

## COAF 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

hildren of Armenia Fund (COAF) works to secure a future for children in impoverished rural villages in Armenia through improved education, healthcare, social and economic development. The programs create and sustain opportunities for growth and progress.

2012 was a year marked by youth leadership in rural village schools. Demonstrating their unparalleled creativity and initiative, these student leaders coordinated inspiring events such as TEDx, waste management projects, and environmental improvements to their villages.

# **Program Highlights from 2012**

## **Education Programs**

In early September of 2012, the Lernagog School opened the first Creativity Lab in Armenia. The Creativity Lab features a technology-enhanced classroom functioning also as an events auditorium, writing walls, smart boards and mobile furniture adaptable to working individually, in small or large groups. Such features create a multifunctional environment fit for training sessions, lectures, reading, discussions, projects, games, performances and fun. They allow for interactive teaching, independent research, creative learning and ensure access to modern learning thus stimulating students in rural areas. The spacious sunlit room accommodates 40 to 50 children. The Creativity Lab also receives recognition from local and international media outlets, as it is the first of its kind in Armenia.

COAF teamed up with TEDx, the internationally recognized organization known for its message of "ideas worth spreading", this past summer to create a unique TEDx event for 30 high school students at the Myasnikian School.

The event was organized by the students, COAF, and the Peace Corp Armenia volunteers. The students were invited to think creatively about real world problems and inspire each another through unique presentations.

The Student Councils continued to provide advances in village life by implementing new projects through waste management in their communities and improved irrigation systems through tree planting in the schoolyards. Additionally, this year's summer camps focused on healthy lifestyle activities. Campers in four communities conducted clean-up days collecting garbage from public areas in collaboration with local authorities and school management. In addition to improving the environment where they live, the children learned to be responsible for their communities.

In collaboration with the Peace Corps and local volunteers, COAF launched English Summer Camps that were attended by over 600 rural children from Arteni, Dalarik,

Karakert, Lernagog, Myasnikian and Shenik clubs. The camps also provided an English Access Micro-Scholarship Program, supported by the U.S. Embassy in Yerevan, to 90 students. The camp proved to be a huge incentive for maintaining children's motivation to continue learning the English language.

## **Economic Development Programs**

COAF villages made a number of advances in infrastructure and economic development. In 2012, COAF continued the trainings for start-up businesses. The Successful Business Project selected seven new business proposals from Myasnikian, Lernagog, Dalarik, Karakert and Shenik to fund projects in growing mushrooms, a sewing factory, flour mill and others business efforts.

In January, COAF completed the Heifer joint program in the village of Shenik. COAF and the Shenik municipality agreed to implement a social project in the village with the funds obtained from selling the third generation of heifers.



COAF continued the initiative of promoting plastic free bags in collaboration with Beeline Telecommunication Company. In collaboration with COAF, Beeline ordered 1,300 plastic free bags for their customers. The production was implemented in the village of Karakert where the women were very excited to start their employment in manufacturing cloth bags.

As the agricultural season started, the COAF Arteni Machinery Park provided a K700 plow tractor to farmers for improved services and is working at considerable profit, making 35,000 to 40,000 of a net gain a day, while the service itself has become more affordable for farmers. In the past timely land preparation and plant treatment were not possible in Arteni due to the lack of required machinery. In 2012, both services became available to farmers at lower cost through the machinery park and plant protection station supported by COAF. The village mayor estimates a 5% to 6% increase in cultivated lands due to the access of these services.







## **Health Programs**

In 2012, COAF continued to make improvements in healthcare with a concentration on dental and eye screenings as well as emergency care. The Myasnikian and Karakert Dental Units offered free screenings and services to the most vulnerable village children and families. In March, the primary school students in Dalarik and Lernagog also received school based health education seminars on dental hygiene.

