

2017


Annual Report



Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief
(SOAR)



Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)



*Providing humanitarian relief
to orphaned Armenians
throughout the world*

2017 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 2017 our most productive year to date, as we continue to exceed expectations in Chapter and Program Development, Child Protection Policy, and Distributions!

In 2006, our first full year of operations, we made \$59,700 in distributions. In 2017, our distributions exceeded \$1.6M! SOAR's volunteer base has also grown tremendously, with 115 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, and, in November, hosted a Child Protection Forum in Geneva to address deinstitutionalization and reunification policies in Armenia. The sustained interaction between global volunteers and our orphaned children, and the collaboration SOAR has fostered between its volunteers and other human rights organizations, 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; Susan Snavelly, Hripsime Muradyan, Hasmik Hovhannisyan, Alina Karapetyan, Zoya Torosyan; Regional Directors, worldwide Chapter volunteers, and, finally, our financial and emotional supporters. Your unwavering dedication and loyalty to SOAR make our work possible. As we embark on our 14th year of providing humanitarian assistance to orphaned Armenian children and adults with disabilities, thank you.

Respectfully,

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

Creation and Management

George S. Yacoubian, Jr., began the adoption process in Armenia in 2005. Throughout that spring and summer, home study and various levels of domestic government approval were obtained. While in Armenia during the summer of 2005, he saw Liliana for the first time. The dossier to the Armenian government was submitted that fall, preliminary approval obtained in December, and final approval received in March 2006.

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 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 115 Chapters and 6 Junior groups worldwide, SOAR supports 40 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, three Armenian orphanages in Syria, and 2 institutions in Istanbul:

- **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.

Institutions (Continued)

- **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.
- **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 Hooys** (“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.

Institutions (Continued)

- *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.
- *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.
- *Prkutyun*, NGO promotes the solution to the problems of people with disabilities, particularly those with intellectual disabilities. Living in a family, the child with special needs does not impede the family's everyday activities. Provision of day care services and activities highly assist in development of self-sufficiency, communication and professional skills.
- *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.

Institutions (Continued)

- **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 Fananjian 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.

Cultural Discovery Program (CDP): advances cultural understanding between global SOAR Chapter volunteers and the orphaned children in Armenia.

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.

Special Programs and Funds (Continued)

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.

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.



2017 Distributions

- Sea container of essential humanitarian supplies to the OLA Center in Gyumri from SOAR La Cañada.
- New wardrobes for Cardinal Aghajanian Orphanage funded by SOAR Baltimore and SOAR Ventura County.
- Monthly diaper supplies for Nork and Mari Izmirlyan Orphanages
- Grand opening of Dzorak Care Center
- New oven for Gyumri Social Childcare Center
- Medications provided for children at Children's Home Gyumri
- SOAR Fresno chapter members visited bringing 200 packages of gifts for the children
- Bathroom renovation at Frijdtof Nansen funded by SOAR Ventura County and SOAR La Cañada
- Renovations of the 2nd floor at Our Lady of Armenia Center funded by SOAR Ventura County and SOAR La Cañada
- New greenhouse at Children's Home Gyumri funded by SOAR Boston
- A shipment of soap
- A new projector and screen for Orran
- Gifts made by Gayane Voskanyan for the children at Kharberd
- New garage at Our Lady of Armenia Center funded by SOAR WI
- A SOAR shipment of soap sent to Armenia from Clean the World for Tashir and Kharberd



2017 Distributions (Continued)



- A trip visiting 10 Armenian churches for the girls at Mer Hoos
- Project Museums for Everyone was organized for the children at Mer Hoos by Rostelecom in collaboration with SOAR
- Art lessons at Zadik
- Renovation work for Kharberd's garden
- Renovation for a gymnasium at Vardashen funded by SOAR Montreal
- The children from Zadik attend cooking courses at Ararat Hall Restaurant supported by SOAR Austria
- SOAR provided the participants of the "Sports Achievement Competition" with new sport footwear and socks
- Hair care for the residents at Dzorak Care Center
- A party celebrating June 1st, International Child Protection Day, for the children at Gyumri Social Childcare Center
- A party for the graduates at Vardashen
- Elevators at Mari Izmirlyan being funded by SOAR Providence, SOAR Philadelphia Metro, and SOAR Boston
- 20 participants from Vanadzor Orphanage, Orran Day Care, and Gyumri Social Childcare Center were able to participate in the international Festival of Bard Songs "Sail of Hope 2017" funded by SOAR Brussels
- Construction of a food storage cottage in Ijevan

