

Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief

2016



Annual Report

Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)



*Providing humanitarian relief
to orphaned Armenians
throughout the world*

2016 Annual Report

Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)
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A Word from the Executive Board Chairman

To Our SOAR Family:

Thank you for making 2016 our most productive year to date!

SOAR continues to achieve significant growth in both distributions and geographic presence. In 2006, our first full year of operations, we made \$59,700 in distributions. In 2016, our distributions exceeded \$2M! SOAR's volunteer base has also grown tremendously, with 110 Chapters and 6 Junior Groups now perpetuating our mission around the world. We continue to develop a diverse array of educational, professional, and social Programs which provide immediate enrichment to the lives of the children we support. The sustained interaction between global volunteers and our orphaned children demonstrate that geographical boundaries and cultural distinctions are no hurdle to the mission we embrace.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the SOAR team: Executive Board, Trustees, Mother Arousiag Sajonian, Hripsime Muradyan, Alina Karapetyan, Zoya Torosyan, Susan Burdette, Regional Directors, worldwide Chapter volunteers, and, finally, our financial and emotional supporters. Your steadfast loyalty to SOAR makes our work possible. As we take on the challenges of our second decade, thank you.

Respectfully,

George S. Yacoubian, Jr., Ph.D., LL.M., SOAR Founder and Executive Board Chairman



Creation and Management

George and Erica Yacoubian 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 visiting the Our Lady of Armenia Center Summer Camp, they saw Liliana for the first time. They submitted their dossier to the Armenian government that fall, received preliminary approval in December, and obtained final approval the following March. Liliana arrived in the United States on April 23, 2006.

The Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) was established in the fall of 2005 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides humanitarian relief to orphaned children living in Armenia. In early 2006, an experienced Board of Directors was assembled, a network of Partners in Armenia was recruited to assist with distributions, and the web site was launched. In 2009, a National Board of Trustees was created to annually review SOAR's fiscal operations and distributions.

Represented by 110 Chapters and 6 Junior groups worldwide, SOAR supports 38 institutions throughout the world. Some volunteers are parents of adopted Armenian children; others simply recognize the significance of SOAR's work and want to help perpetuate its mission. The common bond among them all is the recognition that orphaned Armenians represent the most vulnerable population of Armenian society.



Quality Control

SOAR imposes a strict quality control protocol to assure that all goods and services reach their intended recipients.

This protocol has five primary steps:

- 1) We rarely make cash distributions directly to the orphanages. Rather, those goods and services that can be procured in Armenia are purchased by our Partners and distributed directly to the orphanages.
- 2) We implement chain of custody procedures for any goods or services distributed to the orphanages. This assures us that these items have been received by our target population. These chain of custody procedures have three (3) sub-steps:
 - In-country Partners sign an invoice giving an exact description of the type and quantity of goods or services received.
 - The orphanage directors then sign the invoice.
 - The invoice with both signatures is mailed to the Executive Board Chairman for filing in permanent records.
- 3) Our Partners, Yerevan Chapter members, and other volunteers who visit Armenia make random inspections of the orphanages to assure that a reasonable quantity of goods remains. Discrepancies are reported immediately to the Executive Board Chairman. To date, no discrepancies have ever been reported.
- 4) When possible (as with appliances, furniture, and books), goods provided by SOAR are engraved and/or stamped with a corporate seal. Major projects are acknowledged with a SOAR dedication plaque.
- 5) We implement a zero-tolerance policy for fraud, theft, and/or deception. In the event of a discrepancy, the orphanage concerned will no longer be eligible for SOAR assistance.



