**About Children of Armenia Fund (COAF)**

***Who We Are***

Children of Armenia Fund (COAF) is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization founded in 2004 which provides resources and tools to children and adults in rural Armenia, to achieve their full potential and contribute to the advancement of the world around them.

***Our Mission***

To provide resources to children and adults with COAF SMART initiatives to advance rural communities through innovation.

***Our Vision***

All children of Armenia achieve their full potential and contribute to the advancement of the world around them.

***Who We Empower***

Since 2004, COAF has been improving living conditions in Armenia’s underserved rural areas. With educational and social advancement at the forefront of our mission, we have made a lasting impact on the lives of over 100,000 Armenians across 82 communities across Armenia and Artsakh.

***Our Focus Areas***

COAF’s village programs pursue a comprehensive and multidimensional approach to rural development in Armenia, designed to address four key areas:

1. ***Education***

Transforming education in rural Armenia through a wide range of SMART innovative non-formal programs, targeting the cognitive, emotional, and physical development of rural youth.

1. ***Health***

Enhancing rural healthcare in Armenia through quality medical and dental services, hands-on training of local providers, community outreach, and health education.

1. ***Child & Family Services***

Empowering Armenian children and families with holistic care, spanning quality preschool education, speech therapy, social work support and psychological services.

1. ***Economic Development***

Transforming rural Armenia’s economy by identifying investment opportunities and collaborating with communities to design and implement unique business and infrastructure projects.

***Our Founder***

Dr. Garo H. Armen, an Istanbul-born American businessman of [Armenian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armenia) descent is the founder of the Children of Armenia Fund. Dr. Armen is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Agenus Inc., a biotechnology company that fights cancers with cutting-edge technologies and innovative combination therapies.

***International Charity Rating***

COAF has received top ratings from organizations like [**Guide Star**](https://www.guidestar.org/profile/11-3579187), [**Better Business Bureau**](http://give.org/charity-reviews/national/children-and-youth/children-of-armenia-fund-in-new-york-ny-4489), and [**Charity Navigator**](https://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=10944) .

According to [**Charity Navigator**](https://www.charitynavigator.org/), COAF has been awarded the highest 4 stars. Such companies are considered leaders in their fields and surpass other organizations operating in the same field. Charity Navigator evaluates organizations from two perspectives: financial mindfulness and reliability, and transparency.

[**Better Business Bureau (BBB) Wise Giving Alliance**](https://www.bbb.org/connecticut/get-consumer-help/charities-donors/about-the-wise-giving-alliance/) was developed to help donors make large donations and increase public trust in charities. The organizations that meet the standards of trust submit documents proving how they manage the company, how they spend the money, how reliable their representations are, and how

ready they are to make the information about themselves public. COAF is among those trusted organizations.

[**Guide Star**](https://www.guidestar.org/) is one of the leading information services specializing in reporting on [nonprofit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nonprofit) companies. Besides professional services GuideStar also serves to verify that a recipient organization is established and that donated funds go where the donor intended. COAF is listed as a trustworthy organization on their website.

Thanks to the ratings of charities, donors can see how their money is managed and the impact it has.

***Our Work in Numbers***

* Founded in 2004
* 6 regions of Armenia: Armavir, Aragatsotn, Lori, Gegharkunik, Shirak, Tavush
* 82 rural communities in Armenia and Artsakh
* 107,000 beneficiaries

**Over 170 Infrastructure Improvements**

* 12 Schools
* 30 Health facilities
* 3 Kindergartens
* 2 Community Centers
* 37 School Cafeterias i& Brushodromes
* 8 Sunny corners in kindergartens
* 10 Creativity Labs
* 4 COAF SMART Rooms
* 19 Outdoor playgrounds & sportsgrounds
* Clean water for 18,000 villagers

**Education Programs**

* 600 children annually created their works and practiced sports through after school clubs since 2010
* 1151 students of “Aflatoun” social-financial club used their skills to implement 88 community projects since 2014
* 1575 students had debates in more than 50 different topics since 2009
* 1160 Student Council members implemented community development projects in 24 villages since 2008
* 964 students speak English as a result of English “Access” program since 2013
* 9 participants of Foreign Leaders English Exchange (FLEX) program since 2014
* 259 adults speak English as a result of Online English program since 2014
* 50% of 3166 students changed their choice of profession as a result of Professional Orientation program since 2013
* 91 COAF Alumni pursued higher education thanks to the Scholarships program since 2013
* 70 teachers and school principals use new teaching methods and education management skills and knowledge through trainings since 2019

**Health Programs**

* 17 WHO health promoting schools (SHE) in Armenia, and all are COAF beneficiary schools
* All beneficiary school students educated on hygiene, first aid, reproductive health, eye care, healthy nutrition and other healthy habits since 2009
* 2500 primary school students have healthy hot meals and brush their teeth in 37 School cafeterias and Brushodromes established since 2013
* 700 children annually provided with dental treatment since 2009
* 15,000 people screened for early detection of breast, thyroid and prostate cancer since 2007
* 700 individuals with chronic illnesses are provided with healthy behavior messages to help best manage their health conditions
* 64 local health workers provided with professional skill training since 2004

**Child and Family Services**

* 800 children attended Child development corners since 2010
* 7 “Sunny '' Child Development Corners established in local kindergartens since 2017
* 1252 children received individual & group therapy to overcome their speech and learning difficulties since 2012
* 83.6% of children overcome their speech difficulty in 1 year
* 235 children attending “My Theater” drama therapy groups since 2012
* 200 families annually received social work services since 2006
* COAF CFS programs increase awareness and knowledge on different social issues, the work and role of psychologists, social workers and speech therapists

**Economic Development Programs**

* 32 participants learned clay and silversmithing skills by making statues and pots
* 110 students gained entrepreneurial skills and implemented business projects
* 10 businesses launched through provided microloans and trainings in 2011-2013
* 720 farmers obtained alternative sources for sales through E-Agro project to sell their products, collect information and exchange experience
* Agro School opened in Getashen as a practice lab for the agro after school club, and has utilized its harvest — fresh vegetables and fruits — to support school cafeteria operations
* A Machinery Park provided to Arteni in 2012
* Solar panels installed at Aragatsavan school in 2019
* 5 villages were provided with water solutions (water reservoirs or irrigation water network)