

GULAMERIAN ARMENIAN ORPHAN FUND (GAOF)

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

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**Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund (GAOF) –
2014 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 get a degree in science and business administration and then a law degree. When Norman, Harold's brother, got home 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 is dedicated to improving the lives of orphaned Armenians throughout the world. The Harold and Josephine Gulamerian Armenian Orphan Fund (GAOF) was established in 2013 and, 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

Between October 2013 and September 2014, the GAOF funded a variety of projects to benefit orphaned Armenian children. Below is a summary table, by facility.

Orphanage	Cost
Children's Home of Gyumri	\$6,508.00
Javakh Summer Camp	\$3,000.00
Kharberd Orphanage	\$13,791.00
Mari Izmirlyan (MI)	\$10,000.00
Mer Doon (MD)	\$3,510.00
Mer Hooys (MH)	\$8,000.00
Nork Orphanage	\$2,000.00
Nubarashen	\$23,941.00
OLA Educational Center	
(Tashir)	\$29,000.00
OLA Center	\$12,500.00
OLA Summer Camp	
(Tsaghgadzor)	\$50,000.00
Orphanage of Fridtjof Nansen	\$1,450.00
SOS-Kotayk	\$3,000.00
SOS-Idjevan	\$3,000.00
Terchoonian Home	\$7,025.00
Vardashen	\$2,300.00
VOTAC	\$6,000.00
Warm Hearth	\$2,150.00
TOTAL	\$187,175.00

A photographic montage follows below.

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September 2014:

Furnishings, carpeting, and stationary for new Nubarashen classrooms



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Family Suite at Kharberd Orphanage



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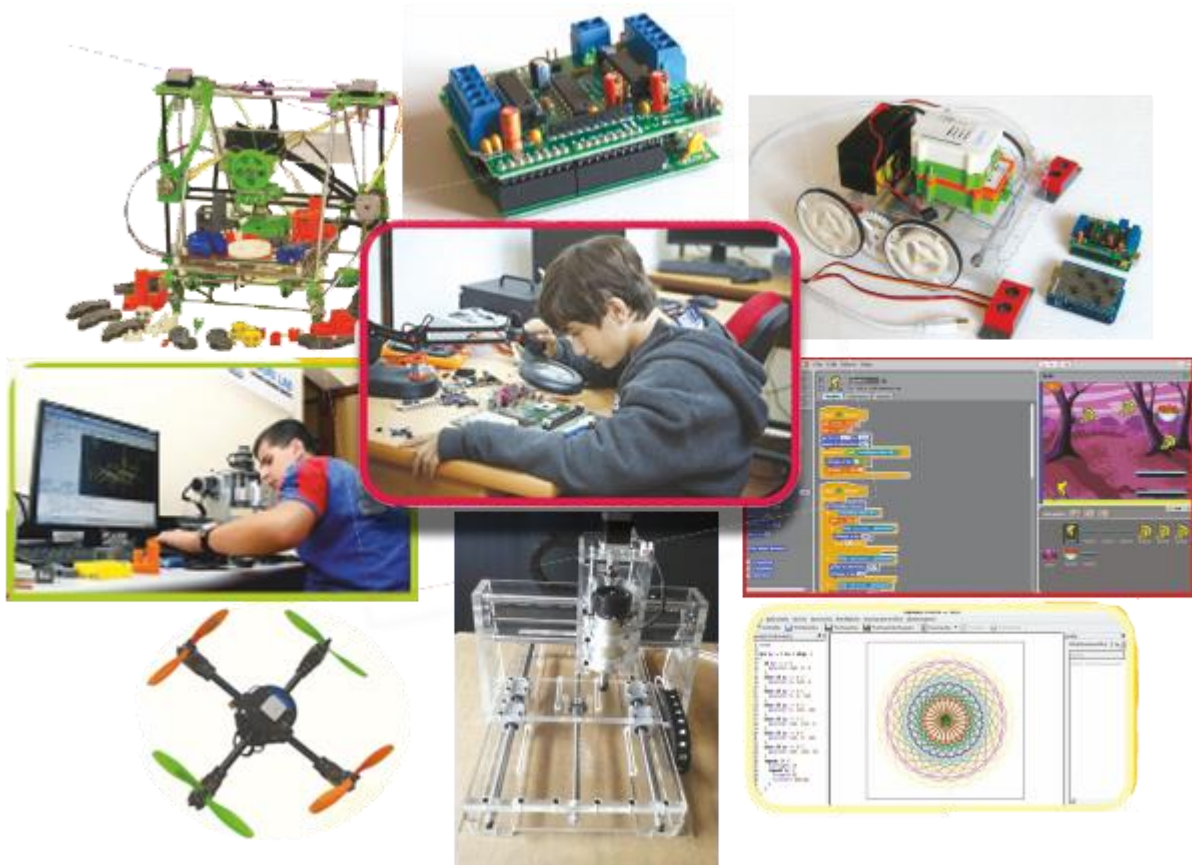
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Robotics Lab at the Our Lady of Armenia Center