Institutions We Support

SOAR supports 28 institutions in Armenia, two Armenian orphanages in Artsakh, an orphan summer camp in Javakh, four Armenian orphanages in Lebanon, and three Armenian orphanages in Syria:

- **Armenian Evangelical Boarding School** in Ainjar is home to approximately 75 social orphans.
- **Birds' Nest Orphanage** in Byblos provides boarding, education, spiritual guidance, and encouragement to children from broken families and in need of care and compassion. It houses 37 children, ages 6 months–17 years.
- **Boarding School #1** is a state orphanage in Stepanagert housing approximately 22 social and natural orphaned children ages 8–15.
- **Boarding School #2** is a state orphanage in Kashatagh housing approximately 22 children, ages 8–15.
- **Bzommar Orphanage** is operated by the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, who carry out catechetical, cultural and social work with both natural and social orphans. It houses approximately 25 girls.
- **Cardinal Aghajanian Orphanage** in Ainjar is home to about 24 boys who are social orphans.
- **Children's Home of Gyumri** is a state orphanage in Gyumri housing approximately 100 children with special needs, under the age of 6.
- **Community Development and Social Support Center** in Gyumri offers alternative care and material assistance to children with special needs ages 6–18.
- **Dzorak Care Center** in Yerevan serves as an orphanage and nursing home for approximately 120 adults with severe physical and psychological disabilities who have outgrown the traditional orphanage.
- **Gavar Orphanage** is a state orphanage in Gavar housing approximately 65 children between the ages of 3 and 18
- **Gyumri Social Childcare Center** is a day center in Gyumri primarily serving children 6-18 years old from disadvantaged families.
- **Hrant Dink School** is a day center in Istanbul that offers support to approximately 150 Armenian children between the hours of 8AM and 7PM.
- **The Holy Cross Armenian Church of Javakh Summer Day Camp** in Akhakalak serves roughly 250 social orphans living at or below poverty level. The camp gets these village children off the streets during the summer and provide them with a safe, clean, fun, and spiritual environment.
- **Kalfayan Orphanage** was founded by Srpuhi Kalfayan (1822-1889), an Armenian nun, as an orphanage for girls in Istanbul, Hasköy. In 1865, she mobilized financial support for the victims of epidemic cholera and, in 1866, opened an orphanage for 17 girls who lost their families in this epidemic disaster. Both “The Order of Kalfayan” and the orphanage exist today due to support of the Patriarchate and charitable Armenians. In recent years, Sister Gayane was ordained as the “Kalfayan nun” by the Patriarchate, and she is the last and living nun who gives spiritual support to the girls at Kalfayan Orphanage.

Institutions (Continued)

- ***Kharberd Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Kharberd housing approximately 280 children with special needs, ages 6–18.
- ***Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Yerevan housing approximately 100 children with special needs between the ages of 6 and 18.
- ***Mer Doon*** (“Our Home”) offers a home in Etchmiadzin for orphaned Armenian adults (18 and over) who have outgrown the traditional orphanage. Mer Doon offers education and a loving and compassionate family environment, thus easing the transition from orphanage life to outside society.
- ***Mer Hooy*** (“Our Hope”) houses approximately 20 teenage girls in the Arapkir district of Yerevan. The girls receive language and job skills training, computer instruction, college preparation and education, religious foundational teaching, life skills training, psychological support, and hope, confidence and love.
- ***Nork Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Yerevan housing approximately 60 children (both healthy and with special needs) under the age of 6.
- ***Nubarashen*** is a state boarding school in Yerevan housing approximately 83 children with special needs, ages 7– 18.
- ***Orphanage of Fridtjof Nansen*** is a state orphanage in Gyumri housing approximately 83 children between the ages of 4 and 18.
- ***Orran*** “haven” in Armenian, was established in Yerevan in April 2000. The Center started with 16 children, but within 6 months had expanded to 26 elderly and 40 socially vulnerable children. In 2009, a second Orran center was established in Vanadzor. Today, Orran support approximately 95 elderly and 200 children across Armenia.
- ***Our Lady of Armenia Center*** is a private orphanage in Gyumri housing approximately 45 girls 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.
- ***The Our Lady of Armenia Annie Bezikian Youth Center*** is a private facility in Kanaker that houses girls between the ages of 16 and 22 who have outgrown the traditional orphanage and who are transitioning to independent living. The Center is operated by the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, a religious order of nuns established in 1847.
- ***Our Lady of Armenia Center Summer Camp*** in Tsaghgadzor hosts approximately 800 children ages 8 to 15 in four sixteen-day sessions. The camp provides nutritious food, physical rest, recreational activities, and religious/educational experiences both to institutionalized children and to other needy boys and girls.
- ***Our Lady of Armenia Educational Center*** in Tashir is operated by the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and provides meals and after-school activities to approximately 30 orphaned and otherwise needy children.

