



It was cold winter day back in 2017 when I received the message from George that there are 2 young girls who urgently needed our support.

Anna and Tatev graduated Vanadzor Orphanage a couple of years ago and were living in an apartment received by their older sister from the Government. The older sister got married and had to leave for Germany because of her husband's disease. This left the two sisters, Anna and Tatev, alone without any support in an apartment in which the walls were nearly falling down. The girls were afraid living there, but they had no other option.

Getting George's message to go to see where they were living and to assess the situation, Vanadzor Chapter immediately visited them, and saw the extremely unsafe conditions of the apartment.

SOAR immediately took the relevant measures and rented a nice apartment for the girls and moved them there immediately. SOAR also provided them all the needed devices and household goods so that they feel comfortable in their new home.

SOAR gave assistance to the girls for about one and a half years which changed their lives and gave them the hope of a bright future. One day Anna told me that she dreamt to prove to the world that orphanage graduates can also succeed in their lives and not all of them are future prostitutes.

I promised myself that we will do all that was possible to support these girls, to help them have a more promising future.

And this of course was possible by providing them additional skills and knowledge.



Through the support of its benefactors, SOAR paid for tailoring classes for Tatev. Before she was tailoring in a small company with very minimal pay. With this professional course of tailoring for six months, she will be able to open her own atelier and make a better living.

In March. 2018 Tatev got married and moved to Gyumri city, and now she is surrounded with a loving husband and his family, who treat her as their own.

The family is very supportive of Tatev's profession and they have allocated a space for her to get local orders for tailoring.

Thanks to SOAR she received a professional sewing machine both as a gift for her marriage and for being able to fulfil her dreams of becoming a professional tailor.



As for the other sister: Anna, I was able to get her trust and become a mentor for her during this period. Anna was involved in various projects implemented by Orran as a volunteer. She was hired by Youth Canal NGO as an interviewer for surveys conducted in rural communities of Lori and Shirak regions.

SOAR paid for her manicuring classes, Orran paid for her hairdressing classes.

Quite a lot has been invested to raise Anna's employability skills. SOAR also paid for Anna's English language courses which enabled her to work short term as an interpreter. I supported her to find a job at the call center.

However, Anna has made a decision to go to China to work as an English teacher. SOAR is paying for her visa and ticket through the Sponsorship Fund.

I think it is a good chance for Anna to see the world, to expand her world perception and to be able to earn her living.



Manana Mananyan

SOAR Vanadzor Chapter President