

# Jinishian

## M E M O R I A L F O U N D A T I O N



...from poverty and despair to self-sufficiency and hope



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*Yet in these times of financial uncertainty, with increasing demand for philanthropic opportunities, we look forward to continuing our efforts to improve the lives of all Armenians. We believe in what we do. Taking this opportunity I would like to thank You all for being with us!*

## Our Message and Gratitude

I welcome and thank all readers of this report for their interest in our work! With confidence and gratitude I would like to report our successes and profound achievements in 2011 with a few highlights. Most noticeably the year has been favorable in regard to keeping all major and prioritized projects and activities of the Foundation running for the current and coming year, in spite of continuing budget cuts and financial instability. We have attained this in merit of our gradually increasing recognition as an efficient and highly reliable organization, earning the respect of many esteemed organizations supporting our projects with grants and donations. These are our old and new partners, individuals and organizations across the globe, with whom we have established and continue building sound collaboration based on mutual trust and transparency. Due to new PR strategies, affecting us locally and internationally, we have been able to integrate our activities with as many resources as possible. Thanks to our Advisory Board members' efforts and continued advice we have raised additional funds and extended our hands to reach those people who live in remote areas, neglected and left alone with their adversity. The other recognized achievement is the geographic expansion of the Foundation's activities; therefore we reached needy Armenians throughout Georgia! The areas and regions of Georgia mostly populated with Armenians are going to be in our target in line with Karabakh and Armenia in the years to come.

During the year we have developed and implemented almost 34 projects, overall targeting 28,000 people with diverse ages, occupations, interests and social status in Armenia, Karabakh and Georgia. Continuous education, change of attitude, accessible and affordable health services, prosperous communities, sense of citizenship and ownership, sustainable structures and economic stability, Christian faith and leadership-these are the main cornerstones on which the Jinishian Memorial Foundation (JMF) has built its projects. Youth are on the frontline of most of our projects and are seen as the nation's most proficient resource to bring about powerful changes needed in the country for today and in the future. Our projects are long term, aspirational and often intangible by their nature, so sometimes it makes it difficult to determine in the short term how our efforts are improving the lives of the people we serve.

Yet in these times of financial uncertainty, with increasing demand for philanthropic opportunities, we look forward to continuing our efforts to improve the lives of all Armenians. We believe in what we do. Taking this opportunity I would like to thank You all for being with us!

*Sincerely,*  
Armen Hakobyan  
Country Director,  
Jinishian Memorial Foundation

## Our History

The Jinishian Memorial Foundation (JMF) began work in Armenia in 1993 and became legally registered as a local foundation in 1999. Since then it has provided economic, social and spiritual assistance to millions of needy Armenians, and supported more than 160 grassroots and local NGOs through partnering and collaboration.

Today, the JMF is a reputable organization which implements developmental projects aimed at overcoming poverty in the area. Success of the organization is the direct result of partnerships, involvement in different networks, etc.

The JMF is primarily sponsored by the Jinishian Memorial Program (JMP) of the Presbyterian Church USA. Established on May 17, 1966 by a bequest of Vartan H. Jinishian in memory of his parents, JMP has provided basic services and direct relief to millions of poor Armenians, who have lived in the midst of conflict and instability, in Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iran, Iraq, South America, Jordan and Armenia.



**Vartan Jinishian**  
1870 - 1966



## Our Dreams and Plans

### Mission

JMF enables Armenians in need to move from poverty and despair to self-sufficiency and hope – through relief, development and spiritual uplift.

### Vision

Armenian communities are integrated and empowered to sustain a dignified life.

### Strategies

Taking a comprehensive approach, JMF aims to:

- Reduce poverty by supporting the development of sustainable economic activities,
- Empower Armenians at all levels of the society to work together to overcome social and economic problems,
- Support the spiritual, intellectual and social development of young Armenians,
- Strengthen civil society through support to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other formal and informal social benefit activities,
- Relieve the immediate suffering of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups through material and spiritual assistance.