Institutions (Continued)

- ***Our Lady of Armenia Educational Center Summer Camp*** (Tashir) hosts approximately 50 children ages 7-15 for four weeks throughout the summer. The Camp provides nutritious food, physical rest, recreational activities, educational opportunities, and religious-educational experiences to children from the Tashir community.
- ***St. Theresa's Little Flower Orphanage-Azizie***, run by the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, cared for up to 35 girls till civil unrest made it necessary to relocate many of the orphans.
- ***St. Theresa's Little Flower Orphanage-Meydan***, run by the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, cared for up to 35 girls till civil unrest made it necessary to relocate many of the orphans.
- ***Shengavit Kindergarten*** boards 250 children (at least Monday through Friday, and in most cases on the weekend as well) whose families are living in extreme poverty or have histories of child abuse, domestic violence, or drug addiction. The first of its kind, Shengavit is a standard-setting institution.
- ***S.O. Khach Orphanage*** has raised several generations of youth who have become important citizens. Due to civil unrest, in 2012 the children had to be moved to a community center where they are still being cared. There are 14 boys and girls there now, ages 8–19.
- ***SOS Children's Villages' Armenian Charity Foundation - Idjevan*** provides for children without parental care or in difficult circumstances, operating a wide range of childcare and family strengthening community activities.
- ***SOS Children's Villages' Armenian Charity Foundation - Kotayk*** provides for children without parental care or in difficult life circumstances, operating a wide range of child care and family strengthening community and educational activities.
- ***Terchoonian Home*** is a private orphanage in Gyumri housing approximately 75 intellectually gifted children, ages 3–12.
- ***Vanadzor Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Vanadzor housing approximately 90 children, age 20 and under.
- ***Vardashen*** is a state boarding school in Yerevan housing approximately 82 children, ages 6–18, who “exhibit socially dangerous behavior.”
- ***The Voice of the Armenian Church Orphan Summer Camp***, operated by the Eastern Prelacy, is held in Tsaghgadzor every July and hosts roughly 50 orphaned boys and girls, ages 10–16. The camp offers the children love and seeks to instill in them the love of Christ and the history of the Armenian Church.
- ***Warm Hearth / Jermik Ankyun*** is a private group home, located just outside of Yerevan, which cares for approximately 13 adult orphans with disabilities and mental illnesses. Warm Hearth's family-like atmosphere offers residents a wonderful alternative to psychiatric institutions.
- ***Zadik Orphanage*** is a state orphanage in Yerevan housing approximately 20 children, ages 6–18.

Special Programs and Funds

SOAR's work includes a host of special programs and funds aimed at developing the linguistic, educational, vocational, and emotional capacities of orphaned Armenians around the world.

Sponsorship Fund:

The Sponsorship Fund is the primary mechanism for addressing child-specific needs.

The Sponsorship Fund allows you to personally connect with an orphaned Armenian child or adult. Your entire donation goes directly to the orphan you are sponsoring; no funds support their orphanage or SOAR generally, and SOAR assumes the cost of all wiring fees.



Accounting Program: to assist students who have an interest in pursuing an education in accounting.

Armenian Language Program: providing instruction in the Armenian language, particularly for children adopted from Armenia who are now living in the diaspora.

