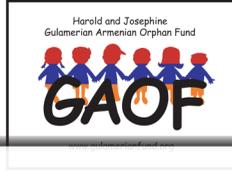
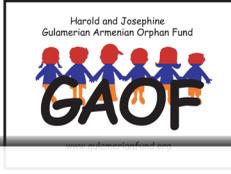


Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief  
(SOAR)

*Twenty  
Years*



**2025**  
Annual Report



# 2025 Annual Report

Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR)

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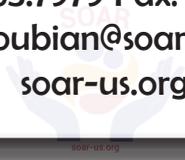
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# Greetings from the Executive Board Chairman

To Our SOAR Family:

We celebrated our 20th anniversary in March 2025 – a monumental milestone of providing humanitarian support to orphaned Armenian children and special needs adults in Armenia, Javakh, and Lebanon. In addition to our core, institutional work, we now have three Transitional Centers, where aspiring college students live and learn; our Ada Keshishyants Center for Disabled Children, the only day center for special needs children in Vanadzor; our SOLENA Center in Gyumri, a non-residential, day center that provides services to families with special needs children; and our Families of Fallen Soldiers Support Center in Yerevan. Our Maternal and Newborn Health Fund, which provides prenatal and newborn assistance to vulnerable, first-time expectant mothers, expanded to various regions across Armenia. While SOAR remains the only charitable organization whose humanitarian mission is devoted exclusively to orphaned Armenian children, our work continues to transcend residential childcare institutions by providing emotional, financial, and professional support to any family whose children are at risk for institutionalization.

The sustained interaction between our global volunteers and the populations we support demonstrates that geographical boundaries and cultural distinctions are no hurdle to the mission we embrace. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to SOAR's Executive Board; Trustees; Susan Snavelly; Chapter volunteers; and, most importantly, to our team in Armenia under the guidance of Executive Director Hripsime Muradyan and Associate Director Hasmik Diaryan, who keep us emotionally and tangibly connected to those populations we are blessed to serve.

To our financial and emotional supporters who join us on this remarkable journey, thank you for allowing us to enrich the endangered and the unprotected!

Respectfully,

*George S. Yacoubian, Jr.*

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

# Creation and Management

George S. Yacoubian, Jr. and Erica Yacoubian began their adoption process in 2005. Throughout the spring and summer, they went through home study and various levels of domestic governmental approval. While in Armenia during the summer of 2005, George saw Liliana for the first time. He submitted her adoption dossier to the Armenian government in the fall of 2005, received preliminary approval in December 2005, and obtained final adoption approval in March 2006. Liliana Sara Yacoubian, the inspiration for our charitable work, arrived in the United States on April 23, 2006.

George S. Yacoubian, Jr. founded the Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) in the fall of 2005 as a charitable organization that provides humanitarian relief to orphaned children living in Armenia. Dr. Yacoubian has served as SOAR's Executive Board Chairman since 2005 and provides oversight and guidance to all SOAR operations worldwide. In early 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 was launched. Between 2006 and 2008, SOAR established itself as the only charitable organization whose singular mission is to provide humanitarian assistance to orphaned Armenians around the world. In late 2007 and early 2008, SOAR launched its first two Chapters – in Los Angeles and Washington, DC. In 2009, a National Board of Trustees was created to annually review SOAR's fiscal operations and distributions. In 2010, SOAR launched its Sponsorship Fund, which today remains the primary mechanism through which micro-level needs are addressed. Since 2005 SOAR's work has impacted thousands of children across a multitude of constructs, with the penultimate goal to provide institutionalized children with the same educational, emotional, medical, and social support as their non-institutionalized counterparts.

In 2016, SOAR expanded its mission, recognizing that, after a decade of helping children in residential settings, it was necessary to take the proactive step of attempting to reduce the institutionalized orphan population in Armenia. Toward that end, SOAR now supports several day centers, all of which provide services to children at risk for institutionalization. SOAR also established its Services to Children in their Own Home (SCOH) Program. The SCOH Program works with residential institutions to deinstitutionalize and reunify children with biological families and provides home-based services after reunification to reduce the economic, social, emotional, and professional barriers within the family dynamic that may trigger reinstitutionalization.

Represented by 150 Chapters, 4 Junior groups, and more than 600 volunteers worldwide, SOAR supported 34 institutions in 2025 – orphanages, boarding schools, day centers, and orphan summer camps – in Armenia, Javakh, and Lebanon.

Chapters contribute to SOAR's mission in a variety of ways, from traditional fundraising to Program development to professional expertise. The common bond among members of the SOAR family is the unwavering belief that orphaned children and adults with disabilities represent the most vulnerable population of Armenian society.

# Creation and Management

SOAR prides itself on collaboration, creativity, cross-cultural respect, fiscal responsibility, loyalty, and transparency. During the past 19 years, SOAR's work has transcended all reasonable expectations. In 2006, distributions totaled approximately \$60,000. Since 2014, SOAR has exceeded \$1M distributions annually. SOAR's efforts not only address the major humanitarian constructs of education, emotional and psychological support, nutrition, health and hygiene, dental and vision care, and fundamental human rights, but the Programs offer educational curricula on a multitude of topics that stimulate intellectual curiosity, empowerment, and enrichment.

For several of us, SOAR is our life's work, and we are blessed with a dedicated and selfless cadre of supporters who share our short-term aspirations and long-term vision. We are faced with an enormous responsibility. Our greatest trepidation is not inadequacy or a belief that we are ill-equipped to assist the orphaned children we have embraced as our own, but rather that we have influence and power beyond measure. Our daily routine involves an almost incomprehensible desire to assist the abandoned, the sick, the impoverished, and the abused. As SOAR's light shines, we hope that we are unconsciously giving our orphaned population the will to do the same.





# Institutions We Support

**In 2025 SOAR supported 34 institutions in three countries: 31 orphanages, special boarding schools, day centers, transitional centers, adult care centers, and summer camps in Armenia; one orphan summer camp in Javakh (Georgia); and two Armenian orphanages in Lebanon.**

- **Ada Keshishyants Day Center for Children with Disabilities** is the first of its kind in Vanadzor. The Center serves as a non-residential facility for children with developmental, emotional, intellectual, physical, and psychological disabilities in Vanadzor, Armenia.
- **Armenian Evangelical Boarding School** is in Ainjar, Lebanon, and is home to 82 healthy social orphans between the ages of 4 and 18. Nanor Kelenjian Akbasharian is the director.
- **Birds' Nest Orphanage** in Jbeil, Lebanon, has been home to thousands of Armenian children in the Middle East region for more than 100 years. Today, Birds' Nest houses healthy children between 6 months and 17 years old.
- **Children's Home of Gyumri** houses children with special needs ages 18 years and younger.
- **Dzorak Care Center** in Yerevan, Armenia, served as an orphanage for 400 children during the 1940s. In 1959, it became a boarding school for children from underprivileged families. Today, Dzorak serves as an orphanage and nursing home for adults with severe physical and psychological disabilities who have outgrown the traditional orphanage.
- **The Holy Cross Armenian Church of Javakh Summer Day Camp** in Akhakalak, Georgia, serves social orphans living at or below poverty level from the nearby villages. The camp provides the children with a safe, clean, fun, and spiritual environment during the summer.
- **Kharberd Orphanage** in Yerevan, Armenia, houses children and young adults with severe disabilities.
- **Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage** in Yerevan, Armenia, houses children with special needs between the ages of 6 and 18.
- **Nakashian Children's Support Center (House of Hope-Mer Hooy)** houses teenage girls in the Araphkir district of Yerevan. The girls receive language and job skills training, computer instruction, life skills training, psychological support, and hope, confidence, and love.
- **Orran**, "haven" in Armenian, was established in Yerevan in April 2000. In 2009, a second Orran center was established in Vanadzor. Today, Orran supports approximately 95 seniors and 200 children across Armenia.

