



SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES  
ARMENIA

# NARRATIVE PROJECT REPORT

Art Therapy for Vulnerable Children

**Implementing partner:** SOS Children's Villages Armenian Charity Foundation

**Project site:** SOS Children's Village in Kotayk, Kotayk Province

**Implementation period:** October, 2022 – October, 2023

**Reporting period:** October 10, 2022 – January 10, 2023

Yerevan 2023

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Art therapy is considered one of the most effective methods of working with children. It enables kids to express themselves, talk about issues, practice communication skills, and develop their imagination and creative teamwork abilities. This is the reason why children are often interested in and like attending art therapy sessions.

The kids constantly inquired about their teachers and the resumption of their art therapy sessions during the time that the hobby group classes were postponed. They had developed friendly relationships with the therapists throughout the classes and were communicating with one another on social media. They were therefore delighted and excited to discover that the project would resume. We extended the contracts with the staff included in the project during the first period. The puppetry workshop leader has a background as a sand therapist, therefore we offered that she would also lead the sand therapy sessions. Unfortunately, the former sand therapist was already occupied with another project.

## 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Aimed to improve the social inclusion of vulnerable children through art therapy, the project was presented with three workshops:

1. *Puppetry workshop and mobile puppet theatre*
2. *Pottery workshop*
3. *Sand therapy*

Each of the workshops had their huge contribution in the development of social skills, improvement of the emotional state and overcoming negative emotions and aggression.

The pottery course is held twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays for two hours. Sand therapy sessions are conducted on Mondays and Saturdays for a total of two hours. And the puppetry workshop course takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays for 2.5 hours. The schedule appears as follows.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
14:00-16:00 Sand Therapy 15:30-17:30 Pottery workshop	15:30-18:00Puppetry workshop	
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15:30- 17:30 Pottery workshop	14:30-17:00 Puppetry workshop	11:00-13:00Sand Therapy



When we announced, that the art therapy classes will restart, a lot of children, who used to attend the classes, expressed their will to participate again. There were also newly accepted children who joined the classes. The Family Strengthening Program was also informed. According to the assessments they also suggested to include some of their beneficiaries. 33 kids are currently enrolled in the hobby group classes. This year, there are 10 participants from the community to promote social inclusion of the children from the village.

### 3. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

#### Pottery workshop

There are 10 participants in the workshop, 4 of them come from the community. There is noticeable increase in the children's responsibility and mastery. Their crafts are now of far higher grade. They enjoy going to the sessions, and they are all making what they want or can conceive. Making pottery crafts requires patience and concentration because they must first be made from clay, which might take two or more classes, then it is required to put them in the oven for a number of hours to achieve the desired tan condition. The crafts must cool off after tanning, after which you must gently wash them and allow them to air dry. You may only paint them and put them in the oven once they are completely dry.



#### Puppetry workshop and mobile puppet theatre



There are 11 students in the workshop, 2 participants are from the community. The children enjoy making the puppets. Making outfits for the dolls when they feel like fashion designers is their favorite part. The task of painting the dolls' faces is the most challenging, and the kids frequently ask the teacher for assistance. Some of the children can already use a sewing machine. It was decided to stage the performance in the spring because there was not



enough time to do it for the New Year. Children were also busy crafting Christmas decorations during this time. To decorate their homes and to give as gifts to their friends and relatives, they manufactured a lot of balls and little, shimmering Christmas trees. After the holidays, the performance's preparation will start. Everyone is eagerly anticipating it.

### **Sand therapy**



The youngsters can let go of negative emotions, talk about relevant issues, and interact with one another through sand therapy. The group consists of 12 kids, 4 of them are from the community. We divided them into two age groups in order to get the best results. Here, kids can talk honestly about failing and making errors. The problem is better perceived and easier to solve when the therapist encourages them to reflect using sand and sand therapy figures. Every child responds well to sand

therapy; therefore, we arrange sessions for those who have just been admitted as well as those who will be leaving the village to either become independent or reunite with their biological families.

The art therapy sessions have a huge positive impact. Each youngster discovers an activity that allows to self-express, see the results of labor, and enjoy the creative process. Children's self-attitude and ability to communicate well with one another have improved.





**Therapy Project-SFC/Kotayk**

Date	Amount	Description and corresponding Document
<b>Received</b>		

**Monthly Expenses**

**October 2022**

Consist from

1	31.10.2022	43,200.00	Salary October payroll, Lilit Avetisyan -Puppetry class assistant
2	31.10.2022	45,764.00	Salary October payroll, Srбуhi Movsisyan- Puppetry class leader
3	31.10.2022	43,200.00	Salary October payroll, Venera Shatveryan- Pottery workshop leader
4	31.10.2022	38,136.00	Salary October payroll, Srбуhi Movsisyan-Sand therapy class leader
5	31.10.2022	54,546.00	Salary October payroll, Tatevik Tovmasyan- coordinator
<b>Total expenses October</b>		<b>224,846.00</b>	

**November 2022**

Consist from

1	03.11.2022	95,670.00	Materials for puppetry workshop ,Invoice NU 8900328066
2	03.11.2022	3,420.00	Transportation fee for puppetry workshop, Taxi N33
3	03.11.2022	53,100.00	Lace and threads for puppetry workshop, Invoice NP 7102766558
4	04.11.2022	5,700.00	Transportation fee for puppetry workshop, Taxi N25
5	04.11.2022	77,340.00	Accessories for puppetry workshop, Invoice NU 1553667080
6	08.11.2022	15,000.00	Foam balls for puppetry workshop, Invoice NU 1073008413
7	11.11.2022	4,180.00	Transportation fee for puppetry workshop, Taxi N03
8	30.11.2022	65,550.00	Salary November payroll, Lilit Avetisyan -Puppetry class assistant



9	30.11.2022	69,600	Salary November payroll, Srбуhi Movsisyan- Puppetry class leader
10	30.11.2022	65,550.00	Salary November payroll, Venera Shatveryan- Pottery workshop leader
11	30.11.2022	69,600	Salary November payroll, Srбуhi Movsisyan-Sand therapy class leader
12	30.11.2022	39,577.00	Salary November payroll, Tatevik Tovmasyan- coordinator
<b>Total expenses November</b>		<b>564,287.00</b>	

**December 2022**

Consist from

1	05.12.2022	126,050.00	Materials for Pottery workshop, Invoice N U2628535841
2	23.12.2022	4,180.00	Transportation fee for Puppetry workshop- taxi N38
3	29.12.2022	65,550	Salary December payroll, Lilit Avetisyan -Puppetry class assistant
4	29.12.2022	69,600	Salary December payroll, Srбуhi Movsisyan- Puppetry class leader
5	29.12.2022	65,550	Salary December payroll, Venera Shatveryan- Pottery workshop leader
6	29.12.2022	69,600	Salary December payroll, Srбуhi Movsisyan-Sand therapy class leader
7	29.12.2022	70,968.0	Salary December payroll, Tatevik Tovmasyan- coordinator

**Total expenses December 471,498.00**

**Total expenses Oct-Dec 1,260,631.00**