### Priority Areas

JMF focuses its activities in the following main areas:

- Civil Society
- Economic Development
- Community Development
- Health
- Education and Spiritual Uplift

### Program Mechanisms

Within the Priority Areas indicated above, JMF employs four program mechanisms to achieve its Mission and Goals in Armenia:

- Self-Developed Projects - JMF develops and implements its own projects,
- Partnerships - JMF collaborates with local and international organizations to develop, fund and implement projects,
- Small Grants - On a competitive basis, JMF provides small grants to support projects developed and implemented by local NGOs and community groups,
- Credit Services - JMF provides affordable credits through Micro-Finance Institutions.

# Our People

## Advisory Board

Our Advisory Board is comprised of representatives of the Armenian Apostolic, Evangelical and Catholic Churches, and professionals related to JMF priority areas.

**Armine Hovannisian**  
**Father Barouyr Avetisyan**  
**Karine Ghukasyan**  
**Reverend Albert Paytyan**  
**Sister Arousiag Sajonyan**  
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Executive Director  
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Civil Society and Education  
Program Coordinator  
**Zaruhi Janibekyan**,  
Health Program Coordinator  
**Gevorg Aboyan**,  
Community Development  
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**Emma Ghazaryan**,  
Cashier/Financial Assistant  
**Harutyun Gharibjanyan**,  
Information Technologies Specialist  
**Laura Avanesova**,  
Housekeeper  
**Gurgen Petrosyan**,  
Driver

## Supporters

**Counterpart International**  
**Delegation of the European Commission to Armenia**  
**Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**  
**US Embassy Yerevan**  
**Orange Armenia Foundation**  
**Open Society Foundations Armenia**  
**Izmirlian Foundation**  
**People In Need**  
**British Embassy Yerevan**  
**Jinishian Memorial Program**  
**Presbyterian Church USA**

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**Mr. Edgar Sargsyan**  
**Mr. Van Gestel Louis**  
**Ms. Lusine Grigoryan & Friends**  
**Mr. Kim Avanesyan & Friends**



photo by Zaven Khachikyan

## CIVIL SOCIETY

In 2011 JMF's Civil Society Department prioritized projects that encourage and facilitate youth participation in the development of a strong and healthy civil society and broaden the youth perspective and understanding of the role of civil society as a vital part of the long-term socio-economic improvements in Armenia. Also JMF prioritized the important role of NGOs and informal groups (youth councils, Civic Active Groups, Youth Clubs, etc.) in the development of civil society, a platform where youth could mobilize and focus their joint efforts on current issues the country faces.

### **The following objectives have been set to serve JMF's Civil Society Department prioritized areas:**

1. Increased knowledge of the youth in human rights, gender, environment, legal and governance issues.
2. Increased sense of citizenship and voluntarism among youth.
3. Increased ownership of the projects implemented by the youth.
4. Participation of youth in all stages of the initiative/project, from the project initiation to its evaluation.

### **The following strategic actions have been taken during the year to reach the set objectives:**

- Education and skills development.
- Application of innovative approaches.
- Diversification of mechanisms.
- Practical application of knowledge (grant projects, advocacy actions, internships, etc).
- Capacity building of NGOs and youth-oriented structures.
- Networking among the informal and formal youth groups and NGOs.
- Geographical and institutional expansion of activities.



## 1. “Youth Engaged in Society” (YES) 2011-2012



**Brief Description:** To foster democracy and develop civically conscious and socially responsible citizens in Armenia JMF, in collaboration with the Open Society Institute (OSI) Yerevan Office and the “Youth for Achievement” Educational NGO (YFA), implements the YES 2011-2012 Project aimed at creation and development of debate clubs for secondary and high school students. Debate clubs involve students aged 14-17, who later use debate as a tool for being engaged in the civil society development process. The project provides knowledge to high school students about key issues related to the development of civil society, democracy, and human rights, and builds communication and analytical thinking skills that will permit them to more actively participate in the development of Armenian society.

