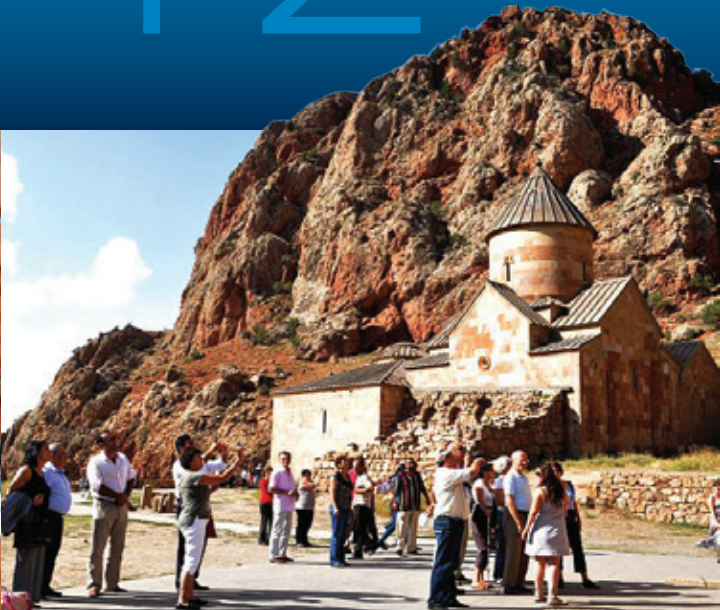




2012 ANNUAL REPORT



HONOR THE PAST • EMPOWER THE PRESENT • ENSURE THE FUTURE

About



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, Nagorno-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 \$290 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.

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Message from the President and Chairman



Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, President

Dear Friends,

For more than two decades, FAR has implemented leading programs focusing on healthcare, education, child protection and beyond. Through our steadfast approach with the help of amazing supporters like you, FAR is truly contributing to a stronger, more self-sufficient nation.

Last fall, the board of directors traveled to Armenia and visited many project sites. The more we saw, the more we became inspired. As a collective group, we were able to get a picture of the culmination of FAR's work. We saw how your support has changed Armenia for the better. We took away a message: there is still so much more that needs to be done for Armenia, and it is with the very same dedication that we need to move ahead into the future, to push FAR's work forward.

A new initiative born out of this trip will aim to do just that. Dedicated board member, FAR supporter and philanthropist, Edward Mardigian, through the Mardigian Family Foundation, is now leading a project that encapsulates and epitomizes FAR's mission and vision: *Breaking the Cycle of Poverty: Developing Thriving Communities*. This project will not only treat the effects of poverty – malnourishment, lack of education, unemployment, poor health, broken families – but it will treat poverty at its core, giving people the tools they need to break free from its oppressive cycle. This initiative is the culmination all of the areas where FAR has built its programs – healthcare, nutrition, education, child protection and economic development.

Using the energy and expertise of FAR's staff and building upon partnerships, we will start our work with communities in the Tavush region to strengthen their family units, help them to obtain the education and training they need to become more marketable, develop their industry and, ultimately their livelihoods. *Breaking the Cycle of Poverty* will maximize in the most effective way what FAR has been trying to do for 20 years.

This incredibly exciting initiative is indicative of the future for FAR – an organization that is leading the way for long-lasting change in solidarity with the Armenian people.

The Annual Report, which reviews our work during the year of 2012, also marks a crucial and exciting turning point for us. We hope you join us in our optimism and excitement about the future. We hope you stand with us because you are our partners. You make FAR's work possible. As you review this report you will read about the programs that FAR has worked on in Armenia and about the lives they have changed. This has been possible because of you. For this, we thank you. We hope that you continue to stand with us. Together, we can change even more lives.

Abp. K. Barsamian

Randy Sapah-Gulian, Chairman

Economic Opportunity and Social Development

Founded in 2005, the *Gyumri Information Technology Center (GTech)* gives motivated Armenians the opportunity to gain the Information Technology training they need to compete for the most prestigious jobs in Armenia's IT sector and abroad. For the past eight years, GTech has contributed to the growth of a qualified labor force in Gyumri, which has helped to revitalize the economy, provide an

incubator space for start up IT businesses, and ultimately bolstered the region and the nation's development.

Started in 2011, the *Toufayan Agribusiness Development Support Center* has brought greater economic opportunity to the small village of Zangakatun in southern Armenia. The agribusinesses industrial-sized cold storage unit enables this town's

villagers to store massive quantities of perishable food for long periods of time. By providing them a way to preserve their produce, villagers are able to sell it in the wider region and in Yerevan throughout the year, and ultimately expand their possibilities in this economically depressed area.

