



## *Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)*



## *2011 ANNUAL REPORT*



*Providing humanitarian relief to orphaned Armenian children  
living in Armenia, Nagorno-Karabakh, and Javakh*

# ***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## ***2011 Annual Report***

***Prepared by the Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

***1060 First Avenue, Suite 400***

***King of Prussia, PA 19406***

***Office: 610.768.8988***

***Fax: 610.229.5168***

***Email: [gyacoubian@soar-us.org](mailto:gyacoubian@soar-us.org)***

***Web: [www.soar-us.org](http://www.soar-us.org)***



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

# *Table of Contents*

Message from the National President	4
Introduction	5
Creation and Management	6
Orphanage Descriptions	7
Mechanisms of Assistance	10
Methods of Shipping and Distribution	12
Distribution Highlights	14
Chapter Highlights	15
Accounting Summary	20
Conclusion	23



*Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)*



## ***Message from the National President***

Dear SOAR Friends:

Thank you for making 2011 our most productive year to date. The single word to characterize 2011 is *milestones*. We achieved milestones in two primary areas: distributions and expansion. In 2006, our inaugural year, we made \$59,700.00 in distributions to our target population. In 2007, our distributions increased to \$88,245.00. In 2008, we crossed a major threshold and distributed \$102,300.00, and in 2009 and 2010, we improved to \$111,508.00 and \$117,968.00, respectively. In 2011, we made nearly \$360,000.00 in distributions, an almost 600% increase from our inaugural year of 2006!

Second, we added six (6) new Chapters: Delaware in April, Fresno and Detroit in July, Florida in August, North Carolina in September, and Philadelphia in November. This brings our Chapter total to 15, including Chicago; Idaho; Los Angeles; New England; New York/New Jersey; Northern California; Seattle; Washington, DC; and Yerevan. The Chapters provide us with a critical localized presence across the United States and internationally. We look forward to working with these amazing volunteers for many years to come.

When SOAR was created in 2006, we could never have envisioned such growth. Let me offer my heartfelt gratitude and sincere admiration to everyone who continues to make this journey a successful one: our National Board of Directors, whose responsibilities grow year in and year out; our Chapters, which faithfully perpetuate the SOAR mission within their respective geographic regions; our Board of Trustees, which oversee our fiscal operations; our Partners in Armenia, who oversee our distributions; and, most importantly, our generous financial and emotional supporters. Your steadfast enthusiasm and commitment are greatly appreciated, and we thank you for a fantastic 2011.

Sincerely,

George S. Yacoubian, Jr., Ph.D., LL.M.  
National SOAR President



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

# Introduction

Poverty in Armenia, still pervasive today two decades after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, is rooted in both external and internal factors, including government corruption, poor state governance, an unresolved conflict with Azerbaijan over the Karabakh territory, economic blockades by Turkey and Azerbaijan, and an outdated technological base and labor force. Children in Armenia are more vulnerable to the consequences of poverty than any other age or social group, resulting in increasing numbers of orphans, institutionalized children, and children living on the streets. There are approximately 1,500 children living in Armenia's state- and privately-funded orphanages, and government expenditures on social services are very low.

In Armenia, there are both “natural” and “social” orphans. Natural orphans have no mother or father. Social orphans have living parents who are unable or unwilling to care for them. Although these children receive basic material and educational support, most institutions fail to adequately care for their emotional, spiritual, and psychological well-being. According to the 2011 Trafficking in Persons Report, Armenia has tier 2 status because its street children, orphans, and institutionalized children are at very high risk of being trafficked or abused. It is because the orphaned Armenian population is so vulnerable to short- and long-term physical and emotional abuse that the Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) was created.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## ***Creation and Management***

George S. Yacoubian, Jr., and his wife Erica, SOAR founders, began their adoption process in 2005. Throughout that spring and summer, they went through “home study” and various levels of domestic governmental approval. While in Armenia during the summer of 2005 to visit a summer camp hosted by the Our Lady of Armenia Center, they saw their future daughter for the first time. They submitted their dossier to the Armenian government in the fall of 2005, received preliminary adoption approval in December 2005, and received final approval in March 2006. They brought Liliana home on April 23, 2006.