Additionally, over 670 students received dental hygiene and healthy lifestyle education at the summer camps. Children at the camps were introduced to a host of valuable skills aimed at helping them develop and maintain a healthier lifestyle. A number of games and activities were implemented at the camps to promote a new behavior of healthy eating, hygiene, and physical activities. In addition to brushing their teeth, campers were also taught to wash their hands using special wash basins that were constructed specifically for this reason. They were provided with healthier choices for lunch, foregoing their usual meal of junk food. Despite the fact that most of these children do not own a toothbrush or were not routinely brushing their teeth at home, they engaged in the activities with much pleasure and looked forward to it daily.

In January, Karakert School No. 2 held eye screenings and educational seminars to familiarize children with proper eye care and first aid during eye traumas. Through a partnership with the Armenian Eye Care Program (AECP), COAF was able to provide those in need with free treatment and eye glasses. This initiative will occur every two years with the existing collaboration.

In May, Myasnikian Health Center initiated emergency care trainings. The currently the health center has only one doctor that provides care to about 7,000 people. The trainings focus on advanced practical skills and coordinating activities of the emergency team, which consists of a doctor, nurse, and driver. The important work patterns practiced are visiting bed patients at home and providing them with proper care, as well as implementing timely and quality child immunization.

## **Child and Family Service Programs**

In 2012, more than 150 kindergarten age children participated in an assessment that computed their psychological readiness for school. Psychologists initiated and implemented a special program to alleviate the transition from pre-school to elementary school. The assessment focused on communication, memory, attention, mobility, and other developmental related characteristics. The assessment served as a pre-cursor for an

intervention with a preventative nature to help mitigate the many learning difficulties that children encounter during this transition time. Teachers were also trained on lack of attention and hyperactivity so that early signs of hyperactivity can be detected and preventative measures can be taken.

COAF Child and Family Support Team developed a manual on psychological games and activities to further assist professionals working with children in order to equip them with the proper tools. 500 copies of the manual were created and distributed. COAF psychologists will work with parents and educators to teach them how to properly utilize the manual. The manual is a guide for parents and educators, which can be used for group or individual activities.

In March, COAF created a new professional training initiative for high school students. Professional orientation is an important area where school psychologists provide students with counseling and information as well as quidance from beneficiaries towards a successful career path.







## COAF 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

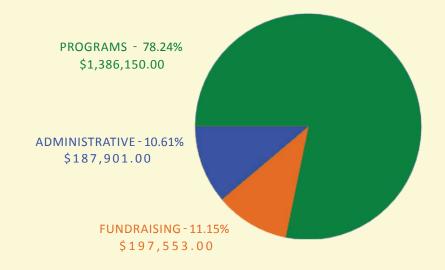
### **Financial Summary**

We are pleased to present a summary of the consolidating financial statements for the Children of Armenia Fund, Inc. and Armenian subsidiary for the period ending December 31, 2012, which bear an unqualified auditing statement from the accounting firm RJSacco & Company LLP. The audit was conducted in accordance with the auditing standards accepted in the United States.

#### COAF's Balance Sheet and Income Statement (December 31, 2012)

Assets		Liabilities and Net Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,346,006		
Unconditional promises to give (unrestricted)	\$555,792	Accounts Payable	\$233,995
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$275,208		
Investments - gifts in kind	\$115,000	Net Assets	\$2,311,215
Long-term Investments	\$229,669		
Intangible Assets - net of accumulated amortization	\$87		
Property and equipment	\$23,448		
TOTAL:	\$2,545,210		
Total COAF-US Revenue	\$1,434,732	Total Liabilities & Net Assets:	\$2,545,210
Total COAF-US Program Expenses	\$1,771,604		

#### **TOTAL COAF-US EXPENDITURES 2012**



A full financial report is available upon request.



### **Board of Directors**

Garo H. Armen Founder & Chairman Herb Alpert Michael Aram Gregory Badishkanian Peter Balakian Khalil Barrage Gregory Ekizian Donna Evans Larry Feinberg Clare Gregorian Khajak Keledjian Shaké Nahapetian Vahé Nahapetian Alice Saraydarian Nicole Vartanian

Advisors to the Board

Vartan Gregorian

Nora Nercessian

Craig Winter

149 Fifth Avenue, Suite 500 New York, NY 10010 T: 212.994.8234 email: info@coafkids.org

www.coafkids.org