Art Fund: teaching the basics of art at Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage and Gyumri Social Childcare Center, and helping children with particular interest and talent move forward with individual lessons and career help.

Bible Study Program: providing an introduction to stories of the Bible in a child-centered format.

Birthday Fund: providing a way to give orphans from Mer Hooys and Warm Hearth birthday celebrations by giving in lieu of gifts.

Business Development Program: assisting Armenian orphanages in the development of business ideas by reviewing their business plans, identifying strategies for implementation, etc.

Special Programs and Funds (Continued)

Child Reunification and Family Training (CRAFT) Program: guiding the process of returning children in temporary out-of-home care to their families of origin. (Underwritten by the Carol Fananjan Foundation.)

Computer Science Program: providing virtual instruction on operation systems (Windows and Linux) and the use of Office programs (Word, Excel, and Power Point), web design, and image processing.

Dental Fund: providing stocked & staffed dental facilities to fight cavities, the most prevalent chronic disease among children in Armenia.

Diaper Fund: The Diaper Fund was launched in October 2014 to provide diaper subsidies to Nork and Mari Izmirlyan Orphanages.

Disability Early Warning System (DEWS): identifying physical and mental disabilities of children newly arrived at orphanages in Armenia, so that needs for immediate medical intervention will not be missed.

Eye Care Fund: addressing the diagnosis and treatment of children with serious vision problems.

Environmental Education Program: is to raise the level of environmental education and awareness of the students, helping them promote and develop their practical skills in and outside of the classroom.

Fairy Tale Program: giving a special targeted approach to children with special behavioral or communication needs.

Financial Planning Program: educating orphans in the areas of budgeting, employment, identity theft, and money management.

Genocide Education Program: using remembrance of past atrocities and fighting of genocide denial and revisionism to work toward prevention of future atrocities.

Girls' Empowerment Program: improving the girls' social, health, and economic resources so that they can stay in school longer, avoid early marriage, delay sexual activity, and prevent unintended pregnancy and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases.

Global Hosting Program: allowing orphaned or seriously underprivileged children to live with a host family in the States and enjoy a variety of enriching experiences, including a week at Camp Hye Sierra in California.

Human Rights Monitoring Program: monitoring potential human rights violations within Armenia's orphanages, boarding schools, and day centers.

Journalism Program: to promote writing among children interested in the world's most important topics.

Language Tutoring Program: enhancing the foreign language skills of orphaned Armenians through tutoring in English, French, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Bulgarian, and Ukrainian by SOAR volunteers.

Special Programs and Funds (Continued)

Life-Skills Coaching Program: teaching children to be their best, to live with far less stress and fear, to makewiser decisions, and to unleash limitless creativity.

Mentoring Program: providing personal interaction with adults around the world who can share their education, wisdom, and life and career experiences with institutionalized children.

Orphan Transitional Program: facilitating independent living for Armenia's institutionalized children once they outgrow their orphanages.

Pen Pal Program: arranging traditional letter writing between first grade Armenian children in the United States and orphaned children in Armenia.

Professional Orientation Program: is designed to prepare students for today's competitive and evolving job market.

Sleep Program: educates staff from Armenia's orphanages about sleep issues with young children, such as nightmares and night terrors, as well as how to correct issues the preclude a child from sleeping well.



2016 Distributions

- Bathroom water line renovations at Warm Hearth funded by SOAR-Baltimore
- Audio players and mobile phones
- Diaper fund distributions
- Baby floor sitters for CHG
- Renovations of four rooms for the food storage area at Nork Orphanage funded by SOAR-Brussels with the funds received from Femme d'Europe Association
- A \$10,000 emergency grant was given to the Syrian Armenian Disaster Relief Fund from the Hilton Foundation for Sisters
- Grand Opening of Dental Suite in Gyumri
- A shipment of soap for CDSSC
- A trip to Echmiadzin for a special Palm Sunday celebration
- Easter gifts for the children thanks to SOAR-La Cañada, SOAR-Phoenix, SOAR-Wisconsin, and SOAR-Detroit
- Soap boxes to Nansen
- Easter distribution for Hrant Dink School
- New beds and mattresses for Our Lady of Armenia from Armen Gharabegian and Ethos Design
- \$10,000 to benefit the children attending Tasghadzor Summer Camp from SOAR Ventura County
- Renovations at Kalfayan Orphanage in Istanbul
- A new water heater for Nubarashen
- Presents for the children at Shengavit Kindergarten
- A new security system for Nubarashen Boarding School