After having seen the conditions of the orphanages, the Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) was founded as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides humanitarian relief to orphaned children living in Armenia. Between October 2005 and March 2006, an experienced and talented Board of Directors was assembled, a network of Partners in Armenia was recruited to assist with distributions, and the web site ([www.soar-us.org](http://www.soar-us.org)) was launched. In 2011, SOAR expanded to include Armenian orphanages in Nagorno-Karabakh and a summer camp that hosts orphaned Armenian children in Javakh, Georgia.

Since 2007, SOAR has expanded to 15 Chapters: Chicago; Delaware; Detroit; Florida; Fresno; Idaho; Los Angeles; New England; New York/New Jersey; North Carolina; Northern California; Philadelphia; Seattle; Washington, DC; and Yerevan. In 2009, a National Board of Trustees was created to annually review SOAR operations and distributions. SOAR has experienced significant growth during the past several years, both in terms of tangible distributions and geographic presence. Some volunteers are parents of adopted Armenian children; others simply recognize the significance of SOAR’s humanitarian contributions and want to help perpetuate its mission. The bond that exists among SOAR’s national and international volunteers is the recognition that orphaned children represent the most vulnerable population of Armenian society.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## ***Orphanage Descriptions***

SOAR supports sixteen orphanages in Armenia, two Armenian orphanages in Nagorno-Karabakh, and a summer camp that hosts Armenian orphaned children in Javakh. We have regular contact with the orphanage directors and maintain an updated list of needs. A description of each orphanage is presented below.

***Boarding School #1 (formerly Zangak Orphanage)*** is a state orphanage in Stepanagert, Nagorno-Karabakh, housing approximately 35 children (healthy and special needs) between the ages of 4 and 16.

***Boarding School #2*** is a state orphanage in Kashatagh, Nagorno-Karabakh, housing approximately 17 healthy children between the ages of 6 and 17.

***Children's Home of Gyumri*** is a state orphanage in Gyumri housing approximately 105 children with special needs 6 years old and younger.

***Gavar Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Gavar housing approximately 115 healthy children between the ages of 3 and 18.

***Gyumri Social Childcare Center*** is a state daycare center in Gyumri. Since July 2006, approximately 200 children (healthy and special needs) from Shirak Marz have been served at the center.

***Hadug Tibi Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Yerevan housing approximately 83 children (healthy and special needs) through age 18.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***



## Orphanage Descriptions

***The Holy Cross Armenian Church of Javakh Summer Day Camp*** is directed by Very Rev. Fr. Babken Salibyan of Holy Cross Armenian Church. This camp is located in the Diocese Center of the Holy Cross Armenian Church in Akhakalak, Georgia. The camp serves approximately 250 social orphans living at or below poverty level in the nearby villages. The camp was created to get these children off the streets and provide them with a safe, clean, fun, and spiritual environment during the summer. The camp lasts approximately 40 days. Each day includes morning prayer, hygiene check, exercise, religious education, sports, singing and dancing, and Armenian history and art class.

***Kharberd Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Kharberd housing approximately 240 children with special needs between the ages of 6 and 18.

***Nork Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Yerevan housing approximately 80 healthy and special needs children 6 years old and younger.

***Nubarashen*** is a state-funded special boarding school in Yerevan housing approximately 105 children with special needs between 7 and 18 years of age.

***Orphanage of Fridtjof Nansen (formerly Honys)*** is a state orphanage in Gyumri housing approximately 80 healthy children between the ages of 4 and 18.

***Our Lady of Armenia Center*** is a private orphanage in Gyumri housing healthy children between the ages of 6 and 18. The Center is operated by the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, a religious order of nuns established in 1847.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***



## *Orphanage Descriptions*

**Sisters of Charity—Bethlehem** is a private orphanage in Yerevan housing approximately 15 children with special needs. The Sisters of Charity is a Catholic religious order established in 1950 by Mother Teresa to tend to “the poorest of the poor.”