# Institutions

- **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** in Gyumri, Armenia, 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.
- **Our Lady of Armenia Center Summer Camp (Ttaghgadzor, Armenia)** hosts approximately 800 children throughout the summer, in four 16-day sessions. The Camp provides nutritious food, physical rest, recreational activities, and religious-educational experiences both to orphan and otherwise needy children throughout Armenia.
- **Our Lady of Armenia Educational Center** in Tashir, Armenia, 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** in Tashir, Armenia, 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 experiences to children from the Tashir community.
- **Prkutyun** in Yerevan, Armenia, is a day center that offers food, educational, and therapeutic services to children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Republican Special Educational Complex No 1 State Non-Commercial Organization (Vardashen)** is a state boarding school in Yerevan housing primarily delinquent children between the ages of 6 and 18.
- **Shirak Marz Child and Family Support Center** located in Gyumri, is a merger of two childcare centers: Gyumri Social Childcare Center and the Orphanage of Fridtjof Nansen. The new Center is a hybrid facility that provides day services to families whose children are at risk for institutionalization while serving as a residential setting for children without permanent familial care.
- **Sisters of Charity (SOC) (Bethlehem and Spitak)** is a Catholic religious order established by Mother Teresa to tend to “the poorest of the poor.” SOC-Bethlehem is a private orphanage outside of Yerevan that houses approximately 20 very young children with severe physical and mental disabilities. SOC-Spitak is a private orphanage that houses approximately 15 teenagers and adults with severe physical and mental disabilities.

# Institutions

- **SOAR's Transitional Centers (one in Gyumri and two in Yerevan)**, are residential settings for older teenagers who have outgrown the traditional orphanage but who are not yet ready for independent living. The residents go to college, assist with SOAR's online business, are enriched by SOAR's academic programs, appreciate volunteerism, learn essential life skills, including home and money management, build self-nurturance and self-confidence, and prepare themselves for emotional, fiscal, and professional independence.
- **SOLENA Day Care Center** located in Gyumri, Armenia, is a non-residential, day center that provides services to families with special needs children: employment/professional, substance abuse counseling, and job training for parents/caregivers and academic tutoring, nutritious meals, and psychological counseling for the children. SOLENA offers a continuum of care and integration within the community to empower families for the ultimate goal of avoiding institutionalization.
- **SOS Children's Villages' Armenian Charity Foundation - Idjevan and Kotayk** is a child-centered organization whose core mission is to provide care and development for children without parental care and children in difficult life circumstances. The organization was founded in 1989 in response to the devastating earthquake of December 1988. In 1990, SOS Children's Village in Kotayk opened its doors for children who had lost their parents in the earthquake. It was the first SOS Children's Village in any former Soviet republic. SOS Children's Village in Idjevan was founded in 2009. Presently, SOS Children's Villages in Armenia operate a wide range of child care and family strengthening community and educational activities.
- **The Voice of the Armenian Church Orphan Summer Camp**, operating under the auspices of the Eastern Prelacy and its Executive Council, is held in the summer retreat of Tsaghgadzor, Armenia, and hosts orphaned children between the ages of 10 and 16. The Camp, held in July for eight days, exposes the children to comfort, love, compassion, and care, while simultaneously instilling in them the love of Christ and the history of the Armenian Church.
- **Warm Hearth (3rd village, Arinj, and Jermik Ankyun Geghanist, Armenia)** houses adults with disabilities who have outgrown the state-funded orphanages. The three facilities provide the residents with an alternative to psychiatric institutions, offering holistic care in a family-like setting.
- **Yerevan's Children Home (formerly Nork Orphanage)** in Yerevan, Armenia, houses children (both healthy and with special needs) ages 6 years and under.
- **Yerevan Special School Number 11 (Nubarashen)** is a state boarding school in Yerevan housing children with special needs.

# Institutions

- **Yerevan Ajapnyak Community Children's Social Care Center** was founded in July 2005 to support special needs children aged 6-18 years and their families who are experiencing difficult life circumstances and help facilitate their integration into society. The Center provides pedagogical, educational, and professional orientation services; psychological services, including play therapy, art therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy; primary health care and medical consulting; and rights protection and advocacy.
- **Zadik Yerevan Child Assistance Center** is a state RCI in Yerevan, Armenia, that houses approximately 21 children between the ages of 3 and 18 and serves 83 additional children non-residentially.



# 2025 Distributions

Regular bread and food stipends for Prkutyun funded by New Jersey Juniors.

New sewer system installed at Warm Hearth 3rd Village funded by the Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund.

New color laser printer for Our Lady of Armenia Educational Center, Tashir.

Monthly diaper distributions for the patients of the Ada Keshishyants Social Rehabilitation Center for Children with Developmental Disabilities and for the edlerly in the community.

New flooring for the SOAR Transitional Center, Gyumri.



# 2025 Distributions

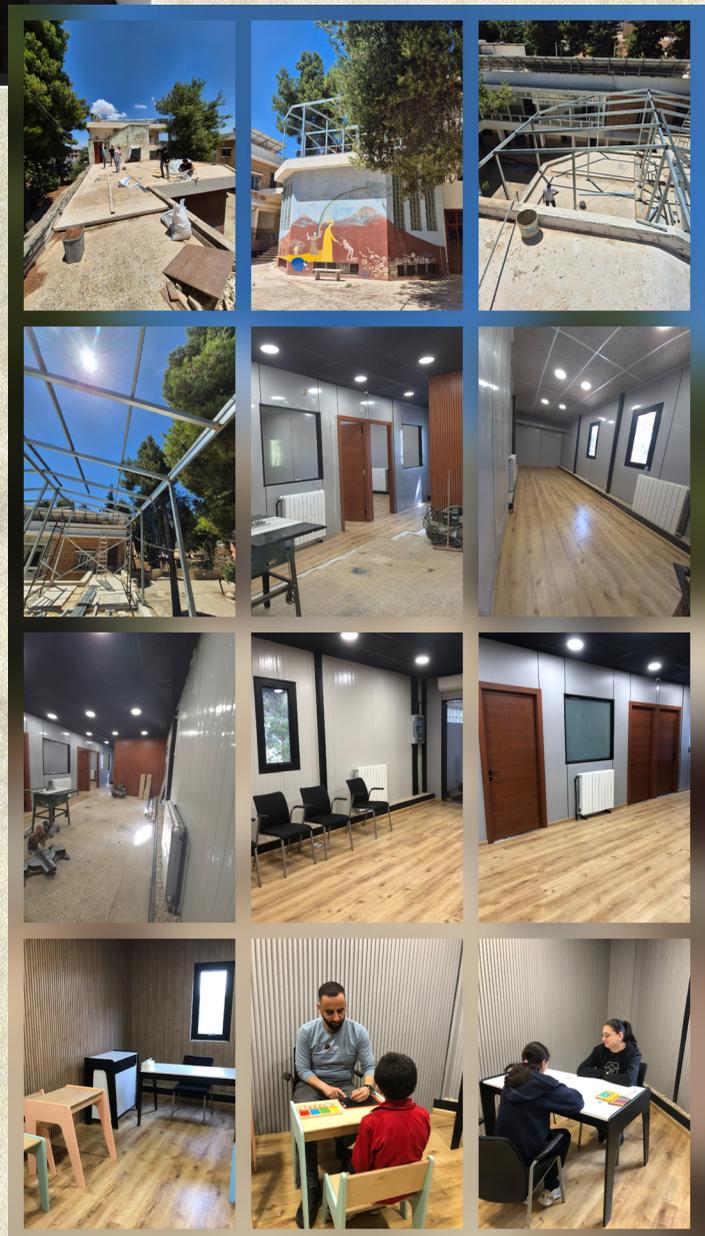


Healing Harbor Project at Armenian Evangelical Boarding School, Lebanon.

Completed Project

## Vision

The Healing Harbor Mental Health Project (HH) was officially launched in September 2025 at the Armenian Evangelical Boarding School in Anjar, following the successful renovation of a dedicated mental health center made possible through the generous support of SOAR. The project responds to the growing psychosocial and mental health needs of children affected by prolonged economic hardship, displacement, family instability, and cumulative trauma. Prior to Healing Harbor, the school provided pastoral and emotional support; however, it lacked a structured, professional, and multidisciplinary mental health framework. Between September and November 2025, Healing Harbor transitioned from launch to full operational capacity, delivering 331 professional sessions to 38 children, through a coordinated team of specialists. Early indicators demonstrate strong engagement, increased help-seeking behavior, improved emotional regulation, and high utilization of the renovated center. SOAR's investment has directly enabled the creation of a dignified, safe, and professional environment where healing can begin and be sustained.



# 2025 Distributions

Birthday Fund sponsored celebrations throughout the year.