The debate clubs, organized in the schools as extracurricular activities, also add value to the education system. The initiative builds links between youth, the NGO sector, and governmental agencies through civic initiative seminar series and roundtable discussions. The website of the project provides resources and forums for discussions. The national debate championship organized at the end of each academic year brings together representatives of all debate clubs.

By fall 2011, 113 schools were already participating in the project from Yerevan city and 12 towns: Armavir, Artashat, Ashtarak, Abovyan, Hrazdan, Sevan, Gavar, Giumri, Vanadzor, Vagharshapat, and Metsamor, Masis.

The project has been ongoing since 2004 mostly through the support of European Union.

**Beneficiaries:** Direct beneficiaries are around 2,250 school students from 113 secondary and high schools. Indirect beneficiaries include secondary school students, teachers, parents and school administrations of those schools.

### Time Frame:

October 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012

**Implementers:** JMF/YFA

**Donor:** Open Society Institute (OSI)

### Project Cost:

JMF: \$36,550 in cash

\$16,240 in-kind

OSI-Armenia: \$35,950

## 2.TV Debates 2011

**Brief Description:** In 2011 JMF continued the shooting and broadcasting of TV debates within the Azat Qaghagaci (Free Citizen) program of Yerkir Media studio, initiated in 2010. The TV Debates project aims at youth engagement in the process of the democratization of Armenia. It is a logical extension of the YES school debate club creation project (YES Project) that has been implemented by JMF and the Youth For Achievements Educational NGO (YFA) since 2004. TV Debates serve as a tool for sharing the YES Project experience and results, as well as viewpoints of the schoolchildren on democracy development in Armenia, with broader layers of population via TV broadcasting of the debates. It enhances the research and debating skills of TV debating students and contributes to the development of the culture of the debate via mass media influence and support.

For the spring period JMF prepared and broadcast 10 TV debates with its own financial resources, while for the fall 2011 and spring 2012 periods' structured TV debates JMF applied and received a U.S. Embassy grant in the scope of the Small Democracy Fund program. Within this grant project totally 12 TV debates will be prepared and aired. In fall 2011, 5 debates were shot and broadcast via Yerkir Media studio. The next 7 debates will be prepared and broadcast in spring 2012. The project involved the students from almost all of the 100 schools that participated in the YES Project during the last six years. The Yerkir Media TV channel, selected for broadcasting the debates, transmits its programs in all sites where the schools are located. During the year 2011 in total 15 TV debates have been prepared and broadcast. In 2010 the project has been sponsored by the U.K. Embassy in Yerevan.

**Beneficiaries:** Around 220 students from 45 schools, 45 mentors, and 3 judges per debate directly benefit from the total of 22 TV debates' preparation and organization. Additionally, 250 students and 45 mentors took part in the debates as audience. Indirect beneficiaries included the schools' administrations, the other children of the schools, parents and the general public.

**Time Frame:**  
February – April 2011 with JMF funding  
September 2011 –April 2012  
with US Embassy funding

**Implementer:** JMF  
**Donor:** U.S. Embassy in Yerevan

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$17,390 in cash  
\$3,800 in-kind  
U.S. Embassy in Armenia: \$19,456





### 3. Civic Dialogue and Action 2010–2012

**Brief Description:** To foster civil society development in Armenia JMF initiated the Civic Dialogue and Action project, which supports and encourages university students in outlying regions to play more active, capable, and informed roles in immediate and long-term economic, social and political development of the country. University students from different regions of Armenia are given opportunity and tools to develop their knowledge and skills in the civil society sector and examine local and national issues relevant to the country. The project activities include: student capacity development trainings and seminars on hot social topics, small-grant projects developed and implemented by the students, inter-university student summits and project newsletters prepared by the students. The project highly encourages students and youth civic participation in the project.