2017 Distributions (Continued)

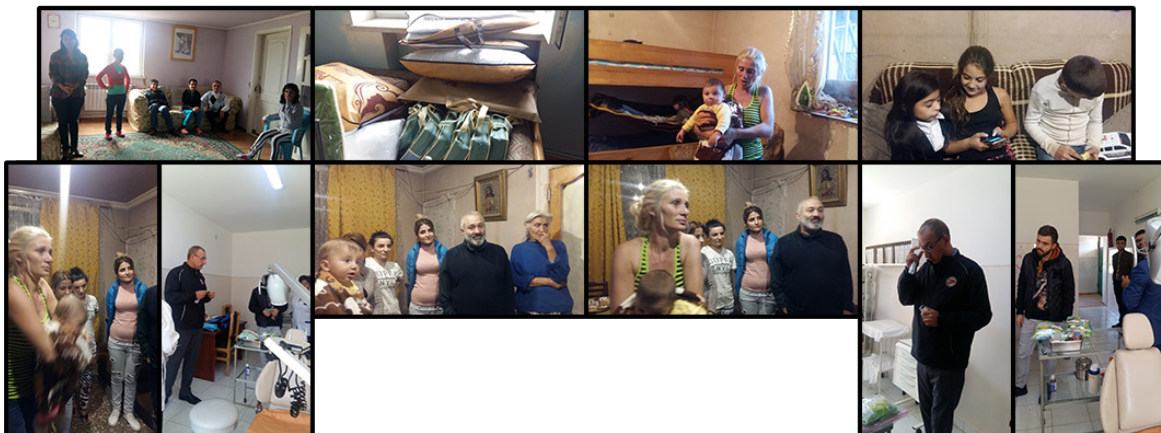
- Renovation work at Warm Hearth funded by SOAR-La Cañada and SOAR-Wisconsin
- A shipment to Dzorak and Kharberd from SOAR and Project Cure
- Construction of a greenhouse at Dzorak
- A new laptop for Orran
- The third year of the Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund Retreat for girls from Mer Doon and Mer Hooys
- Clothing, diapers, toys, vases for the greenhouse, and a nebulizer for Children's Home Gyumri
- Renovations of the hallway, stairs, and bathroom at Orphanage of Fridtjof Nansen
- A metal hip implant for Artyom H.
- A clay workshop at Kharberd
- Renovations at Mer Doon
- Renovations of the kitchen at Vardashen
- A shipment of medical supplies, equipment and humanitarian relief items valued at \$270,000.00 to 6 orphanages in Armenia
- Monica and Araik of Zatikanan received the clothing that they needed for school
- Renovations at 4 rooms at Gyumri Social Childcare Center; a Psychological Therapy Room, Social Individual and Group Work Room, Speech Therapy Room, and Childrens' Room funded in part by Minas and Houri Kalachian and SOAR New Jersey
- SOAR Zurich helped fund summer camp for the children at AEBS
- A music center for Shengavit Kindergarten



2017 Distributions (Continued)



- Funding for Javakh Summer Camp 2017
- Distribution to GSCC children by Father Tajad Ashekian who came to Armenia with Fresno mission
- Linens for Shengavit Kindergarten funded by SOAR La Cañada
- Father Dajad visited the following children's homes: Zatik, Tsiatsan, Zatikavan, Jermik Ankyun, and Kharberd. He bought bed linens for Zatik and Jermik Ankyun, and 4 washing machines For Zatik, Zatikavan and Tsiatsan. Father Dajad also helped the residents of Zatikanan with fuel. Caroline Avetisyan accompanied Father Dajad to Zatikavan, giving assistance to each family and promising to cover their debts for electricity. From Rainbow House gift cards were given to Zatik. Father Dajad also gave financial assistance to Jermik Ankyun. For Kharberd, he left money for materials for handwork and asked that the children make items for an auction in Fresno. Father Dajad also gave funds donated by Fresno members to get firewood for 6 families living in Zatikavan.