A new initiative by the Mardigian Family Foundation called *Breaking the Cycle of*

Poverty: Developing Thriving Communities will begin in 2013. It aims to reduce the effects of poverty and break its devastating cycle. By utilizing FAR's multi-faceted programs and working in partnership with the government, civil society and the private sector, FAR will empower communities in Armenia's Tavush region to become more self-sustainable. The project will focus on stabilizing families by helping children through additional support from local child protection agencies, better access to healthcare and improved nutrition, as well access to more educational opportunities. In addition, FAR will support local entrepreneurs with business management and skills training, and will work with partners on infrastructure rehabilitation projects to further develop the region.



SUREN GHARAGYOZYAN

Growing up in Gyumri, a city that bears of scars of natural disaster, Suren Gharagyozyan always knew he wanted to pursue his education and focus on a career path that would advance him and help him to support his family. He also loves his home city dearly, but always knew that job opportunity in the region was scarce. As one who became interested in computers from a very young age, GTech's opening in 2005 offered a beacon of hope. Now one of GTech's dedicated alumnae, Suren is a successful Gyumri-based web developer who is also giving back to his community. In addition to his work, Suren helps to advance the IT skills of Gyumri residents by teaching a web technologies class at the Agate Center, a local NGO, which provides assistance, including classes, trainings and other activities, to women with special needs.



Child Protection

The *FAR Children's Center* transforms lives by performing crisis intervention and critical short-term rehabilitation to children who are victims of domestic violence and trafficking, are runaways, or those who are crippled with behavioral and emotional problems. A full-service facility and the only institution in Armenia where children and their families can access shelter, social healthcare, psychological counseling and legal

assistance, the Center offers hope to Armenia's youth often where there is none. Children also receive outreach services, as well as creative outlets for learning, like the Children's Center Technology Lab, and art and photography classes.

The *Children of Armenia Sponsorship Program (CASP)* gives orphans or children of single-parent households

supplemental financial support with which they can purchase items that improve their quality of life – school supplies, nutritious meals, adequate clothing or fuel. In addition to enriching the lives of Armenia's youth, CASP offers support and hope to entire families.

TIGRAN PAPIKYAN



When nine-year-old Tigran Papikyan's mother was imprisoned for trading illegal drugs, he was left in the care of his alcoholic grandfather. Later, while living at a boarding school in Yerevan, Tigran became a victim of abuse. His teacher seemed to strike him for any reason she could find. Fed up, Tigran ran away, taking refuge in a metro station. When police finally found him, Tigran was taken to the FAR Children's Center. Tigran has been at the center for over a year and each day he works to overcome the trauma of his past. His regular meetings with psychologists, social workers and other specialized staff members have helped him to cope with his abuse, and each day become a stronger and happier child. Now, fostered by an environment of exceptional support Tigran can even enjoy his childhood with simple activities like playing with other children, making friends and learning to dance as he continues to heal.



Social Services

FAR's soup kitchens, which are sponsored by Bay Area Friends of Armenia (BAFA), meet the critical needs of the most destitute elderly people by providing nutritious daily meals and an outlet for social connection and care in five different locations throughout Armenia. For many, the meal provided by the soup kitchens is the only they

receive each day. Not just a source of sustenance the soup kitchens are often their only connection to others in their communities, and a home away from home.

The *Atinizian Senior Center* in Gyumri and *Vanadzor Old Age Home (VOAH)* give low-income elderly the chance for

support by not only providing living environments that meet their physical and psychological needs, but also additional access to medical care and social services. These homes also nurture their spirits, as they are caring and loving communities that they can call their own.



MARGARITA HOVSEPYAN

Margarita Hovsepyan left Azerbaijan as a young woman. She and her parents and siblings settled in Vanadzor, where she later married. Her husband passed away years ago and while she never had any children of her own, Margarita grew very close to her nieces and nephews. Yet, eventually they moved away, most of them seeking work abroad. Several years ago, Margarita suddenly found herself alone, struggling to keep up her house and care for herself properly. Community social service workers found Margarita in her house, frail and alone, and soon brought her to VOA, where she has been living for the past seven years. It is in this supportive and stable environment where Margarita feels her life was saved. Now 76, she is supported and nurtured. She receives medical care regularly, wholesome meals and, most importantly, a sense of community from the other seniors and staff around her.