The Civic Dialogue and Action 2010-2012 project includes 7 universities. The project has been ongoing since 2005.

**Beneficiaries:** Nearly 3,000 university students of the 7 universities and 1,500 young adults of surrounding communities (with gender balance) have directly benefited from the project. Indirect beneficiaries were other students of the targeted 7 universities, student councils' members, administration and staff of the universities, families of the students, community members, and in general the public of Armenia.

### 4. Leaders in a Networked World

**Brief Description:** To empower youth to be actively involved in positive social change in their communities and in society in general JMF organized a three-day training, which provided the university students with systemized theoretical and practical knowledge and experience on team building, public speech and communication, negotiations conducting, and conflict management. Using a participatory approach, it included team discussions and tasks to actively involve the participants in a training process. Training was conducted by the Case-in-Point method, i.e., training participants learned not only from trainers but also from each other. They were given an opportunity to reveal, observe, and analyze those questions and statements that they came across during the training. In the scope of the training, participants regularly did verbal and written reflection on the acquired knowledge and experience, which gave them an opportunity to analyze the received information.

Participants of the training were selected among the 7 universities' students, participants of JMF's CDA 2010–2012 project. The duration of the training was 3 full days, 9 hours per day.

**Beneficiaries:** 28 students of 7 regional universities and 7 project coordinators.



**Time Frame:**  
September 1, 2010 – August 31, 2012

**Donor:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$24,000  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway: \$120,000



**Time Frame:**  
December 9–11, 2011

**Partner Organization:** Leadership Development Center in Yerevan

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$9,392

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 2011 JMF's Economic Development Department prioritized projects that support the sustainable development of farmers' cooperatives and farmer households as a vital part of long-term economic improvements in Armenia. JMF continued developing and supporting intermediary lending mechanisms delivering small and medium credits with minimized interest rates through banks or microcredit organizations.

**The following objectives have been set to serve JMF's Economic Development Department prioritized areas:**

1. Increased access of beneficiaries (farmers, small and medium businesses) to microcredit services.
2. Enhanced institutional lending services.
3. Increased educational level of borrowers (education on lending services, rights and responsibilities of borrowers, etc.).

**The following strategic actions have been taken during the year to reach the objectives:**

- Provision of small and medium credits with minimized interest rates through intermediaries.
- MFI (Micro Finance Institution) sector strengthening activities.
- Advocacy at the state level.
- Promotion of small and medium businesses.
- Collaboration and partnership.
- Education/training for MFIs and clientele.



## 1. Macro-Lending Support for Farmers Project

The goal of the project is to improve access to financial services for farmers' organizations and stimulate sustainable rural socio-economic development by offering low-interest, long-term credits with flexible repayment schedules. Loans are extended to cooperatives for agricultural development, mainly animal husbandry and farming. The loans increase agricultural output and allow creating permanent and temporary jobs.

The following projects approved in the year 2009 have been active in 2011.

### 1. Loan to Getashen Agricultural Cooperative

**Brief Description:** Getashen Agricultural Cooperative based in Getashen village of Armavir marz received a loan to distribute among its 35 members for livestock acquisition.

**Time Frame:** May 1, 2009 – November 30, 2012

**Implementer:** Getashen Agricultural Cooperative

**Intermediary MFI:** Cascade Credit Universal Credit Organization CJCS

**Beneficiaries:** 35 member farmers of Getashen Agricultural Cooperative

**Project Cost:** JMF \$98,360

### 2. Loan to Janfida Agricultural Cooperative

**Brief Description:** Janfida Agricultural Cooperative based in Janfida village of Armavir marz received a loan to distribute among its 33 members for vineyard creation.