2017 Distributions (Continued)

- Classroom renovations at Nubarashen
- A mini bus to be shared by Gyumri Social Childcare Center and Community Development and Social Support Center funded by SOAR La Cañada
- SOAR La Cañada supplied funds for the food at Birds' Nest Orphanage for a full year
- SOAR Zurich purchased two portable basketball sets and six basketballs for Birds' Nest Orphanage
- Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Armenia Center
- Thanksgiving at Our Lady of Armenia Annie Bezikian Center funded by the SOAR Executive Board
- Renovations of the cafeteria and kitchen at OLA summer camp funded by SOAR Ventura County
- The JA Theatre Project - Warm Hearth
- Every facility that SOAR supports received gifts for all the children and a Christmas party



Activity Highlights

SOAR National

- Held its Annual online auction
- Held conferences in Delafield, WI and in Geneva, Switzerland
- Held its annual NFL Pool Eliminator
- George S. Yacoubian Jr., SOAR's founder and executive chairman ran in the RockyRun half marathon in Philadelphia
- Held its annual "March Madness NCAA Pool
- Held auction of an original Steve Hardy watercolor



George S. Yacoubian Jr. to participate in the Rocky Run 1/2 Marathon to raise funds for SOAR



SOAR Alaska

- Held their annual garage sale



In Anchorage Alaska! Look us up at:
www.soar-us.org/anchorage/index.html

WHERE: 1440 W 10TH AVE Anchorage, Alaska 99501
WHEN: Saturday May 20th 9am to 5pm
Sunday May 21st 9am to 4pm
CONTACT: Alice Mawhood at 907-576-5819 or
e-mail: amawhood@soar-us.org for questions.

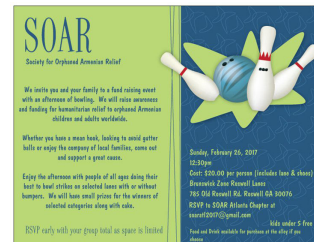
Donations being accepted starting this week and can be dropped off at above address.
Can also pick up items on an as needed basis.
Spring cleaning - opportunity for a good cause!
Tell your friends to come!

SOAR Amsterdam

- Participates in the new Cultural Discovery Program

SOAR Atlanta

- Hosts an afternoon of bowling fundraiser

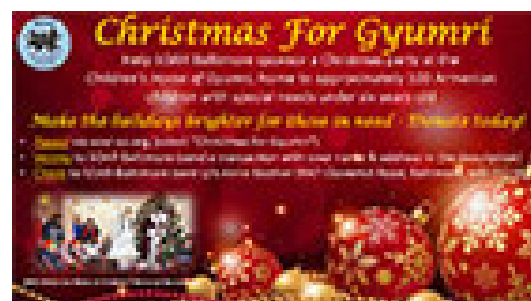


SOAR Austria

- Supports the Vocational Training Program

SOAR Baltimore

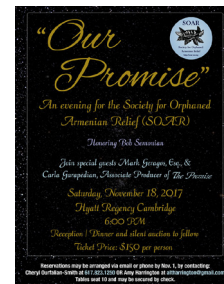
- Held Christmas for Gyumri fundraiser
- Funded new wardrobes for Cardinal Aghajanian Orphanage
- Sponsored facility Christmas parties



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Boston

- Hosted “Our Promise” fundraiser
- Funded construction of elevators at Mari Izmirlyan
- Chapter member Margaret Ajemian Ahnert visited the children at Children’s Home Gyumri
- Funded construction of a greenhouse at Children’s Home Gyumri



SOAR Brussels

- Enabled 20 participants from Vanadzor Orphanage, Orran Day Care, and Gyumri Social Childcare Center were able to participate in the International Festival of Bard Songs “Sail of Hope 2017”



SOAR Chicago

- Held annual fundraiser, this year “Armenian Antique Road Show” to raise funds for “Sports Without Limits” in May of 2018
- Sponsored facility Christmas parties



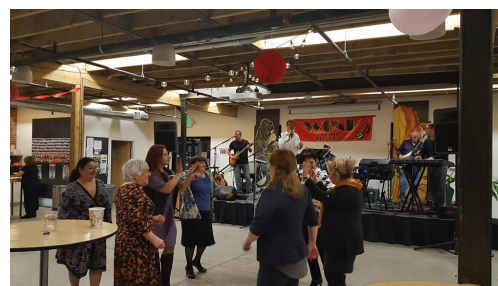
SOAR Cleveland

- A piano recital featuring Hrant Bagrazyan was held at a home in Cleveland to benefit SOAR



SOAR Colorado

- Held their annual art show fundraiser



SOAR Detroit

- Detroit oversees the Volunteer Program

Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Fresno

- SOAR Fresno chapter members visited several of the orphanages bringing 200 packages of gifts for the children