**Sisters of Charity Orphanage—Spitak** is a private orphanage in Spitak housing approximately 33 children with special needs. There are no age limitations. The Sisters of Charity is a Catholic religious order established in 1950 by Mother Teresa to tend to “the poorest of the poor.”

**SOS Children's Village** is an international organization that provides a home for children who have either lost or can no longer live with their parents. Located in Abovyan, SOS houses approximately 80 healthy children up to 15 years of age. When the children turn 15, they move to one of three SOS centers in Yerevan, where they remain until age 20.

**Treichonian Home** is a private orphanage in Gyumri housing approximately 60 intellectually gifted children between the ages of 3 and 12.

**Vanadzor Orphanage** is a private orphanage in Vanadzor housing approximately 110 healthy children 18 years of age and under.

**Vardashen** is a state-funded, special boarding school in Yerevan housing approximately 83 children who “exhibit socially dangerous behavior” between the ages of 6 and 18.

**Zadik Orphanage** is a state orphanage in Yerevan housing approximately 138 healthy children between the ages of 6 and 18. After the age of 18, the children move to either Rainbow House or a farming village in Arzni.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## ***Mechanisms of Assistance***

SOAR offers several mechanisms of assistance:

### ***Balik-Jan Project***

The Balik-Jan Project brings warmth, love, and comfort to the orphaned children in Armenia, with volunteers knitting, crocheting, and sewing infant, toddler, and children's clothes. The following items can be made in all children's sizes: booties, hats/bonnets, dresses, sweaters, ponchos, socks, mittens, scarves, and blankets. Persons interested in becoming a Balik-Jan volunteer can contact Anna A. Turcotte (New England Chapter) at [anna.turcotte@gmail.com](mailto:anna.turcotte@gmail.com). Donations can be shipped to the following address:

Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)  
c/o George S. Yacoubian, Jr.  
Public Storage, #B037  
245 West Chester Pike  
Havertown, PA 19083

### ***Child Sponsorship Program***

In the spring of 2010, SOAR launched the Child Sponsorship Program. Child sponsorship allows the sponsor to personally connect with an orphaned Armenian child while making a lasting investment in his/her future. **The sponsor's entire donation goes directly to the child—no funds benefit the orphanages or SOAR generally, and SOAR assumes the cost of all wiring fees.** Sponsors have the opportunity to send notes and small gifts to their child, all of which can be coordinated through SOAR.

For a minimum of \$50 a month, sponsorship provides items like tuition or future tuition, educational books and supplies, musical tutoring, medical care, and other items for the child's personal growth. Minimum one-year commitments are required. Please visit <http://soar-us.org/enroll.html> for more information.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

# ***Mechanisms of Assistance***

## ***Donation of Goods***

SOAR ships to Armenia once a year, typically in the spring. The following is a nonexhaustive list of items of items that are **always** needed by the orphanages: baby supplies (e.g., diapers and powder); Band-Aids; bath towels; bedding (for cribs and twin beds); blankets; new and gently used books; **new** clothing (infants through young adult); educational toys; musical items (e.g., CDs and radios); nonprescription medication (e.g., Tylenol and vitamins); personal hygiene products (e.g., brushes, combs, shampoo, and soap); shoes; and umbrellas.

SOAR accepts certain products (e.g., diapers) only if they are in their original sealed packaging. All items can be shipped to the above address. Please contact National Board member Tanya Bardakjian (tbardakjian@verizon.net) to discuss a specialized collection in your geographic area.

## ***Financial Donations***

All cash donations are tax deductible. Donations can be made: 1) by check and 2) through our online donation system ([www.soar-us.org](http://www.soar-us.org)). All donations are acknowledged in writing for tax purposes. Checks should be made out to SOAR and mailed to:

Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)  
c/o George S. Yacoubian, Jr.  
1060 First Avenue, Suite 400  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

## ***Special Gifts Program***

In addition to conventional financial donations, SOAR offers a Special Gifts Program. The Program includes donor-advised funds, endowments, in lieu of flowers, and scholarships. If you would like more information about our Special Gifts Program, please contact George S. Yacoubian, Jr., at 610.213.3452 or [gyacoubian@soar-us.org](mailto:gyacoubian@soar-us.org).



