



# NARRATIVE PROJECT REPORT

## ART THERAPY FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN IJEVAN



**Funding:** SOCIETY FOR ORPHANED ARMENIAN RELIEF (SOAR) - ARMENIA

**Implementing partner:** SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ARMENIAN CHARITY FOUNDATION

**Project site:** SOS Children's Village Ijevan, Ijevan town

**Implementation period:** 20 March 2025 – 31 December 2025

**Reporting period:** 20 June 2025 – 19 September 2025



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The “Art therapy for vulnerable children in Ijevan” project, which has been implementing in SOS Children’s Village Ijevan for three years, is funded by the SOAR-Armenia. This year it started on March 20 and will continue until the end of the year.

In December 2025, an exhibition is scheduled where the project’s 30 participants will present their handmade works and join peer-to-peer master classes together with another 30 children invited from the community.

Two workshops were conducted within the framework of the project:

- “Art and Craft” workshop;
- “Stained-Glass” workshop.

The project helps children feel calm and improves their emotions. Art activities provide a supportive environment for children who find it hard to express themselves with words. Through creative work, they can imagine, explore who they are, and use all their potential. Making art, like drawing, painting on glass or handicrafts, also lets them release aggression or stress in a safe way, which supports healing and growth. Group sessions help them practice talking, listening, and understanding others. This builds empathy and respect for different people and viewpoints.

## 2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

### 2.1. Project description

During the reporting quarter “Art and Craft” and “Stained-Glass” classes were organized twice a week, each lasting one hour.

The “Art and Craft” classes took place on Mondays and Thursdays, the Stained-glass classes on Wednesdays and Fridays, considering children’s involvement in other hobby groups and extracurricular activities. The psychologist and workshop specialists continued working together on ongoing activities aimed at supporting children’s emotional and psychological well-being.

During July, the children of SOS Children’s village Ijevan were on summer vacation, so, as previously planned, no classes were organized that month.

Table 1. Number of classes /20.06.2025-19.09.2025/

Workshop	Number of classes
“Art and Craft”	18 classes (18 hours total)
“Stained-Glass”	18 classes (18 hours total)
<b>Total</b>	36 classes (36 hours total)

The younger children attending the “Art and Craft” workshop enthusiastically made greeting cards and handicrafts from glitter, foam, and colored paper, while the older children painted on canvas, posters, mandalas, and even on their T-shirts, and also learned miniature painting. These activities help develop children’s fine motor skills and creativity.



During the reporting quarter, the children created many handicrafts and pictures, which are listed in Table 2:

Table 2. Children's works created during Art and Craft classes

Workshop	The name of the work	The quantity of works		Total
		Completed	Ongoing	
"Art and Craft"	Applique artwork with plasticine, paper, foam	28	0	28
	Poster Autumn	0	1	1
	Drawing with pencil	3	0	3
	Large Illustrated frame /1.8m x 2.1m/ for the Armenian alphabet /birds, flowers, miniature elements/	1	0	1
	Painted in the miniature style /letter, bird/	2	0	2
	Make-it-yourself pendant	8	3	11
	Painting on canvas	4	1	5
	Painting with glitter sand, shiny beads, glitter	15	16	31
	Painting with gouache	4	2	6
	Paint-it-yourself: Glitter girls, birds	4	11	15
	Small drawings	3	4	7
	Wooden house decoration	16	0	16
<b>Total</b>		<b>88</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>126</b>

Inspired by the large-scale art project completed last quarter – a 3D scene for the fairy tale "The End of Evil", the children began working on another large-scale project – the Armenian alphabet in bird-shaped letters decorated with traditional Armenian patterns. The children of the "Art and craft" workshop painted the inside of a frame /1.8m x 2.1m/ attached to the wall of the hall using special rollers to create the background for the patterns. It took more than 1 month for the children of the workshop to finish painting birds, flowers, and Armenian patterns along the edges of the frame.

The children are very eager to paint the central part of the picture with the colors of old parchment, but the surface on which they are painting is not very suitable for applying this technique. However, they do not give up and try different painting techniques, for example, filling a small polyethylene bag with air, dipping it in paint and trying to get the shades they



need. What they could skillfully create on paper or fabric now presents a challenge with this new material.

The letters of the alphabet /the 36 letters created by Mesrop Mashtots/ were represented in bird-shaped forms on a large piece of glass (1 m × 1.2 m) by participants of the “Stained-Glass” workshop. Upon completion, the glass alphabet will be placed in the center of the frame as the centerpiece of the artwork.

The children found it easy to create the golden outlines of the Armenian letters, but choosing the colors was initially quite challenging, as the shades had to match the decorative edge patterns painted by the “Art and craft” workshop’s participants. Sometimes it was necessary to clean certain colors from the glass and repaint them so they would match the picture. Despite these challenges, the process became a valuable experience in collaboration, joint decision-making on color choices, and working together to create a harmonious artwork.



During the “Stained-Glass” workshop, the children continued to demonstrate creativity and enthusiasm in producing a diverse range of artworks. The children enjoyed creating larger paintings on glass. Currently, they are working on glass paintings of different sizes, including A4 (210 × 297 mm), A3 (297 × 420 mm), and A2 (510 × 700 mm).

During the reporting quarter, the children created many pictures on glass, which are listed in Table 3.