SOAR Geneva

- Hosted 2017 SOAR Eastern Hemisphere conference



SOAR Hartford

- Oversees the Disaster Assistance and Response Team

SOAR La Cañada

- Funded food for a year at Birds' Nest Orphanage with donations received from family and friends for in lieu of flowers in loving memory of Zarouhi Chatoyan
- Funded a mini bus for GSCC and CDSSC
- Held a Wine & Cheese event at Niner Wine Estates in Paso Robles
- New shoes for Shengavit children
- New bed linens and covers for Shengavit children
- Renovations at Warm Hearth
- Diapers and orthopedic shoes for Children's Home of Gyumri
- New commercial washing machine for Our Lady of Armenia Summer Camp
- Sponsorship for 2 children
- Blender for disabled children at Mary Izmirlyan orphanage



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR London

- Chapter president Vatche Cherchian ran in Osterly Park 10K raising funds for SOAR
- Board members Mariam Safaryan and Marine Mograbyan ran in Regents Park 10K raising funds for SOAR



SOAR Los Angeles

- Sponsored facility Christmas parties

SOAR Malta

- Participates in Global Hosting Program

SOAR Marseille

- Oversees the Professional Orientation Program

SOAR Miami

- Miami board members, Anna Simonyan and Ashot Mamyran, made visits to Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage



SOAR Minsk

- Oversees the Accounting Program

SOAR Montebello

- Chapter president, Karine Kuilanoff, made a visit to Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage
- Participated in the annual Armenian Food Fair and Festival
- Hosted an Armenian Comedy Benefit Show



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Montreal

- Held annual fundraiser; Dinner, cocktails, and a musical concert by children for children
- 2nd year that SOAR Montreal Vice President, Souren Hajjyan, visited the children of OLA Gyumri
- Funded construction of gymnasium at Vardashen
- Presented the film "Unusual Flight"-Trip of the Artsakh Children in Armenia



SOAR Moscow

- Held "Barijazz" fundraiser



SOAR New Jersey

- Funded renovations for four rooms at Gyumri Social Childcare Center
- Held annual Mother's Day Brunch



SOAR New Jersey Juniors

- Sponsored Christmas party for Terchoonian Home
- Held Bowling for Orphans Annual Fundraiser
- Held Ice Skating For Orphans Fundraiser
- Assisted New Jersey chapter with Mother's Day Brunch



SOAR New Orleans

- Oversees the Professional Orientation Program

Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR New York

- Hosted a Fundraiser Cocktail
- Chapter member, John Murachanian, visited Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage and organized a party for the children there
- Hosted a Fundraising Brunch



SOAR Oxbridge

- Oversees the Financial Planning Program

SOAR Philadelphia Metro

- Funded elevators constructed at Marilzmirlyan
- Sponsored facility Christmas parties



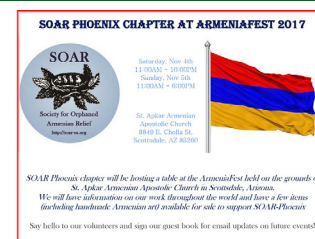
SOAR Philadelphia Metro Juniors

- Some of the members of the SOAR Philly Junior chapter were able to visit one of their sponsored children. They also made a visit to Lilit K that had a major back operation in New York last year



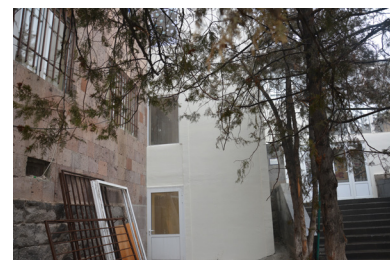
SOAR Phoenix

- Had a booth for SOAR at Armeniafest 2017
- Provided diapers for Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage



SOAR Providence

- Funded construction of an elevator at Mari izmirlyan Orphanage



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Rotterdam

- Oversees the Genocide Education Program

SOAR St. Louis

- Held vacation package raffle



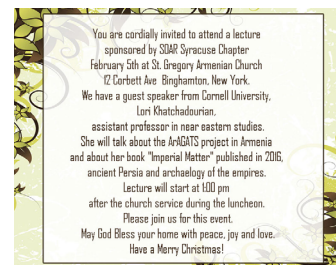
SOAR Salt Lake City

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



SOAR Syracuse

- Hosted a lecture by Lori Khatchadiourian on her book "Imperial Matter"