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

# *Methods of Shipping and Distribution*

## ***Protocol***

SOAR assists the orphanages through three (3) primary mechanisms. First, we work with for-profit corporations to provide donations of specific products. We receive these goods in the United States and ship them to Armenia through the United Armenia Fund (UAF). UAF informs us of the date of arrival in Armenia approximately one week in advance. We then notify our Partners to pick up the goods from the airport and coordinate all distributions.

Second, we receive items from individuals, families, and groups across the United States and ship them to Armenia via UAF.

Third, cash donations are used to purchase various goods and services. Some of these products and services are purchased outside of Armenia and shipped to our Partners. Most of the products and services, however, are purchased *in* Armenia. This method of procurement serves the dual role of satisfying the orphanages' needs while simultaneously providing a boost to the Armenian economy. Our Partners are responsible for either receiving the goods purchased by SOAR or for purchasing the items/services for SOAR and subsequently making the distributions.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***



# Methods of Shipping and Distribution

## Quality Control

While no improprieties or indiscretions have *ever* been brought to our attention, SOAR has a strict quality control protocol to assure that all donations reach the intended recipients. This policy includes:

- Rarely making cash distributions directly to the orphanages. Those goods/services that can be procured in Armenia are purchased by our Partners and distributed directly to the orphanages.
- Implementing a chain of custody procedures for any goods or services distributed to the orphanages. This assures us that these items have been received by the orphanages in the exact quantity intended. These chain of custody procedures have three (3) substeps:
  - o Our Partners sign for the shipments at the Yerevan airport and/or attest to the type and quantity of goods/services procured in Armenia. This invoice includes an exact description of the type and quantity of goods shipped/distributed and services provided.
  - o The orphanage directors sign this same invoice, indicating that the exact type and quantity of goods and services they received is the quantity indicated on the invoice.
  - o Both invoices are mailed to the National SOAR President for review.
- Partners, Yerevan Chapter members, and other volunteers who visit Armenia making random inspections of the orphanages. Distribution discrepancies are reported immediately.
- When possible, having donated goods engraved and/or stamped with a corporate seal. Major projects are acknowledged with a dedication ceremony and plaque.
- Imposing a zero-tolerance policy for fraud, theft, and/or deception.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## ***Distribution Highlights***

In January 2011, SOAR received a donation of furniture, valued at more than \$50,000.00 from the Sheraton University City Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, through the generosity of General Manager Ken Kapikian. The furniture, which included nearly 20 bedroom sets—dressers, nightstands, bed frames, mattress, desks, and chairs—was earmarked for the annual summer camp hosted by the Our Lady of Armenia Center. The summer camp hosts approximately 1,000 orphaned and otherwise underprivileged youth each summer in Tsaghgadzor.

In April 2011, SOAR purchased a new water heater for the Our Lady of Armenia Center and donated \$2,000.00 to the Javakh Summer Day camp.

Throughout the calendar year, SOAR funded the renovation/installation of computer labs at Hatug Tibi (\$3,300.00), the Our Lady of Armenia Center (\$18,000.00), SOS Children's Center (\$10,500.00), Trchoonian Home (\$10,000.00), Vanadzor (\$4,500.00), and Zatik (\$10,000.00). In December, SOAR funded Christmas parties and gifts for the children at all of the orphanages.