Education

FAR's numerous *scholarship programs* enable hundreds of young Armenians to attend university and vocational training programs every year. The programs provide hope and opportunity for young Armenians to increase their knowledge and gain the tools they need to advance themselves in society. In addition to the support, FAR scholarships also help to expose recipients to FAR's mission and the rewards of being active, involved citizens. Many go on to pursue careers through which they contribute to the growth and development of their country. These scholarships include:

[The Margaret Ajemian Ahnert Scholarship](#)
[The Garabed and Armine Zambak Scholarship](#)
[The Gulamerian Vocational Training and Education Program](#)
[The Mathevosian Scholarship Program](#)
[The Jerair Nishanian Foundation Scholarship Program](#)
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[The Rose Najarian Scholarship](#)
[The Philadelphia Armenian Education Fund](#)
[Daughters of Vartan-Anahit Chapter Scholarship](#)
[Harry & Suzanne Toufayan Scholarship](#)

With the generous support of the Mardigian Family Foundation and help of world-renowned musicians, the *Octet Music School* is in the process of being renovated. The school, which was destroyed in the 1988 earthquake, offers an extremely unique and high-quality education for aspiring musicians. For more than 20 years, students have had to attend classes in drafty, aluminum shelters. Now, construction of an entirely new facility is underway and is expected to be completed by mid 2013. FAR also bolsters the talent of the young musicians of Octet by providing them with musical instruments and covering the cost of their tuition fees.

In addition, FAR helps to support *school renovations* throughout Armenia, bringing these institutions closer to their full potential and capacity to propel

students forward with their educations. FAR has recently helped to rebuild and reconstruct the Gavar NI Special School, Zangakatoun Kindergarten, the Hovhannes Hintliyan School in Tavush, and the Oshakan School in Aragatsotn Province.

The *Armenian National Science and Education Fund (ANSEF)* promotes social and economic growth by sustaining scientists, engineers and artists in their pursuit of cutting-edge research in the sciences and the humanities. These grants make innovation in Armenia possible as they allow these researchers to stay in their home country and further contribute to a knowledge-based economy.



TAMARA GHALAYAN

Tamara Ghalayan had a dream of pursuing a career through which she could serve her nation with public service. But, just as it is for many, it was a tremendous sacrifice for her family to afford university, much less pay for an additional advanced degree. She applied herself in undergrad, earned excellent grades, and was able to pursue her master's degree through the Armine and Garabed Zambak Scholarship, which since 2010 has supported young Armenians who study political science, international relations or public administration. Once again, she applied herself and graduated with honors from the Faculty of International Affairs at Yerevan State University in 2012. She is now a Junior Specialist in the Division of Bilateral Financial and Technical Cooperation at the Ministry of Finance, where each day she continues to carry out her dream of helping her country.



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Healthcare Programs

The *Continuing Medical Education Program (CME)* bolsters the overall health of Armenia's people by giving doctors from the rural provinces the opportunity to enhance their medical knowledge at top centers in Yerevan. Working with leaders in the field, CME participants enhance their skills, learn new techniques and are ultimately linked into a network of medical professionals, which provides a resource and constant

source of support. CME medical trainings and seminars are held frequently throughout the year, and help to further advance the knowledge of healthcare professionals.

CME partners with the American Armenian Health Professionals Organization (AAHPO) to offer CME training to doctors in Nagorno-Karabagh and Javakhk. This program is gravely

needed in these areas, as this is the only opportunity for additional medical training in the region. At least 80 physicians from these regions are expected to join the program by 2013.

FAR supports the *National Medical Library* in Yerevan, which offers medical students access to the latest publications and technologies, enabling them to keep up to date on advances in the field.

DR. MUSHEGH ARO



Dr. Mushegh Aro spent 20 years as a gastroenterologist in Syria. Since then, he has returned to his home, where he is a family physician at Kavsakan City Hospital in Nagorno-Karabagh. Through the CME program, Dr. Aro has been able to reintegrate himself back into Armenia's healthcare system, and he is able to do so in an area that is in dire need of qualified and competent doctors. During his month-long fellowship, Dr. Aro worked with Dr. Zinaida Zndoyan at the University Hospital N1 in Yerevan, who is the head of the Internal Diseases Department. After more than two decades away from Armenia, Dr. Aro was able to learn many of the intricacies and the medical methods used in Armenia, which were quite different than what he was accustomed to in Syria. His newfound knowledge and connections to the CME network will ultimately ensure that he will be able to better serve his home country by providing excellent medical treatment to the people of Karabagh.



Events

In September, FAR held the very first forum celebrating ANSEF and its 12 successful years of providing opportunity to Armenia's leading scientists and researchers. Held at the Armenian National Academy of Sciences, the event was attended by distinguished guests from the U.S. and Armenia who acknowledged the great work and tremendous assistance that the ANSEF program has provided in promoting the development of science and the humanities.