2016 Distributions (Continued)



- Furniture for children and their families
- A new washing machine for Nubarashen Orphanage
- Vocational training provided to the participants from the Gyumri facilities (OLA, Terchoonian Home, Nansen Boarding School and Gyumri Childcare Center)
- A new horse in training for the Hippotherapy Arena at Kharberd Orphanage
- A wheelchair for Hamlet at Mari Izmirlyan funded by SOAR Providence
- Art supplies for the girls at Mer Hooys
- A new computer lab for Javakh
- A new computer lab for Birds' Nest Orphanage
- Funding for International Day of Children's Protection and Defense Day celebrations
- Medicines for the children at Mari Izmirlyan
- Renovations for bedrooms at Birds' Nest
- New dressers for the children at Cardinal Aghajanian Orphanage
- Printers/copiers for Warm Hearth
- Medications for Arman Baloyan at Children's Home Gyumri
- Completion of a Graduate Room at Mer Hooys thanks to SOAR Philadelphia
- Renovations for a dance room at Vardashen
- Renovations for a computer lab at Vardashen
- New furniture for Warm Hearth
- New computers for Javakh
- New computers and computer tables for the newly renovated computer lab at Vardashen
- Medicines purchased for children at Kharberd and Mari Izmirlyan

2016 Distributions (Continued)

- Security cameras for Birds' Nest Orphanage
- The second year for the Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund summer retreat
- A second \$10,000 emergency grant was given to the Syrian Armenian Disaster Relief Fund from the Hilton Foundation for Sisters
- Renovations and families assisted in Syria with funds from SOAR Wisconsin
- A shipment from La Cañada valued at over \$40,000
- A large shipment of medical equipment, supplies and rehab equipment including very specialized handicap wheelchairs, special needs beds and mattresses to 4 orphanages (Kharpert, Nork, OLA, and Mari Izmirlyan) in Armenia and Gyumri valued at over \$300,000
- A Salt Cave constructed at Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage
- Construction at Vanadzor Orphanage Learning Center thanks to SOAR Los Angeles and IceLink
- Bikes for children in Armenia
- Families in need were given food and money for rent with funds from SOAR Fresno
- A reunification cottage at Dzorak
- A new ceramics program will be started at Warm Hearth thanks to SOAR Wisconsin
- Sport boots were provided for the children at Gyumri Social Childcare Center
- New office space for the Community Development and Social Support Center
- SOAR La Cañada shipped a 44 ft container of essential goods and humanitarian relief items to OLA orphanage in Gyumri valued at \$140,000
- A new bus for Shengavit Kindergarten



2016 Distributions (Continued)



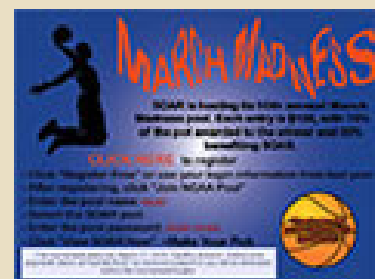
- Shoes for the children at OLA Tashir
- A Thanksgiving celebration at OLA
- New bedding and sports wear for Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage
- New beds and mattresses for Rainbow House (transitional home of Zadik), funded by SOAR Wisconsin
- Pajamas for the children at Nubarashen
- A shipment to Children's Home Gyumri
- Repairs to Zvartnotz Varjarian after being hit by a missile...books, school supplies, and uniforms for the children there and assistance for families
- New equipment for Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage
- Christmas gifts for Sister Louisa's children in Syria
- New blankets and bed covers for Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage
- ALL the facilities that SOAR supports were able to have Christmas celebrations and gifts