The Nairi Lab program starts from basics of programming and moves to robotics and production process in an environment of exploration and creativity. Nairi Lab education programs enable learning math and science concepts, basics of computer science and engineering programming through applications that enable creation of cartoons, games and even support robotic kits that can be programmed and operated. The production of such robots, and even mini-computers that can be later used by the students for their own projects is implemented within the framework of Nairi Lab.



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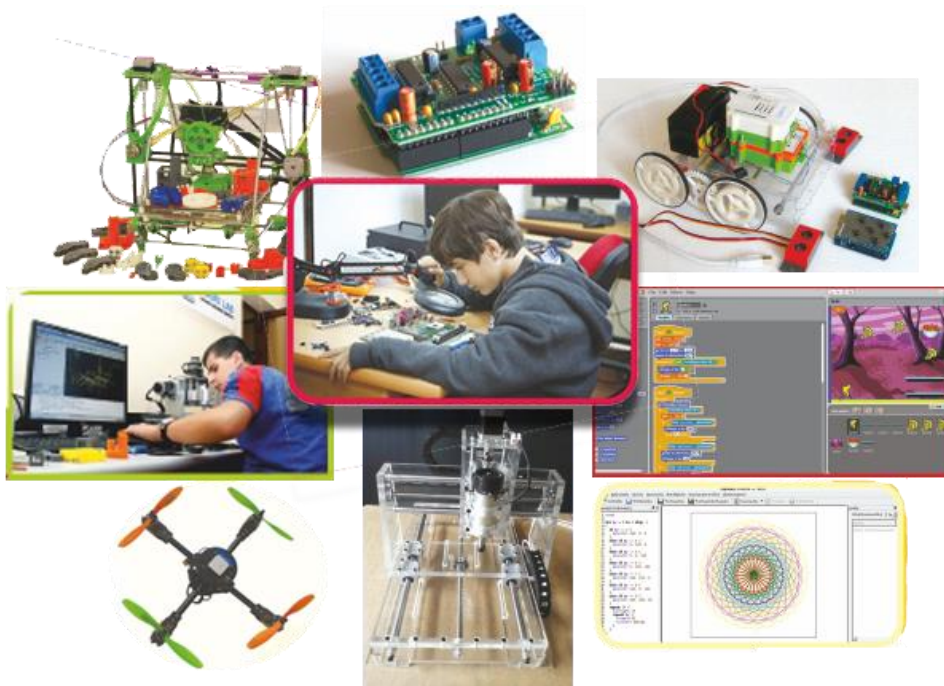
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August 2014:

