

GULAMERIAN ARMENIAN ORPHAN FUND (GAOF)

c/o George S. Yacoubian, Jr., Ph.D., LL.M.

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

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Email: gyacoubian@gulamerianfund.org Web: www.gulamerianfund.org

**Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund (GAOF) –
2014-5 Annual Report**

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History

Originally from Van (Armenia), Harold Gulamerian was born to immigrant parents in 1924. Harold joined the army in 1943, and, after the war, went to City College to earn a degree in science and business administration and then a law degree. When Norman, Harold's brother, returned from the service, he apprenticed himself to artist Frederick Taubes (1900-1981). He primed his canvasses and ground his paint. Norman, an artist himself, was having trouble finding unprimed linen. Harold suggested they import it from Belgium. That was the start of Utrecht Art Supply.

Harold and Norman sold Belgian linen out of their basement in Brooklyn. The two brothers dedicated themselves to supplying artists with the "highest quality art materials and supplies for the best value." In 1951, they rented an office at 119 West 57th street. The Gulamerian brothers' art supply business grew quickly. In 1957, they developed their revolutionary acrylic gesso for priming canvas. In 1958, they rented factory space at Bush Terminal in Brooklyn. By the end of the early 1960s, they had expanded the Utrecht line to include professional-grade oil paints, acrylics, and watercolor supplies. In 1968, they opened their first retail store at 32 Third Avenue in New York City. They then opened locations in Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Washington DC, Berkeley, and San Francisco. By the time they sold their business in 1997, they had grown from a small space in Bush terminal to 50,000 square feet and an additional 50,000 square feet of retail space.



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Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Josephine Gulamerian visited Armenia in 1998 at the invitation of Catholicos Karekin I. The Gulamerians were very moved by this visit, especially by the orphaned children they met. The Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund (GAOF), established in 2013, is dedicated to improving the lives of orphaned Armenians throughout the world. Through a cooperative agreement with the Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR), provides support to the orphanages and orphan summer camps in Armenia, Artsakh, Javakh, Lebanon, and Syria.



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Projects in 2014-5

Between October 2014 and September 2015, the GAOF funded a variety of Projects and Programs to benefit orphaned Armenian children. Below is a summary table, by facility.

Orphanage	Cost
Disability Early Warning System (DEWS)	\$6,000.00
Eye Care Project	\$8,535.00
Javakh Summer Camp	\$8,200.00
Kharberd Orphanage	\$29,000.00
Mari Izmirlyan (MI) Orphanage	\$35,000.00
Mer Hooys (MH)	\$24,795.00
Orphan Transitional Program	\$5,000.00
Our Lady of Armenia (OLA) Center - Gyumri	\$11,500.00
OLA Educational Center - Tashir	\$50,000.00
OLA Summer Camp (Tsaghgadzor)	\$7,000.00
Saint Theresa's Little Flower Orphanages (Syria)	\$14,000.00
SOS-Kotayk	\$2,000.00
SOS-Idjevan	\$2,000.00
Summer Retreat	\$8,889.00
Voice of the Armenian Church (VOTAC) Summer Camp	\$6,000.00
Warm Hearth	\$5,300.00
Zadik Orphanage	\$2,000.00
TOTAL	\$225,219.00

A photographic montage follows below.

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September 2015: Construction of Aqua Therapy Center at Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage

Grand opening of the Aqua Therapy Center at Mari Izmirlyan



A massage bath tub and showers to be installed at the Aqua Therapy Center



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September 2015: 61 New Mattresses for Vanadzor Orphanage



September 2015: 5 Children from Gyumri Social Childcare Center Received Eye Exams



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September 2015: Hakob Received Needed Eye Treatments



August 2015: Javakh Summer Day Camp



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August 2015: Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund (GAOF) Summer Camp



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August 2015:

New Heating System at Mer Hooys

Completion of heating system repairs at Mer Hooys



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August 2015: Balcony, Kitchen, Dining Room Renovations at Our Lady of Armenia, Tashir



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August 2015: Completion of Hippotherapy Arena at Kharberd Orphanage

Final renovations and completion of Kharberd hippotherapy arena



July 2015: 13 Children from Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage Received Examinations, 8 Getting Needed Eyeglasses & 4 Receiving Needed Eye drops



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July 2015: Hallway Renovations at Our Lady of Armenia, Gyumri

Renovation in progress



More progress



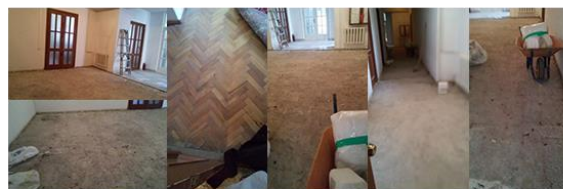
And more...



Section 1 completed



Beginning renovation of section 2



Section 2 progress



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June 2015: 10 New Showers & Bathroom Floor Repairs at Mer Hoosy



June 2015: New Furniture for Zadik Orphanage

Old furniture...



...and the new



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June 2015: Heating System Repairs at Mer Hooys



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June 2015:

**Our Lady of Armenia Children Working on Projects in the Robotics Lab
Funded by GAOF**



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May 2015: Children from Mari Izmirlyan Receive Eye Exams and Glasses



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May 2015: A Portable Eye Lamp Purchased for Examinations



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May 2015:

Eye Examinations and Glasses for Children from Mari Izmirlyan



April 2015:

More Children Receiving Eye Examinations and Needed Care



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April 2015:

Furniture, Bed Linen, Pillows, and Blankets for Zadik Orphanage



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March 2015: Renovation of the Recreation Room at Our Lady of Armenia Center, Tashir

Pre- Renovation



Mid-Renovation



Completed



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Conclusion

The Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund (GAOF) was established in November 2013 as a non-denominational charitable foundation to assist orphaned Armenians. Partnering with the Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR), the GAOF aims to educate, empower, and improve the lives of orphaned Armenian children and adults throughout the world.

The GAOF distributed \$225,219.00 to support a variety of Projects and Programs between October 2014 and September 2015: funds for the Disability Early Warning System (DEWS); renovated art studio and supplies for the Javakh Summer Camp; construction of a hippotherapy arena at Kharberd Orphanage; the construction of an aqua therapy center at Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage; heating system renovation at Mer Hooys; funds for the Orphan Transitional Program; hallway renovation at the Our Lady of Armenia (OLA) Center; cash assistance to the OLA Summer Camp; renovated hallway, dining room, and basement at the OLA Center – Tashir; cash assistance to the Saint Theresa's Little Flower Orphanages (Syria); hosting a summer retreat for the girls of Mer Hooys; the funding of a speech therapist and psychologist at SOS Children's Villages in Idjevan and Kotayk; cash assistance to the Voice of the Armenian Church (VOTAC) Summer Camp; interior and exterior repairs at Warm Hearth; and bed linens, pillows, and blankets at Zadik Orphanage.

If you have any questions about the Fund, please contact George S. Yacoubian, Jr., GAOF Treasurer, at (610) 213-3452 or by email at gyacoubian@gulamerianfund.org.