Calendar year 2011 marked the first full year for the Child Sponsorship Program. Nearly \$20,000.00 in sponsorship funds was distributed in 2011, all of which was earmarked for the nearly 60 children sponsored across nine of Armenia's orphanages. Moneys were used for medical expenses, tutoring, music lessons, and a variety of expenses tailored specifically to the sponsored children's needs.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## Chapter Highlights

### Chicago

In June, SOAR-Chicago hosted a fundraiser in downtown Chicago at a beautiful rooftop residence overlooking Lakeshore Drive and Navy Pier. The theme of the evening was “Our Armenia, Our Children.” Nearly 100 guests were in attendance. The guest speaker, Dr. Levon Saryan, talked about the existing conditions in the orphanages in Armenia and the importance of providing aid and support. Armenian mezza as well as wine and beverages were served, and a four-piece Armenian band (Jimmy Hardy, John Paklaian, Shahan Alexanian and Mark Gavoor) played throughout the evening. There were two guest artists displaying their work: Boris Khechoyan, a Master Woodcarver from St Louis, and Dr. Chuck Garbo Hajinian, a Monet Style impressionist artist. In addition, a silent auction was hosted with five pieces of Michael Aram’s work on display. The flowers were donated by Magik Flowers (Sylvia and Heratch Yacoubian) and beautifully displayed on the tables. All of our guests were met in the lobby and escorted up to the rooftop by two young ladies dressed in full Armenian costume.

In June, one of SOAR-Chicago’s board members, Ardem Ghazarian-Hardy, volunteered at the OLA summer camp in Tsaghgadzor. Art supplies were provided by SOAR-Chicago.

In August, the Chapter hosted a booth at the Taste of Armenia Festival in downtown Evanston. Attendance was well over 1,000 people. All donations received a complimentary SOAR T-shirt designed by Michelle Goodman Diekhans.

In December, SOAR-Chicago hosted a reception at the Chicago Norehad Center AGBU. Sister Arousiag Sajonian, Director of OLA, gave a talk with the Saturday school students. She was presented with a check for \$5,600.00 for the complete renovation of two bathrooms and a washer and dryer for the Center.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## Chapter Highlights

### Los Angeles

SOAR's Los Angeles Chapter (SOAR-LA) had an immensely successful fundraising year! Thanks to the strong support of Mark and Paulette Geragos, Geragos Law firm, Arthur and Lily Seredian, *Yerevan* magazine, and many other supporters and volunteers, the LA chapter raised close to \$250,000.00, including the installation of computer labs at Hatug Tibi, OLA, SOS, Trchoonian Home, Vanadzor, and Zadik; the procurement of medical supplies for Kharperd and Gavar; and humanitarian relief to Javakh (\$5,000.00) and both orphanages (\$10,000.00) in Nagorno-Karabakh.

*January 2011:* The Rick Spears Educational Fund, with an annual endowment of \$10,000.00, was established by Rick Spears to help supply educational and school supplies for the orphanages.

*April 2011:* Kharberd held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of its infirmary. The complete renovation and refurnishing of the infirmary was completed in February 2011 and sponsored by SOAR-LA, Siranoush Hovhanissyan (SOAR Partner), and Papken Megerian (SOAR Trustee and SOAR-Yerevan Chapter President).



*April 2011:* Michael Aram made a personal appearance at Bloomingdale's in Century Mall (Los Angeles, California). A large crowd came to meet Michael in person and purchase many of his rare and elegant housewares pieces. SOAR-LA extends its gratitude to Michael for his remarkable generosity and kindness in donating 10% of these proceeds to SOAR-LA.

### Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)



## Chapter Highlights

*June 2011:* SOAR-LA hosted “Annual Gala,” a successful comedy, dinner, and dance at the Hilton Hotel in Glendale. The event included an exquisite setting, distinguished honorees and celebrities, fantastic food and entertainment, an exclusive silent auction, and red carpet coverage by *Yerevan* magazine.



*June 2011:* SOAR-LA successfully loaded and shipped a sea container with medical supplies and equipment to the Kharperd and Gavar Orphanages.



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## Chapter Highlights

*December 2011:* SOAR-LA held its second annual Casino Royale event, sponsored by attorney Mark Geragos, Arthur and Lily Seredian, and *Yerevan* magazine. The evening featured many celebrity guests and sponsors, including talented actor Hrach Titizian and family, John and Hasmik Foundation trustees, and four-time Emmy Award-winning film producer, Bared Maronian. Hundreds of supporters and guests raised funds for the installation of computer labs. *Yerevan* magazine highlighted the Casino Royale event with an amazing article, “SOAR Goes All In for the Kids.” Thank you, *Yerevan* magazine, for terrific coverage!



