



Building on a Long Tradition of Quality Education

Throughout its history, the Armenian nation has made education excellence a top priority. This is no less so in Armenia's society today. Over the past 20 years, Hayastan All-Armenian Fund has taken on an array of educational projects in Armenia and Karabakh. Efforts have focused on rebuilding schools and furnishing classrooms, complete with schools supplies and computer equipment.

Every educational initiative aims at improving the learning resources available to the students in Armenia. We began with constructing school buildings and have since expanded to equipping them with state-of-the-art science labs.

Armenia Fund USA and its 22 international affiliates stand together to rebuild Armenia into a strong, independent and prosperous nation. We will continue to improve the quality of life in Armenia with education at the core.

In parallel with the many water-infrastructure projects initiated in Karabakh in 2010 and 2011, Hayastan All-Armenian Fund has been implementing a host of education projects throughout the regions of Armenia and Karabakh.

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The happy children from Shengavit School

As water becomes more readily available in rural communities across Armenia and Karabakh, many villages are eager for their schools, hospitals and community centers to be renovated.

There is no denying the importance of education and the role it has in molding the future leaders of a country. As such, Armenia Fund and its 22 affiliates have constructed and furnished well over 230 schools and implemented more than 85 educational, cultural and scientific projects across Armenia and Karabakh.

Rebuilding Martuni Region

In 2011, there were exciting initiatives across the Martuni region in Karabakh. Now that water projects have made their way into the villages, Armenia Fund has begun renovating and constructing more schools. This year, a brand new school in the village of Gishi was completed, replacing the once debilitated structure with an emphasis on safety and hygiene.

In the fall, a new kindergarten in Sos village began construction. The old kindergarten had a roof in disrepair, non-functioning sewerage network, and broken windows and doors. During the winter, it was closed due to lack of heat. In 2010, a new potable water network was built for the village, allowing the new construction of this kindergarten to begin.

Now, most schools that are either constructed new or renovated are equipped with science labs, a library, gym, more than enough classrooms, and, most importantly, a sanitary environment for students and teachers.



The students at Artsni School receive new backpacks

Kachatur Abovyan and Shengavit School

Schools in other regions across Armenia and Karabakh are also undergoing changes, including Kachatur Abovyan located in the Shushi region in Karabakh. This three-story building is designed for 1,200 students and has all the modern amenities. The most vital changes will be the new water supply, sewerage, heating and air conditioning systems that are currently being assembled.

Another educational initiative is the refurbishment of a one-of-a-kind nursery-kindergarten boarding school, located in Yerevan's Shengavit district. Despite its state of disrepair, the old facility has continued to educate and shelter orphans and those from economically vulnerable families. Currently, the school has over 140 students between ages 2 and 7. Of them, 70 are boarders. Hayastan All-Armenian Fund is currently renovating and expanding the building to accommodate up to 200 students. Aside from renovating the structure, the Fund plans to purchase new furniture and provide new outdoor recreation space.



Abovyan School will be completed in the next several months

Accessible, clean and reliable water has been essential to the success of the many projects Armenia Fund has initiated over the years.

Since 1992, more than 281 km of water treatment and supply systems have been built. As of 2011, more than 60 water networks have been successfully completed throughout Karabakh. Over 30 are currently under way.

For any project the Fund takes on, be it educational or agricultural, clean water comes first. This is why Armenia Fund continued its theme of water in Telethon 2011. And because of its necessity, more water development projects will be initiated in Karabakh.

Karmir Shuka Water Project Continues

In April 2011, the water distribution system in the village of Karmir Shuka, located in the Martuni region of Karabakh, began construction. Armenia Fund USA funded the project, which is expected to be completed in May 2012. Without a water network and because the main occupations in the village are agriculture and cattle breeding, the



New technology allows workers to lay the water distribution network in Karmir Shuka quicker and with fewer issues.

residents of Karmir Shuka were challenged daily. Many were forced to carry small buckets from the nearest water springs, located in different districts of the village. Too much of the day was spent collecting water, making it difficult for the villagers to work efficiently. The Fund is now almost finished with the construction of 2 daily regulation reservoirs. Also, a 15 km-long new water main will be built along with an internal distribution network. This will ensure a regular and dependable distribution of water to every household.

Reconstruction of Martuni Town Water Supply Network

Unlike Karmir Shuka, the town of Martuni had an existing water network; however, it was falling apart and did not adequately serve the residents of Martuni. The 23,157



The rolling hills of the Aygehovit-Vazashen Irrigation Canal

residents of Martuni only received water for 2 to 3 hours per day, causing economic and health problems for many. The project will construct new water mains, a new inner system, and a new cleaning system in the village. In addition, the daily regulating reservoirs will be reconstructed so that there can be a constant flow of water to village residents.

The town of Martuni is where industry for the entire region is centralized. It is crucial for the viability of Martuni region that the actual town of Martuni has clean and accessible water.

Water in Noragyugh

On May 25, 2011, a ceremony took place to mark the implementation of water in the town of Noragyugh. Since the construction, the 1,500 residents of Noragyugh are overjoyed that water flows into their homes.