New furnishings for the infirmary at Vardashen



Robotics Lab at Terchoonian Home



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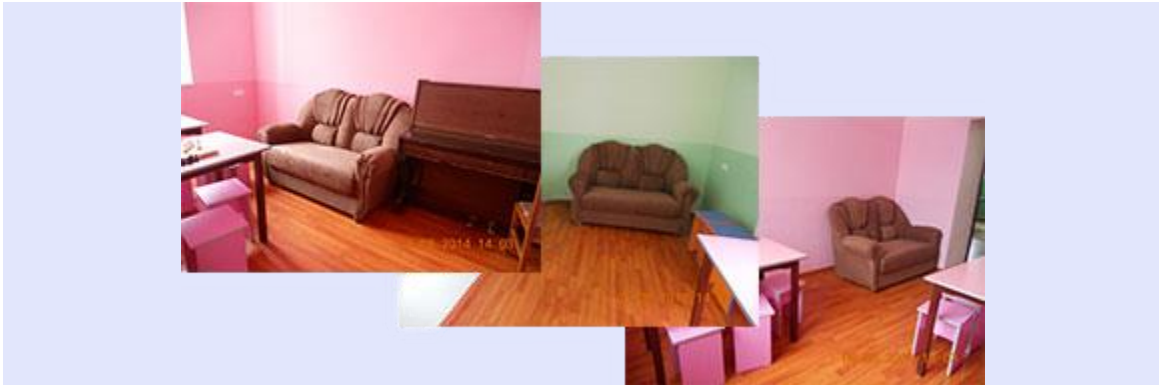
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July 2014:

New furnishings for Orphanage or Fridtjof Nansen



Infirmary Room Dividers at Mer Hooys Orphanage



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Hats, t-shirts, and other camp supplies for the Holy Cross Armenian Church of Javakh Summer Day Camp



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\$6000 to the Voice of the Armenian Summer Day Camp



Being baptized



Sunday morning Children attending church



The baptized with their godparents



Dining room...breakfast time.



Game time!



Getting off the bus...



Voice of the Armenian Church Orphan Summer Camp



More game time!



Morning service...
(Every morning for 1 hour)



Birthday celebration for Shahane!
There is a birthday celebration for every child whose birthday falls during the camp session.



Orientation. Shoushan Seropyan leading the children to introduce themselves to each other.

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A new computer lab at Mer Doon



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A soccer field at the Our Lady of Armenia Summer Camp in Tsaghgadzor was co-funded the GAOF, George and Jack Jerjian, Aram and Carla Megerian, Garo and Annette Megerian, Aram Djabourian, and SOAR-Paris.



New floor sitters at Children's Home of Gyumri



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Children's Home of Gyumri orphanage received complete furnishings of bedspreads that were furnished by AGBU's Marie Manoogian High school (CA) junior class students, who were involved in the Autistic Children Relief group led by Lilit Malumyan. Their unwavering efforts through the year to raise funds through numerous activities at school helped to purchase 260 bed sheet sets for CHG orphans along with donations from GAOF and SOAR.