FAR's Board of Directors traveled on an inspirational and dynamic one-week journey throughout Armenia in September. -For some, this was their first journey to Armenia while for others it was a chance to reacquire themselves with a land they know well. Board members traveled throughout the country, where they had a chance to see FAR's programs operate and to meet

beneficiaries face to face. The trip was also highlighted by visits to historic sites and meetings with dignitaries and leaders. Board members left Armenia with many powerful impressions.

The Friends of FAR Children's Center, a group of caring women from New York and New Jersey, raised awareness for child protection in Armenia when they organized a fundraising banquet at the Diocese of the Armenian Church in May. Sirvart Hovnanian, Honorary Chairperson of the Friends group, along with co-chairs Nadya Garipian and Sylva Torosian, led the event, which succeeded in garnering support for the Center. During the event, FAR Children's Center Director Dr. Mira Antonyan shared the story of FAR's groundbreaking work with vulnerable children.



\$100,000 & Up

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Mr. & Mrs. Edward R. & Roseann Alexander
Seth & Jaime Alexander
Miss Adrienne G. Alexanian
Mr. & Mrs. Arman & Aida Alpien
Ms. Rose Alyanakian
Ms. Yelena Ambartsumian
Mr. Kenneth Angell
Mr. & Mrs. Antranik & Elizar Araian

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Mr. & Mrs. Nigogos & Mayreni Araian
Mr. & Mrs. Ara & Aline Araz
Armenian Church of Rochester
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Ms. Elizabeth Arzoomanian
Mr. Gregory T. Arzoomanian
Mr. Herman Arzuman
Mr. & Mrs. George & Jo Asadorian
Mr. Gregory John Aslanian
Mr. Antranig Atoyian
Dr. & Mrs. Gary & Arlene Avakian
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Dr. & Mrs. Vatche H. & Maria Ayzvazian
Mr. Michael Azarian
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Suzanne Azarian
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Mr. William V. Aznavourian
Linda S. & Pauline Babikian
Dr. & Mrs. Mark J. & Christine Badach
Ms. Valentine Baghdoyan
Dr. Dikran Bairamian
Mr. & Mrs. Brian & Sylva Boghossian Baker
Mr. & Mrs. John & Seta Baldadian

Gassan Baloul
Mr. Harry Balukjian
Mr. & Mrs. Armen V. & Pauline B. Barooshian
Mrs. Jean Barsam
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Mr. & Mrs. Dikran N. & Lynn Barsamian, Jr.
Judge & Mrs. J. Albert & Alice Barsamian
Ms. Nicole Barsamian
George & Shakeh Basmajian
Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Arlene Baylerian
Mr. Karen Bdoyan
Mrs. Helen Bennett
Mr. & Mrs. Jack S. & Verken D. Berberian
Mr. Edward J. Bilzerian
Denice & Mary Blajian
Mr. & Mrs. Antranik & Shený Bobelian
Mr. Armen Bogossian
Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Diana Bourghol
Mr. & Mrs. David G. Bournazian
Mr. & Mrs. K. George & Ruth I. Bournazian
Mr. & Mrs. Armen K. & Mary L. Boyajian
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Mrs. Anna Dogramadgian Bruno
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Mrs. Queenie Chakerian
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Glenn Scott & Cindi M. Cooper
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Mr. Steve Jarahian	Mrs. Alice Keurian	Mr. Samuel Melkonian	Mrs. Alice Philibosian	Mr. & Ms. Ardashes H. & Shakey Y. Shelemian	Mr. Marc Yagjian
Mr. Charles Jibilian	Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Gail Keyishian	Ms. Peggy Mendikian	Mr. Steven Philibosian	Mrs. Sita Kurkjian Smith	Mr. Michael G. Yapchaian
Rev. Fr. Bedros & Yn. Tina Kadehjian	Mr. & Mrs. James S. Kidd	Mr. Aram Mesardjian	Ms. Mary Ann Phillips	Erica & Jeanette Sniffin	Ms. Joann Yazarian
Mr. & Mrs. George N. & Nevart Kaderian	Dn. Hagop A. Kitabjian	Mr. & Mrs. Herach S. & Zevart H. Mesdjian	Mr. & Mrs. Edward B. & Karine M. Pickman	Mr. & Mrs. Haig M. & Patricia D. Soghigian, Jr.	Ms. Rima Yegzarian
Mrs. Ursula Regina Kaiktsian	Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. & Judith Koolakian	Mr. Hrair George O. Mesrobian	Mr. & Mrs. Harry & Audrey Pilafian	Ms. Haygul Rose Stepien	Ms. Nergiz Yelegen
Mr. Aram Kalajian	Mr. & Mrs. Alex Kozarian	Mr. Vache Mikaelian	Mr. & Mrs. Jacob & Audrey Pilibosian	Mr. & Mrs. Leo & Maria Surmeian	Dr. Michael A. Yerian
Mr. & Mrs. George & Lucy Kalajian	Ms. Helen M. Krikorian	Mrs. Anna Minasian	Mr. Dimitrios Pinos	Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. & Ellen Kandoian Sweeney	Mr. & Mrs. Hrant H. & Anne Yousoufian
Mr. & Mrs. Ari Kalayciyan	Mr. & Mrs. Krikor & Floriana Krikorian	Mr. & Mrs. Arda & Silvie Turabian Mirek	Mr. & Mrs. Apkarak Potookian	Dr. & Mrs. Garo & Sue Taft	Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. & Kandice M. Zakarian
Mrs. Makrouhi Kalayjian	Mrs. Lucy Krolian	Ms. Madeleine Mouradian	Ms. Violet Ramezzano	Mr. & Mrs. Levon T. & Mary Ellen Tamraz	Mr. & Mrs. Charles G. & Rosemary Zakoian
Ms. Christina Kallas	Mrs. Rose Lalazarian	Mr. & Mrs. Avedis & Beatrice Movsesian	Mr. Jay Rowell	Mrs. Rose H. Tatarian	
Mr. Arpiar Kaloustian	Mrs. Rose Lalazarian	Mr. Paul Najarian	Mrs. Mary Rzepecki	Mr. & Mrs. Artur & Roubina Ter-Hovanesian	
	Mr. & Mrs. Guy & Lena Lo Bianco	Mrs. Valerie J. Narsasian	Mr. Richard T. Sahagian	Mr. Richard Terzian	