Easter celebrations for all SOAR supported facilities and families.

A new gas stove with its ventilation system, a sewing machine, and an electric oven for Our Lady of Armenia Annie Bezikian Center, Kanaker, funded by the SOAR New York City Chapter.



# 2025 Distributions



On April 24, Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day, SOAR, and its partner organizations in Armenia and in the Diaspora planted 20 trees, for each year of SOAR's existence, in memory of the 1.5 million innocent victims of Genocide and as a symbol of life and resilience.

A new computer for Javakh Education and Cultural Youth Center.

Hygiene supplies for the residents of Our Lady of Armenia Annie Bezikian Center, funded by the SOAR New York City Chapter.

Furnishings for the new SOLENA Center.



# 2025 Distributions

June 1st celebrations for Sisters of Charity, Bethlehem, Nakashian Children's Support Center, and Sisters of Charity, Spitak, at Ostrich Park,.

Graduation celebration and gifts for Anahit Sargsyan and Karine Antanosyan of Our Lady of Armenia Annie Bezikian Center, Kanaker.

SOAR paid the rehabilitation for Mariam Yeranosyan at ArtMed Rehabilitation Center. Mariam had suffered a severe stroke and has two young children.

A new refrigerator and food stipend for Warm Hearth funded by SOAR New York.



# 2025 Distributions



Summer retreat for residents of Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage, the young ladies of Nakashian Children's Support Center (Mer Hooys), and for 14 children from Children's Home of Gyumri.

Javakh Summer Camp, funded by the Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund.



# 2025 Distributions

An excursion to Ostrich Park for the children of Children's Home of Gyumrind the residents of Dzorak Care Center,

The beneficiaries of Prkutyun spent seven days at the Our Lady of Armenia summer camp, funded by the Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund.

The children at OLA Summer Camp received a special treat of ice cream and biscuits thanks to the SOAR Philadelphia Juniors!



# 2025 Distributions



From July 15–19, an Eco Camp was organized at the SOLENA Day Care Center with participants from displaced Artsakh families.

Ahead of September 1st (the first day of school), SOAR, staying true to its mission, provided school supply packages to the school-aged children of its beneficiary families.

New washing machines for Our Lady of Armenia Annie Bezikian Center, Kanaker.

Renovations of the downstairs bathroom at Our Lady of Armenia Center, funded by SOAR New York



# 2025 Distributions

At the start of the school year 56 children from 23 families' (AFIF/FFSRF/SCOH program) were provided with school supplies.



School supplies for all 29 children at Our Lady of Armenia Center, funded by SOAR Dallas!

More than 100 children displaced from Artsakh, together with their parents from Gyumri, Yerevan, and Etchmiadzin, visited the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin with the support of SOAR.



New asphalt paving for the front of the SOAR Transitional Center, Gyumri funded by the Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund!



# 2025 Distributions



Three projects were completed and opened at Children's Home of Gyumri:

1. "Our House" project provided the older children at CHG with a "home" that is suitable for their needs funded by SOAR LaCanada and the Gulamerian Fund.

2. A new corridor was created as a connection to the pool physiotherapy building funded by the New Jersey and Detroit Chapters and the Gulamerian Fund.

3. Two cozy outdoor pavilions were also built in the yard with the support of SOAR Dallas and Portland Chapters and the Gulamerian Fund, providing a pleasant space where children can spend their free time playing and socializing.



# 2025 Distributions

A new sofa for the Fallen Soldier Center and the new SOAR logo was added to the Wall of Fame and outside the Center.

A former beneficiary of the Boys' Center, Arsen Sukiasyan, was released from the army for a few hours of leave. Together with the boys of the Center, we hosted him at the Transitional Center for Young Men in Yerevan. The boys had warmly prepared various dishes and pastries. Essential items and sweets for Arsen were purchased for Arsen as a gift.

New shoes for 30 children from families in very poor socio-economic conditions from Orran, funded by the New Jersey Juniors Art Night fundraiser!

SOAR purchased gifts to celebrate the marriages of SOAR Transitional Center Graduates and hope for bright futures!

Thanksgiving celebration at Our Lady of Armenia Center!



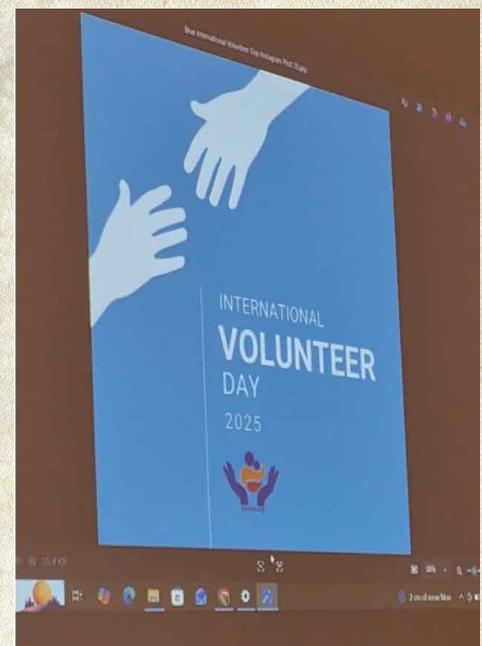
# 2025 Distributions



SOAR supports students across Armenia in accessing quality education and building a strong foundation for their future success. This year, in honor of International Students' Day, we brought together all the students supported by the Foundation to celebrate their achievements, share their dreams and express gratitude to those who make their educational journeys possible.

At the initiative of SOAR, a meeting was organized to present a new educational package developed in line with modern teaching approaches.

On International Volunteer Day, a special meeting was held at the SOLENA Center, bringing together representatives from the KASA Swiss Humanitarian Foundation and Birthright Armenia Foundation.



# 2025 Distributions

SOAR distributed New Year's gift bags to 43 beneficiaries of the "Faith and Light Armenia" NGO. The beneficiaries are young men and women with disabilities who are not currently involved in any community-based programs.

Christmas celebrations for every facility, child, and family that SOAR supports.



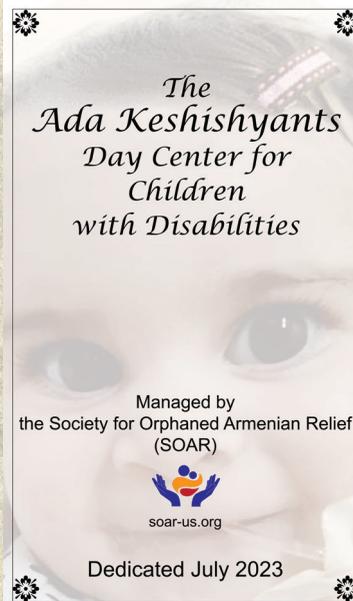
# Major Projects

## **Ada Keshishyants Center for Children With Disabilities**

SOAR opened the Ada Keshishyants Center for Disabled Children in July 2023. The first of its kind in Vanadzor, the Center serves as a non-residential facility for children with developmental, emotional, intellectual, physical, and psychological disabilities in Vanadzor, Armenia. Dedicated in the name of Ada Keshishyants, who suffers from a life-threatening, rare genetic disease called Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Type 1.

Children with SMA die slowly, rarely reaching two years of age. One shot of Zolgensma could have helped treat or even cure Ada, but at a cost of \$2.125 million. In 2021, the funds were raised to purchase Zolgensma, but complications arose, and unfortunately, Ada was not able to receive the treatment.

A new larger building was purchased in 2025 and renovations will be completed in May of 2026. The building was purchased to accommodate the growing demand.



# **Ada Keshishyan's Center for Children With Disabilities**

## **Concept of "ADA Keshishyan" Services and Development Center**

### **Introduction**

"ADA" Center was established as an inclusive space to ensure the social, psychological, educational, and physical development of children and young people aged 3 to 18, particularly persons with disabilities.

The Center operates in Vanadzor city and provides day-care services aimed at developing independent living skills, promoting social inclusion, and easing the burden on families.

### **Mission of the Center**

To create a supportive, caring, and developmental environment where every child or young person can discover their potential and live a dignified and fulfilling life within the community.

### **Main Goal**

To provide day-care services tailored to individual needs, contributing to beneficiaries' social integration, development of independent living skills, and family respite.