### ***New England***

On Saturday June 11, 2011, the New England Chapter hosted its first fundraiser in the state of Rhode Island at the Governor Henry Lippitt House in Providence. Approximately 60 guest enjoyed traditional Armenian food while enjoying the historic features of the Lippitt House, which also serves as a museum. Chapter President Michael Hagopian presented a brief slide show presentation, outlining the history of the organization and the contributions made by the New England Chapter.

### ***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

## *Chapter Highlights*

The guests were generous in their support through donations and participation in several raffles and silent auctions. By utilizing Providence as a venue for the fundraiser, the Chapter was able to draw on the support of the Rhode Island Armenian community as well as the generous donations from local businesses. As a regional Chapter, we are able to draw on the support of different geographic communities. Our goal is to continue to host fundraisers throughout the region. As always, all New England fundraisers are complimentary. We are indebted to the generosity of our collective communities.

### *Seattle*

In May 2011, SOAR volunteers in Seattle hosted an Armenian cooking class fundraiser. Chef Lesa Sullivan taught students how to prepare a variety of Armenian cuisines:

- Armenian Pilaf (baked rice, with sautéed pasta, nuts, and dried fruit)
- Matzoun (home-made whole milk yogurt)
- Grape Leaf Sarma (grape leaves stuffed with rice, currants, and lamb)
- Spinach-Lentil Soup
- Bourma (rolled walnut and sugar strudel)

All money raised was earmarked for Nork and Gavar Orphanages. For Nork, the moneys were used to purchase diapers and a new vacuum cleaner. For Gavar, the moneys were used to purchase two (2) microwaves.

In June 2011, SOAR-Seattle hosted a night of wine and hors d'oeuvres to increase SOAR awareness in the community. More than \$1,900.00 was raised to purchase items for children at the Our Lady of Armenia Center, including sporting equipment, toys, and personal items.



*Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)*



## ***2011 Accounting Summary<sup>1</sup>***

Opening Balance	\$ 8,333.00
Total Annual Revenue	\$ 416,637.00 <sup>2</sup>
<b><i>Total Orphanage Distributions</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 359,680.00</i></b>
• Boarding School #1 (Nagorno-Karabakh)	\$ 5,500.00
• Boarding School #2 (Nagorno-Karabakh)	\$ 5,500.00
• Children's Home of Gyumri	\$ 2,450.00
o Sponsorship funds	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• Gavar	\$ 4,475.00
o Sponsorship funds	
o New clothes	
o Haig and Alice Koumjian Rug Weaving Memorial Fund	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• Gyumri Social Childcare Center	\$ 1,450.00
o Sponsorship funds	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• Hatug Tibi	\$ 3,800.00
o Computer lab project	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• Houys	\$ 500.00
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• Javakh Summer Day Camp	\$ 7,000.00
o Summer camp supplies	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• Kharberd	\$ 181,165.00
o Medical equipment	
o Sponsorship funds	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	

---

<sup>1</sup> SOAR's 2011 tax return was prepared by Greg Mangasarian, Mangasarian and Associates, 103 Chesley Drive, Suite 103, Media, PA, 19063, 610.891.7710.

<sup>2</sup> This figure includes the work from our National Headquarters and all of our Chapters.



## ***2011 Accounting Summary***

• <b>Nork</b>	\$ 2,325.00
o New baby supplies	
o Diapers	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• <b>Nubarashen</b>	\$ 2,600.00
o Sponsorship funds	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• <b>Our Lady of Armenia Center</b>	\$ 95,025.00
o Camp and school supplies	
o Furniture for summer camp	
o Sponsorship funds	
o Computer lab project	
o Bathroom renovation	
o New washers and dryers	
o New water heater	
o George and Sara Yacoubian Embroidery Memorial Fund	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• <b>Sisters of Charity (Bethlehem and Spitak)</b>	\$ 6,450.00
o New toys and games	
o Christmas parties and gifts for children	
• <b>SOS Children's Center</b>	\$ 11,000.00
o Computer lab project	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• <b>Trchoonian Home</b>	\$ 13,840.00
o Sponsorship funds	
o Computer lab project	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• <b>Vanadzor</b>	\$ 5,600.00
o Sponsorship funds	
o Computer lab project	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• <b>Vardashen</b>	\$ 500.00
o Christmas party and gifts for children	
• <b>Zadik</b>	\$ 10,500.00
o Computer lab project	
o Christmas party and gifts for children	