Activity Highlights

SOAR National

- Held its Annual online auction
- Held its annual NFL Pool Eliminator
- Denise Sisian (SOAR Executive Board secretary) and Susan Harootunian (SOAR East Regional Director) along with their families visited Armenia going to Kharberd Orphanage, donating diapers and taking cookies for the children, as well as being able to visit the hippotherapy arena constructed by SOAR funds
- A runner ran in the Philadelphia "Love Run Half Marathon" to benefit SOAR
- Held its annual "March Madness NCAA Pool
- Runners participated in Zion Half Marathon
- SOAR Founder and Chairman, George S. Yacoubian Jr., made a trip visiting the orphanages SOAR supports in Lebanon
- SOAR held an Eastern Hemisphere Chapter meeting at the Marriott Hotel in Frankfurt, Germany



SOAR Alaska

- Held their first very successful garage sale in which they raised over \$600!!



SOAR Atlanta

- Begins Atlanta Junior Chapter

SOAR Austria

- Held their inaugural event at the Armenian Embassy in Vienna



SOAR Baltimore

- Held Donations for Dreams Fundraiser to purchase new beds and mattresses
- Funded water line renovations at Warm Hearth



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Brussels

- Funded vocational training provided to the participants from the Gyumri facilities (OLA, Terchoonian Home, Nansen Boarding School and Gyumri Childcare Center)
- Funded renovations of four rooms for the food storage area at Nork Orphanage



SOAR Chicago

- Held annual fundraiser...this year at Oscar Isberian's rugs honoring Armenian artists
- Had a table at the Poon Paregentan handing out brochures to raise awareness about SOAR
- Held an appreciation luncheon at St Joachim and Anne Arenian Apostolic Church in Palos Heights



SOAR Colorado

- Held their annual art show fundraiser



SOAR Copenhagen

- SOAR Copenhagen President, Line Knudsen, visited Nork and Mari Izmirlyan Orphanages distributing toys for the children
- Line and Julieta of SOAR-Copenhagen Chapter donated items to the orphanages



SOAR Detroit

- Helped to fund a special Palm Sunday celebration for children in Echmiadzin



SOAR Dublin

- Official launch of SOAR Dublin



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Fresno

- Helped 2 families in Armenia that needed food, assistance with bills, and needed medications



SOAR Geneva

- Organized an Armenian BBQ to bring together Armenians in Geneva and cities nearby for a fundraiser



SOAR Kentucky

- Brought Vartevar to life in Kentucky holding its first-ever fundraiser on July 3rd



SOAR La Cañada

- Sponsored orphanage Christmas parties
- Held Le Bal Masqué which was a huge success
- Shipped a 44 ft container of essential goods and humanitarian relief items to OLA orphanage in Gyumri valued at over \$140,000
- Received over \$1,600 donation from family and friends in lieu of flowers in loving memory of Mr. Antranig Bastajian
- Held fundraiser at Posh Boutique was recognized in the San Marino Outlook
- Helped to fund a special Palm Sunday celebration at Echmiadzin
- Held Salon True's 10th anniversary event



SOAR London

- Sponsored a "Merry Charity Christmas"



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Los Angeles

- Helped to fund the construction at Vanadzor Orphanage Learning Center
- Held SOAR-LA Icelink event



SOAR Marseille

- Commits to overseeing the Professional Orientation Program

SOAR Minsk

- Commits to overseeing the SOAR Accounting Program

SOAR Montebello

- Held a bake sale at the Armenian Center in Montebello
- Had a fundraiser at a Montebello favorite restaurant
- Held it's inaugural event at the Armenian Food Fair and Festival in Montebello, CA