The financial statements of the Fund for Armenian Relief, Inc., for the year ending December 31, 2012, 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

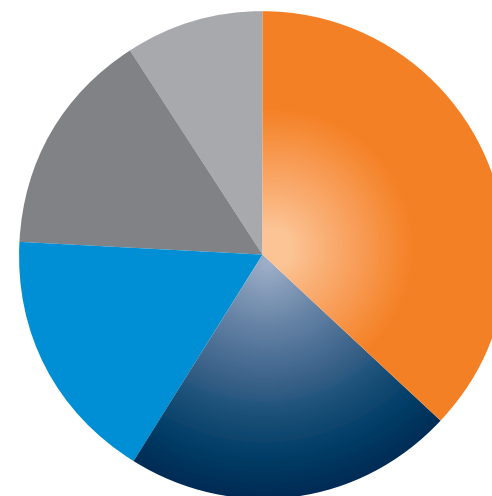
financial statements...present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund for Armenian Relief, Inc.” as of the given date. The audit report is available upon request.

2012 Asset Base

Cash and cash equivalents	1,478,639
Investments	1,612,697
Contributions and pledges receivable	1,566,606
Prepaid expenses	98,231
Property and equipment, net	1,657,032
Pooled investments held by ACEF	3,175,827
TOTAL	\$9,589,032

Financial Highlights

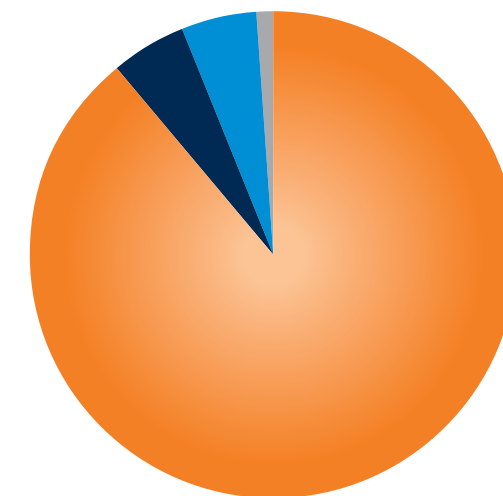
2012 Program Services



Children	993,085	37%
Seniors	580,631	22%
Development & Next Generation	445,974	17%
Educational	395,707	15%
Medical & Emergency Need	265,837	9%

TOTAL PROGRAMS: \$2,681,234

2012 Support & Revenue



Contributions	3,930,944	89%
Grants & Contracts	205,440	5%
In-Kind Donations	200,891	5%
Other Income	61,293	1%

TOTAL PROGRAMS: \$4,398,568



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Executive Director



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