Water flows freely for those living in Noragyugh



The sides of streets in the town of Martuni have been dug up to lay the new water network

Armenia Fund's 14th International Thanksgiving Day Telethon concluded this year with a whopping \$31 million raised in pledges and donations. The record-breaking \$31 million includes the \$18.6 million raised during Armenia Fund's annual Moscow Gala held in December and \$12.3 million raised during the broadcast. Funds raised will go towards critical water projects in Karabakh. This is the second consecutive year of raising funds for our water projects in the border villages of Armenia and Karabakh.

The live broadcast featured a rich presentation of Armenian music and entertainment, as well as celebrities, political and community leaders, as well as long-time Armenia Fund supporters and donors. Several prominent celebrities

endorsed the Telethon, including our regular host and celebrity super lawyer Mark Geragos, reality TV star Kim Kardashian, and others such as Hrant Tokhatyan, Artak Herikyan, Liana Adamyan, Kev Orkian, Ludwig Manukian, and Carla Garapedian.



Volunteers race to answer the phones during the 2011 Thanksgiving Day Telethon



The results from the 2011 Telethon will have an immense and direct impact on the people living in Karabakh.

"Volunteers always leave with a feeling of satisfaction," says Armenia Fund USA Executive Director Irina Lazarian. "The positive energy and excitement was felt throughout the entire Telethon, and without the help from our volunteers, we would not have been able to pull it off."

Project Update: Martuni Hospital

Armenia Fund USA announced the construction of a new hospital in the Martuni region back in November 2010. Due to be completed in 2012, this exciting venture has made substantial progress since breaking ground. The new state-of-the-art facility will be a two-story structure with a total area of 2,470 square meters. It will be fully equipped to provide a broad range of modern health services to the people of Martuni and surrounding areas.

The basement and first floor of the hospital have already been built. Crews have begun to construct the second

floor. Serving patients from Martuni as well as nearby villages, the facility will be able to treat close to 1,000 inpatient and 1,400 ambulatory patients on a yearly basis.

The diverse water projects in the Martuni region have enabled this hospital to be built. Clean water is vital for the residents living in these villages. Once patients are discharged, they will be able to take better care of themselves through access to clean water. The project is funded by Armenia Fund USA, Armenian Medical Fund USA and the government of Karabakh.





Arianna is determined to raise money for an important cause

Every so often, we come across a story about a young individual whose mission is to help others less fortunate. Such inspiration is found in the story of Arianna Minassian, a 5th grader living in New Jersey. At the ripe age of eleven, Arianna has been an active participant since 2010 in her school's annual Walkathon. This year's 2012 Walkathon will be her third.

Arianna has raised money through the Walkathon to buy books and school supplies for Armenian students. "I believe it is important to receive a good education so that in years to come, I will be ready for whatever I choose to become involved with," says Arianna. At such a young age, Arianna has found a way to connect with her Armenian heritage through a cause that is dear to her heart.

According to Arianna, participating in the Walkathon was not difficult. "What motivated me while walking was knowing that every step I took counted towards children in Armenia receiving a good education. I also knew that every lap I completed raised more money from my sponsors." Because of last year's rain, the usual 4-day event was reduced to 3 days, keeping Arianna from walking as many laps as she had originally planned. Though the dates for the 2012 Walkathon have not been finalized, Arianna is looking forward to continuing her philanthropic work. She hopes to surpass the 21 laps walked last year.

Hoping to one day become a doctor, Arianna understands how vital it is that all children receive a valuable education. Having access to books and computers at her school is something that Arianna does not take for granted. Participating in her school's Walkathon is a fun and interactive way for her to raise money for an important cause.

Arianna's story also inspires others looking to give back, no matter their age. Armenia Fund feels privileged to help Ms. Minassian with her aspirations to help Armenia. Donations can be made towards Arianna's Walkathon by sending contributions to Armenia Fund USA.

Armenia Fund Christmas Party

On the eve of December 10th, Edele Hovnanian graciously hosted Armenia Fund's 2011 Christmas celebration with the proceeds benefiting the 140 children living at Zatik Orphanage. Celebrating with friends, old and new, in such a hospitable environment was wonderful. Donating the proceeds to help those less fortunate made the entire experience even more worthwhile.

Generous donations, made by Greg and Carla Simonian, Kirk and Arsineh Kazazian, Randolph and Margot Takian, Kharen and Marina Musaelian, and Jean-Marie Atamian and Lori Garjian-Atamian, as well as many others, made it possible to initiate the necessary capital improvements of the facilities. Edele Hovnanian matched the proceeds from the party by donating \$25,000 towards the orphanage, thus, bringing the event total to \$60,000 for Zatik Orphanage.

The orphanage came into existence in 1993 in response to the rise of abandoned children in Armenia and Karabakh. At a time when entities in Armenia, including schools, were closing, it was a miracle that Zatik Orphanage was able to its open doors. Now children in desperate need of shelter, education, and most importantly, love, have a place to call home.

Armenia Fund USA Celebrates 20 Years in 2012

The year of 2012 is significant for Armenia Fund USA, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of our inception as the first of the 22 affiliates of Hayastan All-Armenian Fund.

Save the date to celebrate the
**20th Anniversary of
Armenia Fund USA
Gala Banquet
September, 2012
Details to follow.**