SOAR Montreal

- Suren Hajiyan, the vice president of SOAR Montreal visited the children of OLA and was their honorable guest
- Held annual fundraiser; Dinner, cocktails, and a musical concert by children for children



SOAR New Jersey

- Held annual Mother's Day brunch

SOAR New Jersey Juniors

- Held Bowling for Orphans Annual Fundraiser
- Held Ice Skating For Orphans Fundraiser



SOAR New Orleans

- Commits to overseeing the Professional Orientation Program

Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Orange County

- Held a special 50th birthday celebration for Khatchig Tchapidarian, a former resident of Birds' Nest Orphanage, raised \$2450 which is being sent to Birds' Nest to help the orphans now residing there
- Hosted a Summer Beach Party
- Hosted Happy Hour at Mozambique Laguna Beach

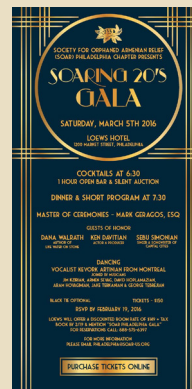


SOAR Oxbridge

- Commits to overseeing the Financial Planning Program

SOAR Philadelphia Metro

- Held Michael Aram ornament sale
- Funded "Graduate Room" at Mer Hooy's
- Hosted "Soaring 20's Gala"



SOAR Philadelphia Metro Juniors

- Hosted annual Mini Golf outing held at Putt-Putt Fun Center

SOAR Phoenix

- Hosted SOAR into Sparta at Spartan Pita and Gyro
- Funds donated for diapers for Kharberd by Mario Viggiani of SOAR Phoenix
- Helped with funding for a special Palm Sunday celebration at Echmiadzin
- Hosted first fundraising event at the home of Robert and Nevine Melkian
- Helped with funding of diapers for Nork Orphanage



SOAR Providence

- Hosted Blessing of the grapes fundraiser at Carolyn's Sakonnet Vineyard
- Yelena Suslovich from SOAR Providence visited the orphanages in Armenia giving one talented boy ythe gift of a tablet
- Provided funds for a wheelchair for Hamlet at Mari Izmirlyan



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Rotterdam

- Committed to overseeing the Genocide Education Program

SOAR St. Louis

- Helped with funding of the new dance room at Vardashen



SOAR Salt Lake City

- Talar Heculian Coursey participated in the Salt Lake City Marathon receiving an enormous amount of donation pledges for SOAR



SOAR San Francisco Bay Area

- Participated in the 59th Annual St. Gregory's Armenian Food Festival collaborating with many different organizations and individuals, the new board was able to make this first fundraiser a huge success!



SOAR Seattle

- Helped with funding of a reunification cottage at Dzorak
- Ran a campaign to sponsor 4 children from Armenian Evangelical Boarding School



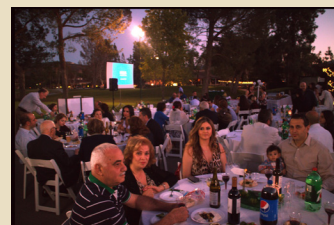
SOAR Toronto

- Hosted a night of music "Armenian Beauty"



SOAR Ventura County

- Sponsored orphanage Christmas parties
- Held its first successful golf outing
- Held its 2nd annual picnic
- Received and distributed an earmarked generous donation of \$10,000 to benefit the children attending Tasghadzor Summer Camp



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Washington DC Metro

- Held “One Sweet World” at the Observatory at America’s Square
- Committed to overseeing the Journalism Program



SOAR Wisconsin

- Sponsored orphanage Christmas parties
- Funded new beds and mattresses for Rainbow House (transitional home of Zadik)
- Funded a new ceramics program at Warm Hearth
- Helped with funding of a reunification cottage at Dzorak
- Sent funds for Sister Louisa in Syria to work on much needed renovations and also assist families in need
- Held annual Golf Outing
- Helped with funding for a special Palm Sunday celebration at Echmiadzin