### **Activities**

- Develop self-care, communication, and social skills.
- Support parents and caregivers through psychological counseling and support groups.
- Include beneficiaries in community and cultural events.
- Cooperate with local self-government bodies, schools, and healthcare institutions to ensure continuity of care.

### **Beneficiaries**

- Children and young people aged 3 to 18 with physical, intellectual, or multiple disabilities
- Their family members, as secondary beneficiaries

### **Types of Services**

- Skills development
- Community engagement programs
- Social and psychosocial support
- Individual and group psychological counseling
- Developmental and stimulating games
- Psychological therapies (art therapy, sand therapy, fairy-tale therapy)
- Developmental and educational activities
- Vocational training: handicrafts and creative activities
- Development of basic knowledge and communication skills
- Therapeutic services
- Kinesitherapy / therapeutic physical exercises
- Speech development / speech therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Social skills development
- Self-care skills, interaction, and teamwork
- Parental support
- Counseling groups
- Seminars on parental empowerment and caregiving topics

### **Expected Results**

- Improvement of beneficiaries' functional abilities
- Development of social and communication skills
- Reduction of parents' psychological burden
- Increased level of inclusion at the community level

### **Core Principles**

- Equal opportunities
- Individualized approach
- Inclusive environment
- Confidentiality and respect
- Cooperation between families and professionals

# Ada Keshishyants Center for Children With Disabilities

## Center Structure and Work Organization

### Structure

“ADA” Center operates as a specialized center under the “Lusastgh” NGO and has a multidisciplinary team with a clearly structured system, including the following specialists:

- Center Director / Coordinator – organizes and oversees the entire service process, cooperates with partners and community institutions
- Psychologist – conducts psychological assessments, counseling, and individual and group therapy sessions
- Social Worker – assesses social needs, develops individual support plans, and maintains communication with families
- Speech Therapist / Logopedist – works on speech, communication, and language development
- Occupational Therapist / Development Specialist – ensures development of self-care, motor, and cognitive skills
- Kinesitherapist / Physiotherapist / Therapeutic Exercise Specialist – conducts rehabilitative and stimulating sessions to restore and improve motor abilities
- Special Education Teacher – organizes daily educational, play-based, and creative activities
- Social Pedagogue – supports socialization, behavior regulation, and interpersonal skills development; implements individual and group work to facilitate adaptation in groups and the community; cooperates with parents and teachers
- Social Caregiver – provides daily care, hygiene support, and assistance in developing self-care skills
- Art Therapist – conducts individual and group art therapy sessions to promote emotional expression, self-awareness, and emotional regulation, using drawing, collage, music, movement, storytelling, and other methods
- Ceramics Instructor – develops fine motor skills, concentration, and creative thinking through clay work; ceramic classes also have therapeutic benefits, promoting calmness, focus, and self-confidence; collaborates with the art therapist and occupational therapist
- Support Staff (caregivers, driver, technical staff) – ensure physical safety and a comfortable environment

### Work Organization

The Center operates in a day-care mode, 5 days a week, from 10:00 to 17:00

Within the program, the following are implemented:

- ✓ Individual and group sessions based on the child's development plan
- ✓ Free play and socialization hours
- ✓ Hygiene and self-care training
- ✓ Parental counseling meetings
- ✓ Regular family visits to ensure feedback
- ✓ The Center's activities are organized based on annual and quarterly plans.

Evaluation and Monitoring System/ Evaluation is carried out by **SOAR**.

The Center's work is based on continuous evaluation to ensure service quality and effectiveness. Evaluation is conducted at three levels:

#### Individual Level

- Development of an Individual Development Plan (IDP) for each beneficiary
- Regular assessment of progress (social, communication, and motor skills)

#### Service Level

- Evaluation of program effectiveness and need for changes during team meetings

#### Organizational Level

- Annual reports analyzing results, challenges, and improvement steps
  - Service quality monitoring with the involvement of external specialists
- Evaluation tools include observations, checklists, parent interviews, and professional consultations.

### Cooperation and Networking

The Center cooperates with:

- Local self-government bodies (Vanadzor Municipality) within social support programs
- Educational institutions to ensure inclusive education
- Healthcare institutions to establish a system of medical consultation and referrals
- Civil society and international organizations for capacity building and resource mobilization

**The Center is open to volunteers, student internships, and professional cooperation.**

# Ada Keshishyant; Center for Children With Disabilities

## Conclusion

“ADA” Center is a unique platform in Lori region for the comprehensive development and social inclusion of children and young people with disabilities.

The Center’s services not only improve the quality of life of beneficiaries but also contribute to fostering a culture of care and inclusion within the community.

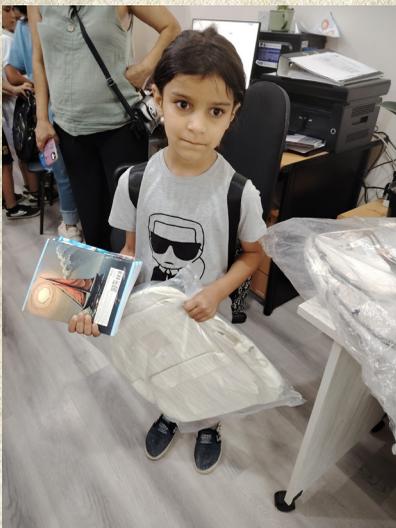
## Services provided:

During 2025, **150** special needs children were enrolled in the Center. The children and siblings received school supplies, the families and elderly of the community were given monthly diaper distributions, and a Christmas celebration was held and gifts for every participant of the Center.

The children received professional support from a multidisciplinary team including a psychologist, physiotherapist, speech therapist, special educator, occupational therapist, art therapist, and potter. Services were delivered both individually and in group formats.

The year 2025 was particularly significant, as group sessions were held on a regular basis. This allowed children on the waiting list to be partially and proactively included in the program, ensuring their early engagement in a therapeutic environment.

During the year, a total of **327** children were registered on the waiting list, of whom approximately **200** are still awaiting access to services.



# Major Projects

## Art Therapy

The goal of this project is to facilitate social inclusion of orphaned children through art therapy and is funded by the Jirair S. and Elizabeth Hovnanian Foundation.

**Two modes are implemented at SOS Idjevan. The classes lasted 10 months and took place twice/week for two hours each with 54 students participating quarterly.**

**Stained glass.** Up to 27 children learned the skill of stained glass which uses art media, the creative process, and the resulting artwork to explore feelings, reconcile emotional conflicts, foster self-awareness, manage behavior and addictions, develop social skills, improve reality orientation, reduce anxiety, and increase self-esteem.

**Arts and crafts.** Many types of art forms are used in the arts and crafts including drawing/coloring, painting, sculpting, finger painting, weaving, and collages. This mode utilizes the creative process to help people explore self-expression and, in doing so, find new ways to gain personal insight and develop new coping skills.



# Major Projects

## Art Therapy

**Clay Therapy.** A new project was started with the residents of Warm Hearth. During the months of January - August, sessions were held twice a week, each lasting two hours.

The courses had high participation and a tangible impact on the residents' psychosocial well-being, contributing not only to therapeutic outcomes and the stimulation of creativity but also serving as a foundation for building their self-confidence and independence.



**Clay Therapy.** 16 children, aged 9–16 from the SOAR Artsakh Family Integration Program, the “Child and Family Support Center of Shirak Region”, and the “Children’s Home of Gyumri had the opportunity to participate in a three-month clay art therapy program in Gyumri.

The program was designed to promote emotional well-being, cognitive growth and social development through creative engagement with clay. Throughout the three-month period, participants attended the Varem-Marem Art Studio twice a week, where instructors encouraged them to

express themselves artistically and create individual works of art.

# Major Projects

## Dental Clinic

Cavities are the most prevalent chronic disease among children in Armenia.

Empirical studies have documented that:

1. The average 5-year old child in Armenia has eight decayed, missing or filled primary teeth;
2. Between the ages of 14 and 17 years old, the average child continues to experience dental decay at the rate of one permanent tooth per year;
3. Almost 90% of all 12-year-old children in Armenia have cavities; and,
4. Only 20% of Armenian 18-year-olds still have all of their teeth.

Unquestionably, dental hygiene problems are more problematic among institutionalized children.

To address these dental issues, SOAR's Dental Fund was created in September 2015 coinciding with the grand opening of the SOAR Dental Clinic in Gyumri.