Table 3. Children's works created during Stained-glass classes

Workshop	The name of the work	The quantity of works		Total
		Completed	Ongoing	
“Stained-Glass”	Pictures on glass (without frames)			
	Armenian alphabet (1 m × 1.2 m) - Bird-shaped 36 letters	0	1	1
	Armenian letters	0	2	2
	Animals	4	3	7
	Birds	2	3	5
	Butterflies	0	1	1
	Plants /Fruits	4	10	14
	Mandala	0	2	2
	Watermill, BMW sign, musical instruments	2	2	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>36</b>



## 2.2. Project beneficiaries

During the reporting period, the number of participants in the workshops increased from 48 to 54, exceeding the planned 30:

- 30 children from the village;
- 24 children from the community.

The number of children from SOS Children's Village Ijevan attending the classes changed from 31 to 30: four children were reunited with their biological families and moved to other communities, and two others relocated to continue their studies at a college. In their place, five newly admitted children joined the classes.

The number of children attending the classes from the community also changed—from 17 to 24: because more children from the Day-care center at the Children's village wished to take part. To keep the classes effective, the children from the community were divided into groups and given an attendance schedule so that everyone could benefit from the services provided.

Their involvement in the classes plays an important role in the social integration of the children from the village. SOS Armenia continues to cover additional material costs for the workshops, caused by increase in the number of participant children.

Below in Table 4 please find the number and age group of children in each workshop.

Table 4. Project beneficiaries

Workshop	Number of beneficiaries	Age group
"Art and craft"	27 children (9 boys, 18 girls)	6-15 years
"Stained-glass"	27 children (11 boys, 16 girls)	10-17 years
<b>Total</b>	54 children (20 boys, 34 girls)	6-17 years

Some of the children from the village participated in both workshops with great enthusiasm, enjoying the creative activities and the opportunity to spend time with their friends.

## 2.3. Success story

Recently, several new children were welcomed into the SOS Children's Village. Although they were surrounded by love and care in their new families, they still felt shy and uncertain in the unfamiliar environment. Art therapy classes became a wonderful way to support their smooth adaptation. Three of them joined the "Art and Craft" group, while the two older children enrolled in the "Stained Glass" classes. The children in the workshops welcomed them warmly, first presenting what work they were doing, and then helping them prepare new ones.

Both workshops had started a large collaborative project: the Armenian alphabet created by Mesrop Mashtots with bird-shaped letters and Armenian ornaments. The creation of a large project was not only full of challenges, but also an interesting experience, and the new admitted children were proud to be part of it. Before joining this project, they started learning to draw on small pieces of glass. The other children in the group were very willing to help them, teach them different techniques, and encourage them even if some cases didn't turn out well.

Currently, the most favorite activity for them is participating in Art therapy sessions.



### 3. BUDGET

The total expenses done during the reporting period are shown in the table 5.

Table 5. Project expenses

N	Main Budget Item		Total (AMD)	Balance at 20.06.25	Expenses (AMD)				Total Expenses June 20, 2025-September 19, 2025		Balance at 20.09.25	
				(AMD)	June 20-30, 2025	July* 2025	August 2025	September 1-19, 2025	Cost	%	Cost (AMD)	%
1	Administration	Project Coordinator	1,005,714	720,000	120,000	-	120,000	-	240,000	24%	480,000	48%
2	Stained-Glass workshop	Workshop specialist	1,005,714	720,000	120,000	-	120,000	-	240,000	24%	480,000	48%
		Materials	300,000	210,326	18,000	-	67,392	20,100	105,492	35%	104,834	35%
3	Art and Craft workshop	Workshop specialist	1,005,714	720,000	120,000	-	120,000	-	240,000	24%	480,000	48%
		Materials	200,000	119,620	-	-	22,000	4,900	26,900	13%	92,720	46%
4	Organization of exhibition and peer to peer master classes		100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	0%	100,000	100%
Total			3,617,142	2,589,946	378,000	-	449,392	25,000	852,392	24%	1,737,554	48%

\* According to the procedures established in SOS Children's Village Ijevan, the hobby groups or other courses organized for children do not operate during the children's summer vacation period /JULY/

The detailed information about monthly expenses done during the reporting period are shown in the table 6.

Table 6. Project expenses by months

Date	Description	Document	Total
25.06.2025	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B5804322842	3,000
25.06.2025	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B8824851866	15,000
02.07.2025	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - June 2025	120,000
02.07.2025	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 30.06.2025	120,000
02.07.2025	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustamyan/	Act - 30.06.2025	120,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /June 20-30, 2025/</b>			<b>378,000</b>
26.08.2025	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - August 2025	120,000
26.08.2025	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 29.08.2025	120,000
26.08.2025	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustamyan/	Act - 29.08.2025	120,000
27.08.2025	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B0150176173	22,000
29.08.2025	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N A9161612790	2,892
29.08.2025	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B3400903289	64,500
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /August 2025/</b>			<b>449,392</b>
18.09.2025	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B8271825651	20,100
19.09.2025	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B5700223611	4,900
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /1-19 September 2025/</b>			<b>25,000</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /June 20 - September 19, 2025/</b>			<b>852,392</b>



Director G. Tadevosyan

September 22, 2025