. Young Armenians like the Haji-Poghosyans sisters receive great support from this program. After escaping an abusive home life Mariam, Tatevik, and Anna spent their childhood in the Vanadzor Orphanage. Now these young women are able to embark on career paths in law and medicine because of the Gulamerian program.

In cooperation with the Constantinople Armenians Relief Society (CARS), FAR supported improvements at the Hintlian School in Tavush Marz. Underprivileged students in need receive stipends to focus on academics and offset hardships they experience at home. FAR also provided heating, Internet connection, and computer maintenance, as well as a musical center for students. Many graduates received some tuition and transportation coverage for their university studies, and a select number of teachers were given compensation for their continuing education.

FAR also reached out to children through mental and physical disabilities with donations of school supplies, clothing, shoes, and furniture to schools for students with special needs.



In addition, Michael and Marie Haratunians made a donation to improve the heating system of the Vanadzor Orphanage and provided winter shoes to some students in nearby schools. Further relief came from John Thomas who generously supported several schools through donations of supplies and repairs to the sewing and embroidery classrooms.

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In an exciting development, famous rock musicians Ian Gillan of Deep Purple and Tony Iommi of Black Sabbath and Heaven and Hell bolstered the resources of the Octet Music School in Gyumri. The two visited the school in October and after students expressed their need for a drum set, the men arranged to have an extensive supply of guitars, drums, cymbals, and other instruments sent to the students. They also decided to hold a benefit concert during 2010 to raise money for school renovations.



With social programs,  
we change lives...



## VANADZOR OLD AGE HOME

FAR has always given great support to the elderly. Since 2001, FAR has managed the Vanadzor Old Age Home (VOAH), which is now registered as an Armenian Foundation.

At VOAH, Armenia's elderly who are unable to afford proper care or have no family to lean on, can live in a supportive and caring environment where all their health and nutritional needs are met. Dedicated staff provide medical, psychological, and financial assistance to the 55 residents. In addition, a wide variety of cultural events, visits from local students and musicians, and recreational activities offer an outlet.

The facility was completely renovated in 2009 and is now fully up-to-date with all the proper amenities. A re-dedication ceremony held on





May 8th celebrated the renovations and honored its benefactors, Kevork and Sirvart Karamanuk. His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, presided over the special ceremony.

At VOA, Armenia’s elderly who are unable to afford proper care or who have no family to lean on, can live in a supportive and caring environment, where all their health and nutritional needs are met.

Both Kevork and Sirvart Karamanuk were very active members of the Armenian community. Kevork passed away in 2002 and Sirvart passed in 2008. Their generosity greatly contributed to improving



social services, education, and the arts in Armenia. VOA gives people like Rafik Armaghanyan a refuge for support. Rafik is the oldest resident; he has lived at VOA since 1994. After his first and second wives passed and his three daughters moved away, Rafik was alone. When he moved to VOA he fell in love once again with resident Sofia Pavlovna, and is able to live out his remaining years in peace.

SOUP KITCHENS

FAR’s soup kitchens impacted roughly 1,000 people during 2009 by not only providing nutritious meals, toiletries, and other necessities to those in need, but also served as a connection to vital services and a social outlet.

This was made possible through the strong relationship with the Bay Area



Friends of Armenia (BAFA), one of the most trustworthy and valued partners of FAR. Its alliance with BAFA goes back more than 15 years and has changed thousands of lives by not only providing a lifeline, but restoring hope and dignity to those who need it most.

FAR’s remarkable partnership with Nishan and Margrit Atinikian made it possible to aid the disadvantaged through the Gyumri Senior Center soup kitchen.

Of particular note, on April 29 and 30, thanks to a donation from the students of the Sunday school of St. Mary Armenian Church of Costa Mesa, California, FAR’s soup kitchens served an astounding 1,000 beneficiaries — the highest amount ever served in a single day.

These soup kitchens are a refuge for people like Janik, who at 69 is losing



his eyesight and lives on the street. His stiff legs prevent him from walking easily. He comes to the Nor Nchaj soup kitchen every day where he can eat nutritious food and connect with his neighbors.

In 2009, BAFA initiated a new project, which generated much excitement with the NGO Manana Youth. Through the project, 10 children from the Nor Hajn soup kitchen joined their photography and journalism program. Children were given cameras to document life in their neighborhoods. Their work will be compiled into an exhibit.

BAFA also hired AUA English language and computer instructors to teach another group of adolescents from the Nor Hajn kitchen. They will continue to work with Manana to conduct workshops, photography, and film classes as an outlet for youth.



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## Correction Requests

When preparing a report of this nature, unintentional oversight may occur. If we have mistakenly spelled, listed or omitted your name, please accept our apologies and contact the Fund for Armenian Relief at 212.889.5150.

The financial statements of the Fund for Armenian Relief, Inc., for the year ending December 31, 2009, have been audited by the accounting firm of WithumSmith+Brown. The Independent Auditors issued an “unqualified opinion” that FAR statements conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and that “the financial statements...present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund for Armenian Relief, Inc.” as of the given date. The audit report is available upon request.

## 2009 Asset Base

Cash and cash equivalents	1,953,961
Investments	2,220,864
USAID contract receivable	76,828
Contributions and pledges receivable	976,727
Prepaid expenses	70,005
Property and equipment, net	1,540,243
Pooled investments held by ACEF	2,009,998
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,848,626</b>

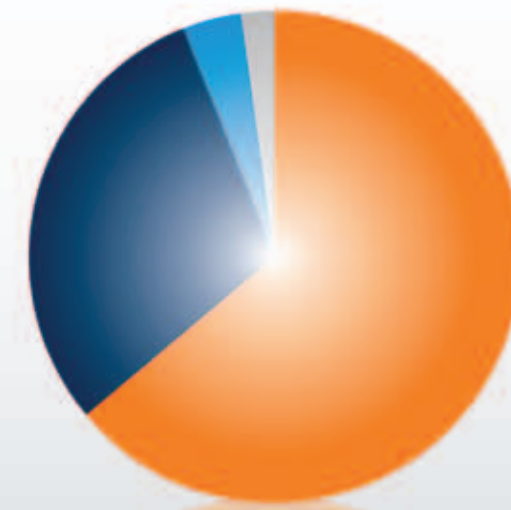
## 2009 Financial Highlights

### 2009 Program Services



■ U.S. Aid Contracts	\$1,026,863	36%
■ Humanitarian Aid	\$1,262,100	44%
■ Social Educational	\$541,239	19%
■ Medical	\$59,204	1%
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$2,889,406</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 2009 Support & Revenue



■ Contributions	\$2,500,260	64%
■ U.S. Aid Gov't Grants & Contracts	\$1,196,624	30%
■ In-kind Donations	\$143,423	4%
■ Other Income	\$92,104	2%
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$3,932,411</b>	<b>100%</b>

Grand Total Operational Expenses: \$3,630,164





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