The clinic is overseen by a team of dental experts.

During 2025, the dental clinic served **320** patients.

Female - 194

Male - 126

Number of patients by centers:

- Community — 119
  - OLA — 38
  - SMCFC — 116
- Emili Aregak — 12
- Little Prince — 38
- Alvan Tsaghik — 12
- Transitional Centers — 9

# Major Projects

## Dental Clinic

The dental clinic also emphasizes early diagnosis and treatment of dental problems, as well as dental and oral care literacy. This was done by conducting outreach visits in three rural communities, where 81 children received primary dental examinations. were taught dental care through games and didactic materials. proper care, consumption of healthy food.



# Major Projects

## The SOAR Families of Fallen Soldiers Support Center in Yerevan

With its grand opening in 2021, the Center serves as a non-residential facility that provides economic assistance, grief counseling, academic tutoring, job placement, and other support services to families of soldiers killed or severely injured in battle. The overarching goal of the Center is to offer compassionate and holistic support to spouses, children, and families grieving the death of an Armenian soldier killed or wounded in battle.



The Center has become a place for these families to gather for counseling, celebrations, and to receive all types of assistance and social interaction.

A new plaque in memory of Ardashes Yerganian was placed at the Center. Numerous families have been assisted through the SOAR Fund created in his honor.



# Major Projects

## Human Rights Monitoring

SOAR's Human Rights Monitoring Program, created in December 2015, monitors potential human rights violations within Armenia's orphanages, boarding schools, and day centers. Specifically, the following constructs are monitored by in-country staff and volunteers: education, food and nutrition, human trafficking, hygiene, physical abuse and neglect, reunification, and sexual abuse. Using a multi-method design, these constructs are examined in each facility quarterly, with reports subsequently provided to facility directors and appropriate governmental personnel.



## Lili's Bed and Breakfast



Lili's Bed and Breakfast (B&B) is adjacent to the Ani Bezikian Youth Center in Kanaker, a section of Yerevan approximately 10 minutes from City Center. The Youth Center is a transitional residence for older teenage girls who have aged out of the Our Lady of Armenia Center, an orphanage in Gyumri overseen by the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (Mother

Arousiag Sajonian, Superior). The Kanaker residence facilitates independent living in a safe and nurturing environment by allowing the girls to work and go to school. The B&B is owned and managed by SOAR and run by the residents of the Annie Bezikian Center.

***All proceeds from Lili's B&B go to SOAR's Orphan Transitional Fund.***

# Major Projects

## Maternal and Newborn Health

In June 2023, our Maternal and Newborn Health Fund was established to provide prenatal and newborn assistance to vulnerable, first-time expectant mothers in Armenia.

We support key elements of quality care during pregnancy, including birth preparedness and complication readiness, and counsel expectant mothers on pregnancy danger signs. Physicians and social workers ensure that mothers receive quality care during childbirth, regular post-delivery medical attention, and trainings that facilitate better motherhood skills.

To incentivize our target population, we have established programmatic enrichments to address the social and structural barriers to patient compliance.



# Major Projects

## Maternal and Newborn Health

### **May-July Vanadzor Region**

#### **There were 10 participants:**

All 10 participants were from Artsakh and in the early stages of their first pregnancy.

#### **Needs Assessment and Information Provision:**

A primary knowledge assessment was conducted with women at different stages of pregnancy.

As a result, the following key issues were identified:

- A significant portion of pregnant women (approximately 90%, according to the survey) lacked adequate knowledge about essential health care practices, proper nutrition, and maintaining mental well-being during pregnancy.
- None of the pregnant women had received psychological counseling or attended educational meetings.
- The sources of information were mostly non-professional: relatives, internet and social media.
- There was a notable lack of trust in community and public institutions and services.

#### **Speakers at the sessions included:**

- Psychologist
- Social worker
- Gynecologist
- Dentist
- Therapist
- Nutritionist
- A representative from the Unified Social Service



### **June-July Yeghegnadzor Region**

#### **There were 9 participants:**

- 2 were forcibly displaced from Artsakh
- 7 were from villages near Yeghegnadzor
- 3 with health issues.

#### Speakers at the sessions included:

- Psychologists
- Social workers
- Gynecologists
- Pediatricians
- Family doctors
- Therapists
- Nutritionists
- Yeghegnadzor Unified Social Service reception desk senior specialist



# Major Projects

## Maternal and Newborn Health

### November-December Syunik Region

**There were 9 participants from the Kajaran and Kapan communities.**

Speakers at the sessions included:

- Psychologist
- Social worker
- Gynecologist
- Pediatrician
- Dentist
- Therapist
- Lawyer / Representative of the Unified Social Service



The meetings had a significant impact on pregnant women, contributing to the improvement of their physical, psychological and social well-being. Participants gained important knowledge about the course of pregnancy, childbirth, childcare, as well as maintaining their own mental health. Cultural events such as film watchings and gallery visit complemented the program's impact by fostering peer interaction, offering a break from daily concerns, and helping participants feel a sense of belonging within the community.

A safe, warm, and trusting environment was created, allowing participants to openly express their fears, concerns, and expectations, while listening to and respecting each other's emotions. This environment was especially important for first-time mothers and mothers displaced from Artsakh.

The legal meetings played a vital role in raising awareness of women's social rights. Many participants learned for the first time about maternity benefits, lump-sum birth payments, and caregiving entitlements. The program not only enhanced knowledge and skills but also fostered a sense of empowerment, helping women regain confidence and evolve into more active, informed, and self-sufficient mothers within their communities. During the final meetings, it was noted that participants' knowledge regarding pregnancy, childbirth, and newborn care had significantly increased. Participants also acquired practical knowledge in healthy living and prevention, which they are ready to apply in practice.

# Major Projects

## Mobile Eye Care Project

Founded in 2020, SOAR's Mobile Eye Care Project provides traveling vision care for children housed in Armenia's residential childcare institutions (orphanages and special boarding schools), for children and families who receive services through specialized day centers throughout Armenia, and to children and adults in remote villages across Armenia. More serious cases are referred to Yerevan, where consultant Dr. Artashes Zilfyan conducts all subsequent examinations and treatment free of charge.

Transportation to Yerevan for all follow-up appointments are provided by SOAR. Our mobile eye care clinic not only remedies basic vision problems onsite, but addresses serious eye care issues at no additional cost or inconvenience to thousands of patients across Armenia.



# Major Projects

## Mobile Eye Care Project

In 2025 **1,843** general eye examinations and diagnoses were performed:

<u>NAME OF ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>NUMBER SERVED</u>
DIRAMAYR HAYASTANI TASHIR CENTER	42
TASHIR LORI REGION COMMUNITY	900
LITTLE PRINCE DAY CARE SOCIAL CENTER	13
OUR LADY OF ARMENIA CENTER	8
NADINE BASMAJIAN ELDERLY CARE CENTER	33
“SYMBOL OF KINDNESS” NGO	3
SOAR AFIF PROGRAM FAMILIES	6
“EMILY AREGAK” CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES	29
GYUMRI COMMUNITY	22
VANADZOR COMMUNITY	
\2 shifts of visits during April and December months \	92
OUR LADY OF ARMENIA CAMP	800
SPITAK, MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY ARM.BRANCH	35
PRKUTYUN SALVATION NGO	75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,843</b>



# Major Projects

## Music Therapy

Music therapy is the clinical and evidenced-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program. It consists of using music therapeutically to address physical, psychological, cognitive, behavioral, and/or social functioning.

Regular music therapy sessions are held at Sisters of Charity Bethlehem. Sessions were also held at the SOAR SOLENA Day Care Center during Eco Camp. A special Christmas concert was held at Sisters of Charity.



# Major Projects

## **SOLENA Day Center**



Opened in December 2024, SOAR's SOLENA Center (Gyumri, Armenia) is a non-residential center that provides services to families with special needs children: employment/professional, substance abuse counseling, and job training for parents/caregivers and academic tutoring, nutritious meals, and psychological counseling for the children. SOLENA offers a continuum of care and integration within the community to empower families and avert institutionalization.



