

PROJECT QUARTERLY REPORT



Project title:

Multi-functional inclusive center for rapid response to the needs of children in difficult life conditions

Donor organization

SOAR Armenia

Project implementation place :

6 Taterakan St., Vanadzor, Lori region

Project Implementation period

Project start July 1, 2023

Number of beneficiaries:

55 children with disabilities

PROJECT RESPONSIBLE: ANI GABRIELYAN "LUSASTGH" NGO PRESIDENT

PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

The objective of the establishment of the inclusive center is to contribute to the social-psychological rehabilitation of children aged 0-18 years who are in difficult life situations, to increase the quality of life and their social inclusion in the society.

During past 3 months, 71 children were enrolled into the "Ada" Day Care Center for Children with Disabilities for the provision of various professional services. At the moment, services are provided to 39 children.

Social worker implemented assessment of the needs of 41 families. Data of children from 10 families was submitted for sponsorship.

We also implemented several activities and assisted children and their parents in collecting relevant documentation, enrolling in assessment centers, schools and medical expert committees. Consultation has been provided to the families of six children.

With the families of children we implement individual work as well; we collect data including their profession, preferences, education, etc.

Two (2) children, who attend to physiotherapy, learn English, which is implemented on a voluntary basis.

Methods of Project Implementation

The strategy of the project is to provide services of speech therapist, psychologist, ergo therapist, art therapist, social work.

Speech therapist: 26 children with speech delay, Cerebral Paralysis and autism have benefited from the services of a speech therapist. 3 of them received the appropriate services and completed their visits to the center.

Psychologist: The psychologist provides services at different hours of the day, working both with children and parents. 35 children and most of their parents benefited from the psychologist's services.

Ergo therapist: 32 children with cerebral palsy and autism are provided ergo therapy, kinesio therapy and physiotherapy.

Art therapist: Art therapy was carried out both individually and in groups. During art therapy, children from socially disadvantaged families, children with behavioral problems, displaced families were also included. More than 30 children participated in art therapy during the quarter.

Social work: Social work is carried out all the time, when a child is registered in the center, first of all, a needs assessment is carried out.



Coverage of the project

Earlier, it was planned to provide rehabilitation services only to the children of Gugark region, but at the moment, the center is attended by beneficiaries from Gugark, Spitak, Stepanavan and Tumanyan regions. Children from far communities attend the center once a week. And the children of Gugark region attend the center 2, 3 times a week.

Project Impact, Sustainability and Visibility

Project impact

Project impact is evaluated in two ways: dialogue with parents and observation of children.

Parents' quotations:

- The child is already communicating
- The child is already pronouncing words
- The child is already responding
- The child started walking
- The child started eating independently
- If it is possible please add sessions of visit



Project Sustainability

In Lori region there is only one center providing such services in the city of Stepanavan, that's why the demand for such centers is very high. Beneficiaries from various communities ask us to visit them or provide service in their communities once a week. Currently 32 registered children are waiting for their turn to be provided the services and this number is double in oral agreement.

Project Visibility

The project activities are made visible through regular posts in social nets, particularly here: <https://www.facebook.com/lusastgh>.

Information about the "Ada" day care center was also provided during the meetings of the Lori regional commission dealing with the problems of people with disabilities and the council of non-governmental organizations. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs has also been informed.

Project Results

- 4 children have been provided consultation and completed the course
- 39 children currently receives various services
- Assessment of the needs of 41 children's families is made
- Data of 10 children was presented to sponsorship
- 2 children participate in English courses
- Parents of 10 children with disabilities have been informed about maintaining oral hygiene of their children

Lessons learned within the framework of the project

In order to effectively organize the work of such a center, we need an affordable and several-room space, the need for which we did not realize before running the center. Also we did not realize the necessity of physiotherapy accessories for the courses of physio and kinesis therapy.

Cooperation and its Effectiveness Within the Frame of the Project

Within the framework of the project, a new cooperation was started with the "Arabkir" medical center, with our help, the children undergo an online evaluation by the relevant specialists of the medical center. Specialists from various organizations express their desire to implement various courses among parents of children with disability. For instance, the responsible manager of the organization «Pains without borders» visiting our center wanted to cooperate. Currently, 5 parents of autistic children of our center are participating in capacity building courses conducted by them.

Project challenges

We planned to apply to the Social Security Ministry to implement some services with the financial support provided by the Ministry, but in order to obtain an appropriate certificate from the Social Security Ministry, we need an inclusive space that will first be connected to the 911 security system,

we should have a 1-year lease agreement for the space and the interior must be accessible to children with all types of disabilities.

Another challenge is that children with disabilities from forcibly displaced families from Artzakh primarily need material support and afterwards services. Unfortunately, we were not ready for it.

Conclusion

In Lori region, such center operates only in the city of Stepanavan with state support and provides services to a very limited number of children. The demand for our center is increasing in the region, and the specialists of the center are already working with a very heavy schedule.

«Lusastgh» NGO President

Project Manager

Ani Gabrielyan

October 2, 2023