***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***

# 2011 Accounting Summary

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 47,349.00</b>
• Advertising and promotion	\$ 16,329.00
• Banking fees	\$ 526.00
• Facilities and equipment rental	\$ 1,270.00
• Fundraising	\$ 9,142.00
• Information technology	\$ 1,118.00
• Insurance	\$ 975.00
• Office expenses	\$ 4,732.00
• Other expenses	\$ 6,998.00
• Postage and mailing	\$ 1,388.00
• Professional (accounting and legal) fees	\$ 2,128.00
• Travel	\$ 2,743.00
<b>Closing Balance<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$ 17,941.00<sup>2</sup></b>

---

1 This figure includes the work from our National Headquarters and all of our Chapters.

2 The Closing Balance = Total Revenue + Opening Balance - (Total Distributions + Expenses).



**Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)**

## Conclusion

The Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) was established in the spring of 2006 to provide humanitarian relief to orphaned Armenian children. Our long-term goal is to provide orphaned Armenian children living in Armenia, Nagorno-Karabakh, and Javakh with the resources fundamental to their physical, emotional, and intellectual development. Over time, we aim to provide these underprivileged youth with the tools necessary to become accomplished, educated, and self-supporting Armenian adults.

The SOAR family boasts more than 150 volunteers worldwide, supporting the 16 orphanages in Armenia, two Armenian orphanages in Nagorno-Karabakh, and an Armenian day camp in Javakh. Our web site ([www.soar-us.org](http://www.soar-us.org)) provides a complete description of our organization, the population we serve, and our work to date.

In calendar year 2011, SOAR distributed **\$359,680.00** to our target population, receiving and shipping a variety of new clothes, toys, diapers, games, books, school and office supplies, and personal hygiene products. Moreover, we shipped medical equipment to Kharberd and furniture to the Our Lady of Armenia Center Summer Camp; renovated bathrooms and purchased new washers and dryers for the Our Lady of Armenia Center; and funded the renovation/installation of computer labs at Hatug Tibi, the Our Lady of Armenia Center, SOS Children's Center, Trchoonian Home, Vanadzor, and Zatik. Lastly, we funded Christmas parties and gifts for the children at all of the orphanages.

In 2011 SOAR established three (3) Funds: The Rick Spears Educational Fund, endowed with a \$10,000.00 annual donation, is earmarked exclusively for the educational needs of the orphaned children living in Armenia. Moneys are used for the renovation of classrooms, construction of libraries, tuition, tutoring, and the purchase of computers, books, desks/chairs, and school supplies. The Haig and Alice Koumjian Rug Weaving Memorial Fund, endowed with a \$1,000.00 donation each calendar year, is earmarked exclusively for the rug weaving trade at the Gavar Orphanage. The George and Sara Yacoubian Embroidery Memorial Fund, endowed with a \$1,000.00 donation each calendar year, is earmarked exclusively for the embroidery trade at the Our Lady of Armenia Center.

If you have any questions about SOAR, the orphanages we serve, our 2011 report, or how to join the SOAR family, please contact George S. Yacoubian, Jr., at 610.213.3452 or by email at [gyacoubian@soar-us.org](mailto:gyacoubian@soar-us.org).



***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)***



## ***SOAR 2011 Annual Report***

***Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief***

***1060 First Avenue, Suite 400, King of Prussia, PA 19406***

***Office: 610.768.8988 Fax: 610.229.5168***

***Email: [gyacoubian@soar-us.org](mailto:gyacoubian@soar-us.org) Web: [www.soar-us.org](http://www.soar-us.org)***