# Major Projects

## SOLENA Day Center

### In 2025, a variety of activities were held at the SOLENA Center:

- Weekly Bible Studies (“Light for the Children of Artsakh”) for the displaced Artsakh children. This includes holiday celebrations and special excursions.
- Clay-Art Therapy  
There were 16 participants from Children’s Home of Gyumri, Shirak Marz Child and Family Support Center, and children from displaced Artsakh families.
- Eco Friend Summer Camp  
There were 10 participants from displaced Artsakh families and the community.
- Pen Pal Program  
There were 6 participants who exchanged letters with our New Jersey Juniors Group.
- Light Your Home Candle Workshop  
There were 10 participants from displaced Artsakh families and the community.
- Christmas celebration for children in our AFIF, FFSRF, and SCOH Sponsorship Funds.
- Christmas gifts were distributed for “Faith and Light Armenia” beneficiaries with disabilities.
- A workshop of handmade crafts “In Her hands” with Marine Sargsyan, founder of the “SHERAMI-HANDMADE” brand.
- David and Armine Amalyan, parents of a fallen soldier, visited the SOLENA Center for International Family Day. Our highly anticipated guests shared their stories of family, love, hardships, ups and downs.
- Lusine Hambarzumanyan, an internationally qualified etiquette specialist, held a class with SOAR volunteers and students from our Transitional Centers.
- Introduction of an educational package “A Golden Grain of Kind Words”, by Arusyak Grigoryan, was held for Shirak Region school directors and teachers.
- For International Children’s Day, a film screening of Nunik and a discussion was held that had participants who are experts and professionals working on children’s rights and support programs.
- Volunteer Program  
Tree Planting initiative for SOAR’s 20-year anniversary  
A class was held for International Volunteer Day



# Major Projects

## **SOAR Transitional Centers - one in Gyumri and two in Yerevan**

SOAR's Transitional Centers are residential setting for older teenage girls who have outgrown the traditional orphanage but who are not yet ready for independent living.

At our Center, these young women attend college, cultivate a business, are enriched by our academic programs, appreciate volunteerism, learn essential life skills, including home and money management, build self-nurturance and self-confidence, and prepare themselves for emotional, fiscal, and professional independence.

Significant financial support was received by the Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Fund, the Albert Tamberchi Foundation, and an anonymous foundation.

The residents of the Transitional Center in Gyumri celebrated their **six-year anniversary** that was filled with activities. The Papken and Anahid Megerian Transitional Center in Yerevan was opened in 2022 and The Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Center for Young Men was opened in 2023.



SOAR Transitional Center, Gyumri



SOAR Papken and Anahid Megerian  
Transitional Center, Yerevan



SOAR Harold and Josephine Gulamerian  
Transitional Center for Young Men, Yerevan

# Major Projects

## **Gyumri So-Art - A Transitional Center Business**

[gyumrisoart.com](http://gyumrisoart.com)



# Gyumri So-Art

Gyumri So-Art was developed for the social adaptation of orphans, to provide basic professional skills and to educate them on fiscal independence. We approach our handcraft business to educate our young women in entrepreneurial rather than consumer thinking and to help them appreciate the importance of financial security in the early stages of independent living. Those orphans could leave the walls of a boarding school or orphanage being self-sufficient, socially adapted, active and confident.

Here, the young women create tote bags, Marash bags, tablecloths, table runners, and pillowcases. By supporting our workshop, you not only get quality handcrafts from Armenia but also help our young women acquire professional skills.

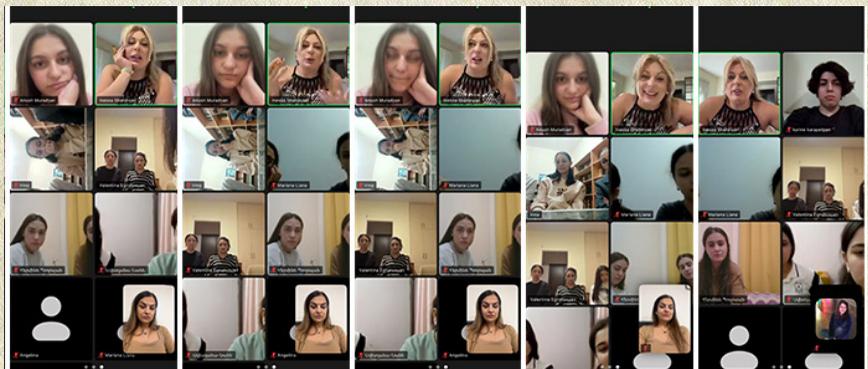
The website for the Gyumri So-Art store was launched in early 2022. .  
Some of the store products are below:



# Major Projects

## SOAR Transitional Centers - activity

- Online courses through SOAR Chapter members continue for the residents of all three Centers
- Every resident has a birthday celebration!
- Holiday celebrations are held for every holiday for the residents and volunteers of each Center
- 6th Anniversary of the SOAR Transitional Center, Gyumri
- The residents of the Center for Young Men hosted one of the former residents who was on leave from his military duty
- New furnishings for the Center for Young Men
- Mariam Asoyan at the Center for Young Women, Yerevan received her long-awaited eye surgery and her post surgical medications.
- New flooring for the Center for Young Women, Gyumri
- New asphalt paving for the Center for Young Women, Gyumri
- All residents participate in volunteer work with SOAR related activities as well as external work



# Sponsorship Funds

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.

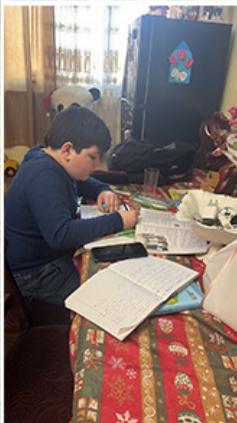
SOAR has **5** sponsorship types:

- Child Sponsorship
- Families of Fallen Soldiers Relief
- Services to Children in their Own Homes (SCOH)
- Artsakh Family Integration
- SOS Village

**In 2025, more than 280 children/families/  
disabled adults were assisted through  
these sponsorships.**



# Sponsorship Fund



# Other Funds

**Birthday:** The Birthday Fund is a program whereby parents request donations to SOAR in lieu of gifts for their children's birthdays. The funds are used to host monthly birthday parties for the children at Nakashian Children's Support Center (formerly Mer Hooy) and the residents of Warm Hearth.



**Diaper:** Disposable diapers in Armenia are very expensive. In addition to cost, government allocations for diaper expenses are very low and do not adequately control for the diaper needs of the children. While SOAR firmly believes government should be exclusively responsible for the cost of baby supplies in the state orphanages, we have genuine concern for hygiene and the children's comfort. To address these issues, the Diaper Fund was launched in October 2014 to provide diaper subsidies to facilities in need.



**Orphan Transitional:** Chapter volunteers work directly with young adults in Armenia as they transition to independent living, offering mentorship in the areas of education, interview coaching, job training and placement, counseling, and financial planning.

# Programs

Developed and managed by our Chapter volunteers, SOAR Programs are academic curricula implemented virtually to the institutions in Armenia. Approximately 13 Programs are offered, including cultural discovery, digital literacy, financial planning, girls' empowerment, language tutoring, and mentoring and professional development.

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

**Artificial Intelligence:** providing instruction in the field of AI.

**Astrophysics:** providing instruction in the study of the physical properties and behavior of celestial objects and phenomena throughout the universe.

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

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

**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.

**Female Empowerment:** 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:** 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.

**Good Health and Well-Being:** Instruction that fosters health awareness and education.

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

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



# Chapter Highlights

## SOAR National

### 20-Year Anniversary Gala and Chapter Meetings



George S. Yacoubian, Jr.  
will be running in the  
**2025 Dietz & Watson Philadelphia Marathon  
Rothman Orthopaedics 8K**

**NOVEMBER 22, 2025**

Help George reach his goal of  
**\$5,000 for**  
The Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) and the Society for Armenian Vulnerable Elderly (SAVE).

**GO HERE to sponsor George**

For more information, contact George at [gyacoubian@soar-us.org](mailto:gyacoubian@soar-us.org) or [george@armenianelderly.org](mailto:george@armenianelderly.org)

Thank you in advance for your support!