SOAR Ventura County

- Held its annual Holiday Brunch fundraiser
- Funded renovation of cafeteria and kitchen at OLA summer camp
- Hosted Mother's Day Celebration fundraiser
- Funded renovations of the 2nd floor at Our Lady of Armenia Center
- Funded bathroom renovation at Frijdtof Nansen
- New wardrobes for Cardinal Aghajanian Orphanage



Activity Highlights (Continued)

SOAR Washington DC Metro

- Oversees the Journalism Program

SOAR Wisconsin

- Sponsored facility Christmas parties
- Funded renovation work at Warm Hearth
- Hosted annual golf outing fundraiser
- Funded a new garage at Our Lady of Armenia Center



SOAR Yerevan

- Board members, Karine and Henry, visited the girls from Mer Doon

SOAR Zurich

- The Zug International Womens Club chose SOAR as their charity
- Purchased two portable basketball sets and six basketballs for Birds' Nest Orphanage
- Helped fund summer camp for the children at AEBS
- Hosted fundraiser "Spring 2017 Apéro Riche"



Accounting Summary

Distributions

• Armenian Evangelical Boarding School.....	\$13,300.00
• Artsakh #1.....	\$850.00
• Artsakh #2.....	\$200.00
• Lili's Bed and Breakfast.....	\$2,690.00
• Birds' Nest Orphanage.....	\$26,775.00
• Bzommar.....	\$200.00
• Cardinal Aghajanian Orphanage.....	\$300.00
• Community Development and Social Support Center.....	\$33,425.00
• Children's Home Gyumri.....	\$11,860.00
• Damascus (Bishop Armash Nalbandian).....	\$15,000.00
• Dental Clinic.....	\$1,435.00
• Dzorak Care Center.....	\$18,773.00
• Echmiadzin.....	\$5,000.00
• Fridtjof Nansen.....	\$16,860.00
• Gavar Orphanage.....	\$400.00
• Gyumri Social Childcare Center.....	\$33,871.00
• Hrant Dink School.....	\$12,470.00
• Javakh.....	\$5,500.00
• Kalfayan Orphanage.....	\$1,000.00
• Kharberd Orphanage.....	\$33,755.00
• Mer Doon.....	\$14,100.00
• Mer Hooyes.....	\$39,782.00
• Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage.....	\$52,172.00
• Nork Orphanage.....	\$12,300.00
• Nubarashen Orphanage.....	\$9,900.00
• Orran.....	\$7,611.00
• Our Lady of Armenia Center.....	\$15,000.00
• OLA-Kanaker.....	\$750.00
• OLA-Tashir.....	\$15,400.00
• OLA-Tsaghgadzor.....	\$98,600.00
• Prkutyun.....	\$200.00
• Services to Children in their Own Homes (SCOH).....	\$19,447.00
• Shengavit Kindergarten.....	\$1,190.00
• S.O. Khach.....	\$600.00
• SOS-Idjevan.....	\$19,620.00
• SOS-Kotayk.....	\$6,300.00
• St. Theresa's.....	\$42,300.00



Accounting Summary (Continued)

• Syrian Center.....	\$5,000.00
• Terchoonian Home.....	\$1,160.00
• Vanadzor.....	\$4,427.00
• Vardashen.....	\$31,555.00
• VOTAC.....	\$4,000.00
• Warm Hearth.....	\$26,981.00
• Zadik Orphanage.....	\$1,531.00
• Sea Containers.....	\$926,426.15
• Miscellaneous.....	\$13,006.59

TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS.....\$1,602,842.74

Administrative

• Salaries.....	\$36,256.00
• Bank.....	\$3,743.28
• Cell.....	\$720.00

TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE.....\$40,719.28

GRAND TOTAL.....\$1,643,562.02

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 CY2017, SOAR provided more than \$1.6M in goods and services to 40 institutions in Armenia, Artsakh, Istanbul, Javakh, Lebanon, and Syria. More importantly, SOAR continues to excel at using our resources wisely. SOAR's administrative costs (\$40,719.28) represent approximately 2% of the total allocations (\$1,643,562.02) made in CY2017.

If you have any questions about SOAR, our mission, the populations we serve, or this 2017 annual report, please contact George S. Yacoubian, Jr., at (610) 213-3452 or gyacoubian@soar-us.org.