SOAR Zurich

- Good Sheperd Church in Zug announced SOAR Zurich as the 1st Communion charity choice for the second time
- Funded art classes for the children at Birds' Nest
- Held a very successful brunch spreading the word about SOAR



Accounting Summary

Distributions

| | |
|--|--------------|
| • Armenian Evangelical Boarding School..... | \$6,900.00 |
| • Artsakh #1..... | \$ 1,470.00 |
| • Artsakh #2..... | \$200.00 |
| • Birds' Nest Orphanage..... | \$25,975.00 |
| • Bzommar..... | \$300.00 |
| • Cardinal Aghajanian Orphanage..... | \$19,350.00 |
| • Community Development and Social Support Center..... | \$2,950.00 |
| • Children's Home Gyumri..... | \$620.00 |
| • Damascus (Bishop Armash Nalbandian)..... | \$15,000.00 |
| • Dental Clinic..... | \$330.00 |
| • Dzorak Care Center..... | \$27,691.00 |
| • Echmiadzin..... | \$4,000.00 |
| • Fridtjof Nansen..... | \$800.00 |
| • Gavar Orphanage..... | \$200.00 |
| • Gyumri Social Childcare Center..... | \$3,617.00 |
| • Hrant Dink School..... | \$3,050.00 |
| • Javakh..... | \$22,281.00 |
| • Kalfayan Orphanage..... | \$4,550.00 |
| • Kharberd Orphanage..... | \$576,628.45 |
| • Mer Doon..... | \$6,775.00 |
| • Mer Hooys..... | \$25,981.00 |
| • Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage..... | \$199,097.00 |
| • Nork Orphanage..... | \$17,520.00 |
| • Nubarashen Orphanage..... | \$4,670.00 |
| • Orran..... | \$500.00 |
| • Our Lady of Armenia Center..... | \$403,112.53 |
| • OLA Summer Camp..... | \$208,778.75 |
| • OLA-Tashir..... | \$2,300.00 |
| • Services to Children in their Own Homes (SCOH)..... | \$4,125.00 |
| • Shengavit Kindergarten..... | \$22,160.00 |
| • S.O. Khach..... | \$2,200.00 |
| • SOS-Idjevan..... | \$6,044.00 |
| • SOS-Kotayk..... | \$6,044.00 |
| • St. Theresa's..... | \$33,400.00 |
| • Syrian Center..... | \$450,552.00 |
| • Vanadzor..... | \$11,001.00 |

Accounting Summary (Continued)

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| • Vardashen..... | \$11,857.00 |
| • VOTAC..... | \$4,000.00 |
| • Warm Hearth..... | \$22,739.00 |
| • Zadik Orphanage..... | \$3,641.00 |
| • Misc..... | \$3,653.25 |

TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS.....\$2,166,262.98

Administrative

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| • Salaries..... | \$34,984.00 |
| • Travel..... | \$3,195.00 |
| • Bank..... | \$1,697.39 |
| • Internet..... | \$312.00 |
| • Cell..... | \$940.00 |

TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE.....\$41,088.39

GRAND TOTAL..... \$2,207,351.37



Conclusion

The Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) was established in the fall of 2005 to provide humanitarian relief to orphaned Armenian children and orphaned Armenian adults with disabilities. SOAR's long-term goal is to provide orphaned Armenians throughout the world with the resources fundamental to their physical, emotional, and intellectual development. In Calendar Year 2016, our 11th full year of operations, SOAR provided more than \$2M in goods and services to 38 institutions, our most productive year to date. More importantly, SOAR continues to excel at using our resources wisely. Of the \$2.2M distributed in 2016, 98% (\$2,166,262.98) were used for the direct benefit of our target population.

If you have any questions about SOAR, our mission, the children, or institutions we serve, or our 2016 annual report, please contact George S. Yacoubian, Jr., at (610) 213-3452 or at gyacoubian@soar-us.org.