George Yacoubian Ran for SOAR and SAVE

To Give EVERY CHILD a Christmas to Remember

*Christmas Campaign*

Christmas and Easter Campaigns

**GIVING TUESDAY**

**December 2, 2025**

Giving Tuesday Campaign

**MARCH MADNESS**

The 19th Annual March Madness Pool

\$100 entry with a 75/25 split between winner of the pool and SOAR

To register:  
1) Go to [www.tourneys.com](http://www.tourneys.com)  
2) Click "Register Free" or use your login information from last year  
3) After registering, click "Join NCAA Pool"  
4) Enter the pool name: soar  
5) Select the SOAR pool  
6) Enter the pool password: soar-ncaa  
7) Click "View SOAR Now"  
8) Make your picks  
9) GO HERE to pay online

The tournament starts on March 20, 2025. Tipoff is at noon! Entries and payment MUST be received by tipoff or you will be eliminated before the tournament begins. GOOD LUCK!

Annual March Madness

**JOIN THE FUN!**

**SOAR Annual NFL Pool**

Annual NFL Pool Eliminator

*Sax Melody Story of Devotion*  
featuring  
*Մանուկա Շախոբյան*  
~ LADYNSAX ~

**05 31**

4:00 PM

Yans Music Hall  
Teryan 76,  
Yerevan, Armenia 0013

Lady N Sax Concert in Honor of Children's Day

What is left for the people of Artsakh?  
A long road  
And tired legs

Paradise turned into a fiery hell

A handful of hope, and...

**A SUITCASE TO HOME**

A story of the struggles, persecutions, and resilience of the Armenian people

THE SOCIETY FOR ORPHANED ARMENIAN RELIEF (SOAR) AND ANDREW SIMONIAN  
PREMIER SUITCASE TO HOME  
DIRECTED BY YELENA ARSHAPYAN WITH ANASTAS MIKHAYAN  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY NELSON SARGSYAN MUSIC SHAHIN DANESHVAR  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SAMUEL GRENITZ

Premier of SOAR Award Winning Film Documentary "A Suitcase to Home"



Emergency Medical Campaign for Levon Arzumanyan

# Chapter Highlights

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## FUNDRAISING

**SOAR Anchorage** held a Christmas Campaign for facility celebrations.

**SOAR Atlanta** participated in a chapter collaborative online cooking class.

**SOAR Berlin** held a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home”.

**SOAR Boston** hosted a booth at the Armenian Festival.

**SOAR Brussels** held an online Louis Vuitton raffle, hosted a Charity Concert with Garik and Sona, and a One Man Band Conert with Gor Sujyan.

**SOAR Buenos Aires** held a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home”, co-hosted an event for Youth Diplomats, and advocate for Armenian POW’s and Families of Fallen Soldiers.

**SOAR Cairo** Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors in Cairo, they are making a meaningful difference in the lives of at-risk Armenian children and families year after year.

**SOAR Charlotte** participated in a chapter collaborative online cooking class.

**SOAR Chicago** held a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home” and hosted a Paint N’ Sip event. They also hosted a table at the Evanston picnic.

**SOAR Copenhagen** held an Armenian Lullaby Workshop and recieved a grant from a local organization that paid for facility Christmas celebrations.

**SOAR Dallas** held a year-end campaign for the Family of Fallen Soldier Levon Hambaryan, held their 8th consecutive School Supply Drive for Orphans in Armenia, hosted a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home”, and held an Easter Campaign for four SOAR supported facilities in Gyumri.

**SOAR Detroit** held a Christmas fundraiser and held their 3rd Annual Armenian Heritage Night with the Detroit Pistons.

**SOAR Fresno** held a Meet and Greet to bring awareness of SOAR to the local community.

# Chapter Highlights - Fundraising

**SOAR Glendale/La Canada** hosted a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home”, and collaborated with UCLA Armenian Students’ Association for a second showing. The chapter also held an Art Master Class in honor of Children’s Day, held a campaign for Children’s Home of Gyumri “Our House” project, and held “Hike for a Cause” to raise funds for an Easter celebration for SOS Kotayk.

**SOAR Indianapolis** participated in a chapter collaborative online cooking class.

**SOAR Jacksonville** held their annual Yoga Breakfast Fundraiser and continue to facilitate company matching donations.

**SOAR London** board members ran a 10K marathon to raise funds for SOAR.

**SOAR Minneapolis** continues to fundraise for The Chunmei Guo Memorial Scholarship Fund which was created to help toward the education of young women studying in the sciences.

**SOAR Montreal** hosted their annual “Grand Concert Bénéfice”, and hosted a Charity Auction and Concert.

**SOAR Naples** held their annual “Winter Event” to raise funds for Families of Fallen Soldiers.

**SOAR New Jersey** participated in the premier showing of the SOAR produced film documentary “A Suitcase to Home” put on by the Princeton Armenian Society, and collaborated with New York and hosted “Blossom on the Hudson”.

**SOAR New York** hosted a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home”, hosted “Blossom on the Hudson” with SOAR New Jersey, and held a “Rooftop Carnival Soiree”.

**SOAR Oklahoma** held a Christmas campaign for a Christmas celebration for SOS Children’s Village, Kotayk.

**SOAR Orange County** held a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home”, and held a “Summer Mixer” for Armenian Evangelical Boarding School in Lebanon.

**SOAR Philadelphia** hosted a premier showing of “A Suitcase to Home” and coordinated the silent auction for the SOAR 20-Year Anniversary Gala.

# Chapter Highlights - Fundraising

**SOAR Phoenix** hosted a table at Armenia Fest, and sponsored children and Christmas celebrations thanks to the special Cocoa Bomb Fundraiser held by board member Margaret Ebrahimian's daughter Ani.

**SOAR Providence** hosted a premier showing of "A Suitcase to Home".

**SOAR Rocky Mountains** held a Christmas campaign for Children's Home of Gyumri.

**SOAR St. Louis** hosted a premier showing of "A Suitcase to Home".

**SOAR Sacramento** chapter president participated in a Mayoral competition raising funds for SOAR!

**SOAR Salt Lake City** Chapter President Publishes Children's Book – Proceeds Earmarked for Lebanon Orphanages and ran the Salt Lake City Half Marathon again in honor of her father.

**SOAR San Francisco Bay Area** hosted a premier showing of "A Suitcase to Home".

**SOAR Sao Paulo** hosted a premier showing of "A Suitcase to Home".

**SOAR South Florida** hosted a premier showing of "A Winter's Song", and hosted a concert with pianist Armen Martirosyan and soprano Margarita Parsamyan.

**SOAR Syracuse** hosted a chapter collaborative online cooking class.

**SOAR Tampa Bay** in cooperation with "Mission Armenia" of St. Hagop's Armenian Church provided sponsorship for displaced Artsakh families and contributed to the SOAR Transitional Center in Gyumri.

**SOAR Tennessee** participated in a chapter collaborative online cooking class.

**SOAR Toronto** hosted "A Captivating Evening of Classical Music in Honor of Father's Day".

**SOAR Vancouver** hosted a Christmas Soiree and raised funds for Christmas celebrations for the young ladies from Our Lady of Armenia (OLA) Annie Bezikian Center and Nakashian Children's Support Center, collaborated with Victoria Raskin and earned proceeds from her concert, hosted "Armenian Women in the Diaspora".

# Chapter Highlights - Fundraising

**SOAR Ventura County** held a “Thanksgiving Raffle” Yerevan Children’s Home, and held an Easter Campaign for Armenian Evangelical Boarding School and Birds’ Nest Orphanage.

**SOAR Washington D.C.** participated in a chapter collaborative online cooking class.

**SOAR Wisconsin** held a “Lake County Celebration” to raise funds for the “I CAN” Special Olympics being held in June 2026.



# Chapter Highlights

## PROGRAMS & ADMINISTRATIVE

**SOAR Amman** SOAR Amman gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the young women and young men at the SOAR Transitional Centers.

**SOAR Berlin** participates in the Female Empowerment Program holding sessions with the residents of the SOAR Transitional Centers and gives regular instruction in English to the children at SOS Villages and in German to the residents of the SOAR Transitional Centers through the Language Tutoring Program.

**SOAR Budapest** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to SOAR volunteers and to the children at SOS Children's Village.

**SOAR Buenos Aires** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the young women and young men at the SOAR Transitional Centers and to SOAR volunteers Program. The chapter president works hand in hand with fallen soldier and POW families bringing awareness of their plights and obtaining assistance.

**SOAR Cadiz** participates in the Language Tutoring Program giving regular instruction in Russian to the children at the SOS Villages.