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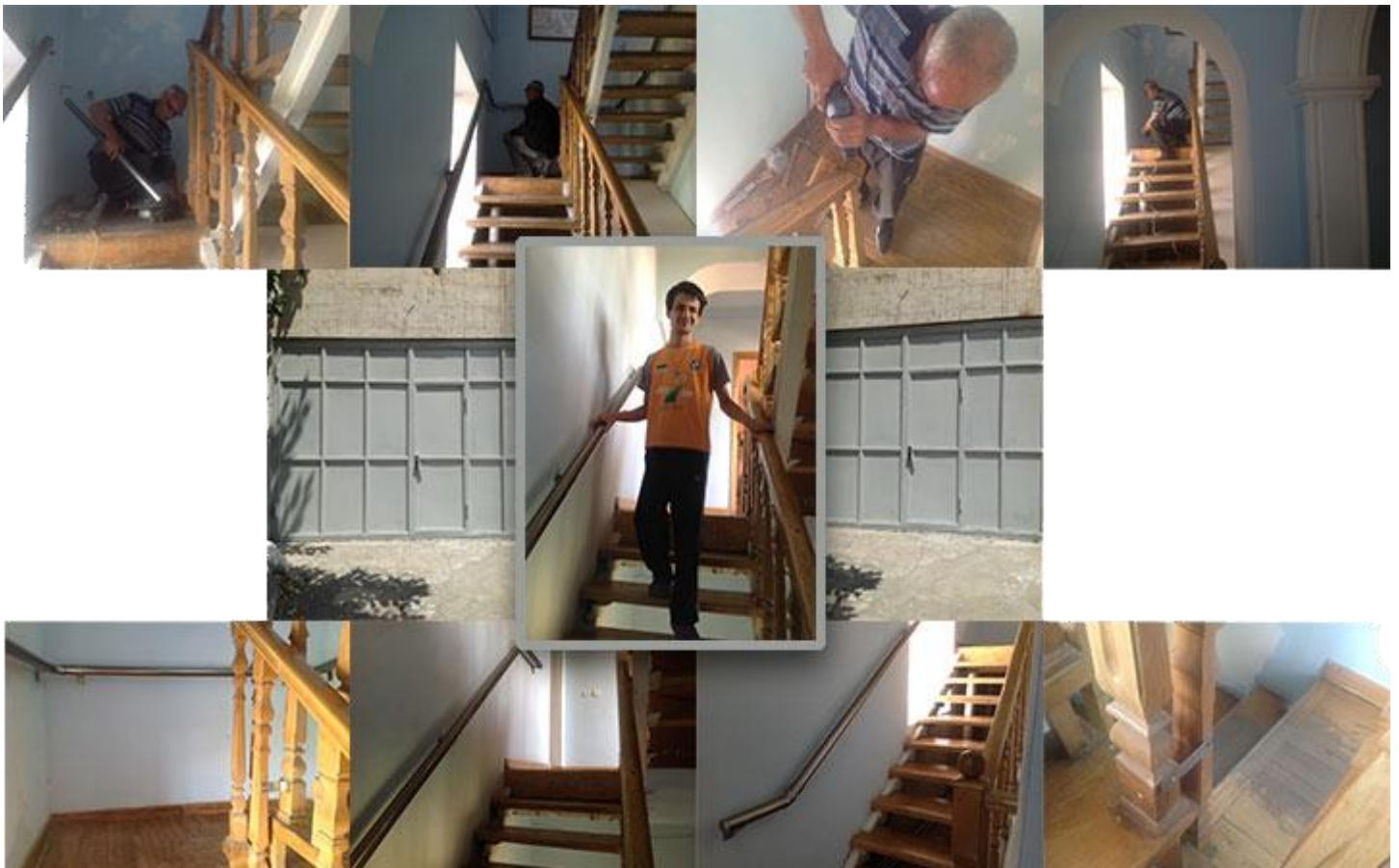
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June 2014

New garage door and stairs at Warm Hearth



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A family suite at Mari Izmirlyan Orphanage. The purpose of the suite is to facilitate reunification between children housed in Mari Izmirlyan and their biological families.

The beginning...



In progress...



Completed...to bring families together...



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Renovation of the soccer field at Our Lady of Armenia – Tashir



Funds to repair a minibus at Nubarashen



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June 2014

A new refrigerator and freezer for Nork Orphanage



A TV, furniture, art supplies and hot water heaters for Mer Hoos



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April 2014

Bedroom renovations at the Our Lady of Armenia Center



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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 \$187,175.00 to fund a variety of projects in FY2014: crib sheets and floor sitters at Children's Home of Gyumri, supplies for the Javakh Summer Camp, renovation of a family suite at Kharberd Orphanage, water heaters and other supplies for Mer Hooys, new appliances for Nork Orphanage, renovations of classrooms at Nubarashen, the construction of a soccer field at the Our Lady of Armenia Summer Camp; renovation of the soccer field at the Our Lady of Armenia Center – Tashir, the funding of a speech therapist and psychologist at SOS Children's Villages in Idjevan and Kotayk, and the construction of Robotics Labs at the Our Lady of Armenia Center and Terchoonian Home.

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