**SOAR Cairo** participates in the Sponsorship Fund bringing awareness and matching supporters to SOAR sponsorships.

**SOAR Cyprus** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to SOAR volunteers.

**SOAR Doha** is an Internal Administrative Chapter overseeing medical requests and funding.

**SOAR Estonia** gives instruction in English to a resident of the SOAR Transitional Center through the Language Tutoring Program.

**SOAR Houston** is an Internal Administrative Chapter overseeing medical requests and funding.

**SOAR Istanbul** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the children of SOS Village, Idjevan.

**SOAR Johannesburg** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the SOAR volunteers in Armenia.

# Chapter Highlights - Programs

**SOAR Las Vegas** Chapter President launched her sessions through the Female Empowerment Program with now 20 participants.

**SOAR Lyon** gives regular instruction in French to the SOAR Transitional Center residents through the Language Tutoring Program.

**SOAR Malta** participates in the Global Hosting Program and gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the children of SOS Village, Idjevan.

**SOAR Marseille** participates in the Language Tutoring Program holding regular instruction in French with the residents at the SOAR Transitional Center, Yerevan.

**SOAR Moscow** holds weekly sessions in the Digital Literacy and Coding Program with the children at Orran and through the Female Empowerment Program holds sessions regularly with the residents of the SOAR Transitional Centers.

**SOAR New Hampshire** assists with proofreading internal documents for SOAR.

**SOAR Nottingham** participates in the Language Tutoring Program holding regular instruction with the residents at the SOAR Transitional Center, Gyumri.

**SOAR Odessa** ran a Project Management IT course which included residents of the SOAR Transitional Center, Yerevan.

**SOAR Oxbridge** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the residents of the SOAR Transitional Centers.

**SOAR Paris** gave multiple Cultural Discovery Program presentations to the children at SOS Villages.

**SOAR Pisa** is an Internal Administrative Chapter overseeing medical requests and funding.

**SOAR Rotterdam** gives English lessons to the children at SOS Villages and to the residents of the SOAR Transitional Centers.

**SOAR Saint Petersburg** gives regular instruction in Russian through the Language Tutoring Program.

# Chapter Highlights - Programs

**SOAR Salt Lake City** is an Internal Administrative Chapter assisting in legal matters.

**SOAR Salzburg** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the children of SOS Village, Idjevan.

**SOAR Sao Paulo** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the children of SOS Village, Idjevan.

**SOAR Slovenia** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the children at SOS Children's Villages.

**SOAR Sofia** participates in the Global Hosting Program regularly hosting those attending the AGBU Camp.

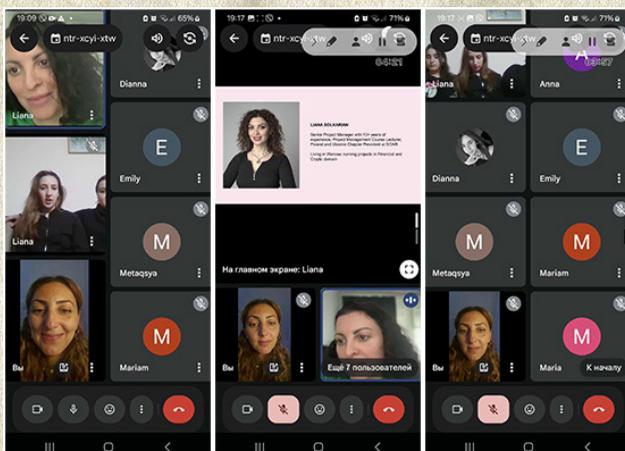
**SOAR Tehran** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the children of SOS Village, Idjevan.

**SOAR Tennessee** holds regular Bible Study sessions with the residents of the SOAR Transitional Centers.

**SOAR Vancouver** conducted a Social Marketing training for SOAR Armenia staff and TC residents at the Kanaker office and the young ladies at Nakashian Children's Support Center (Mer Hoosy), enjoyed a cooking class with SOAR Vancouver!

**SOAR Venice** gave a Cultural Discovery Program presentation to the SOAR Volunteers.

**SOAR Warsaw** gave a Female Empowerment Program presentation to SOAR volunteers and Transitional Center residents.



# Junior Highlights

## “Children Helping Children”

SOAR recognizes the importance of developing the future leaders of the Armenian community. SOAR-Juniors was created in October 2013 (by Philadelphia Juniors) for youth between the ages of 8 and 17.

**SOAR New Jersey Juniors** held a Krispy Kreme Digital Fundraiser, hosted an Art Night Fundraiser, and participated in the Pen Pal Program.

**SOAR Philadelphia Juniors** assisted with the SOAR 20-Year Anniversary Gala.

**SOAR Toronto Juniors** hosted a table at Carassauga and held their 2nd Annual Teen Christmas Party. Their group president also did a presentation about SOAR at his school.



# Accounting Summary

## Distributions

• Ada Keshishyants Center	\$50,995.00
• Armenian Evangelical Boarding School	\$89,450.00
• AFIF/FFSRF	\$35,950.39
• Birds' Nest Orphanage	\$53,400.00
• Children's Home Gyumri	\$48,311.00
• Dental Clinic	\$10,347.62
• Dzorak	\$900.00
• Eye Care Project	\$4,147.16
• House of Dreams	\$6,900.00
• Kharberd Orphanage	\$2,941.00
• Mari Izmirlyan	\$2,980.00
• Nakashian Children's Support Center	\$8,472.00
• Orran	\$3,067.85
• Our Lady of Armenia Center	\$64,558.00
• OLA-Kanaker	\$31,876.10
• OLA-Tashir	\$900.00
• OLA Tsaghgadzor	\$20,000.00
• Prkutyun	\$7,164.00
• Services to Children in their Own Homes (SCOH)	\$7,261.92.00
• Shirak Marz Children and Family Social Services	\$29,881.00
• Sisters of Charity, Bethlehem	\$900.00
• Sisters of Charity, Spitak	\$800.00
• SOLENA	\$7,437.69
• SOS-Idjevan	\$10,319.00
• SOS-Kotayk	\$1,000.00
• Transitional Center, Gyumri	\$30,133.98
• Transitional Center, Yerevan	\$12,329.36
• Transitional Center for Young Men, Yerevan	\$7,221.08
• Vardashen	\$300.00
• VOTAC	\$300.00
• Warm Hearth	\$14,279.05
• Yerevan Children's Home	\$300.00
• Yerevan Special School Number 11	\$650.00
• Yerevan Ajapnyak Community Children's Social Care Center	\$700.00

# Accounting Summary

• Zadik	\$300.00
• Programs	\$5,399.26
• Cap One	\$197,366.62
• Miscellaneous	\$64,502.56
• Special Events	\$224,425.67

**TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS**

**\$982,855.692**

## Administrative

• Salaries	\$77,329.24
• Bank	\$11,257.43
• Transportation	\$11,431.72
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>\$100,018.39</b>

**GRAND TOTAL**

**\$1,082,874.31**



# Conclusion

The Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR) was established in 2005 to provide humanitarian relief to orphaned Armenian children and orphaned Armenian adults with disabilities. Today, we support 35 institutions – day centers, residential childcare facilities, adult care facilities, summer camps, and transitional centers – in Armenia, Javakh (Georgia), and Lebanon. We have grown tremendously during the past two decades. In 2006, distributions totaled approximately \$60,000. In CY2025, our distributions exceeded \$1.1M. We are proud to address not only the major humanitarian constructs of education, emotional and psychological support, nutrition, health and hygiene, dental, medical and vision care, and fundamental human rights, but our Programs offer educational and professional curricula that stimulate intellectual curiosity, empowerment, and enrichment. We now have six Centers in Armenia: three Transitional Centers (Yerevan and Gyumri); our Families of Fallen Soldiers Support Center (Yerevan); the Ada Keshishyants Social Rehabilitation Center for Children with Developmental Disabilities (Vanadzor); and SOLENA (Gyumri).

We continue to be blessed with a resolute and selfless team of supporters who share our long-term vision of supporting the most vulnerable Armenian children and families across the world. If you have any questions about SOAR, our mission, the populations we serve, or our 2025 annual report, please contact me at (610) 213-3452 or [gyacoubian@soar-us.org](mailto:gyacoubian@soar-us.org).

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