**Time Frame:** May 1, 2009 – November 30, 2012

**Implementer:** Janfida Agricultural Cooperative

**Intermediary MFI:** Cascade Credit Universal Credit Organization CJCS

**Beneficiaries:** 33 member farmers of Janfida Agricultural Cooperative

**Project Cost:** JMF \$81,967

### 3. Loan to Lukashin Agricultural Cooperative

**Brief Description:** Lukashin Agricultural Cooperative based in Lukashin village of Armavir marz received a loan to distribute among its member farmers for cattle breeding.

**Time Frame:** May 1, 2009 – November 30, 2012

**Implementer:** Lukashin Agricultural Cooperative

**Intermediary MFI:** Cascade Credit Universal Credit Organization CJCS

**Beneficiaries:** Member farmers of Lukashin Agricultural Cooperative

**Project Cost:** JMF \$32,787

### 4. Loan to Arevik Agricultural Cooperative

**Brief Description:** Arevik Agricultural Cooperative based in Arevik village of Armavir marz received a loan to distribute to its 12 member farmers for vineyard creation.

**Time Frame:** July 1, 2009 – December 30, 2012

**Implementer:** Arevik Agricultural Cooperative

**Intermediary MFI:** Cascade Credit Universal Credit Organization CJCS

**Beneficiaries:** 12 member farmers of Arevik Agricultural Cooperative

**Project Cost:** JMF \$32,787



## 2. Fast Impact Support Grants to Farmers' Cooperatives



**Brief Description:** JMF has extensive working experience with almost all cooperatives under its economic development grant and microcredit programs. In 2011 JMF delivered fast-impact grants to 8 FAA-member cooperatives in Armavir, Aragatsotn and Vayots Dzor marzes to be ready to start the agricultural season from early spring. This project was aimed at alleviating negative consequences of a financial crisis and unfavorable agricultural season on farmers. JMF identified farmers' need of agricultural inputs, searched for suppliers and goods in the market, and afterwards purchased and delivered fertilizers and chemicals to all member farmers of 8 cooperatives.

**Beneficiaries:** 8 cooperatives with 335 member farmers and their families from Armavir, Aragatsotn and Vayots Dzor marzes of Armenia

**Time frame:**  
February 20, 2011 – March 30, 2011

**Partner Organization:**  
OSI Armenia

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project cost:**  
JMF: \$27,000;  
OSI Armenia: \$25,000

## 3. Soil Analysis on Fertilizers and Chemicals Research



**Brief Description:** JMF contracted Business Support Center (BSC) to carry out a “Soil Analysis on Fertilizers and Chemicals” research among the small-scale farmers possessing small plot lands (about 1ha) that are used for vegetable/crop growing in Ararat valley in Armenia. The research was aimed at collecting adequate information from the community farmers in the selected site as well as from experts in the field of agriculture and make accurate analysis of the reasons the farmers in Armenia do not analyze their lands for identifying the needs for appropriate fertilizers and chemicals and why the farmers in Armenia do not

use other than traditional fertilizers and chemicals for the soil.

Based on the results of research in 2012 JMF will develop a project supporting farmers to use advanced methodologies for land cultivation. Farmers will be educated enough to do their land analyses and use adequate quantities of necessary fertilizers and chemicals. The project will increase the yield and consequently the income of farmers.

**Beneficiaries:** Farmers of Armavir and Ararat marzes

**Time Frame:**  
July 1, 2011 – August 30, 2011

**Implementer:** Business Support  
Center LLC

**Project cost:**  
JMF: \$3,271

## 4. Micro Lending Support to Farmers 2011

**Brief description:** Armenian farmers have no access to low-interest loans since the vast majority of Armenian banks refrain from financing agriculture due to the high risk of the sector and lack of collateral. The recent worldwide financial crisis in its turn hindered commercial banks' working with farmers. Through the "CARD Agro Credit" Universal Credit Organization CJSC (CARD) and in cooperation with the Open Society Institute Armenia (OSI) the project provides 22 farmer cooperatives with an opportunity to get low-interest (subsidized) loans to perform timely agricultural activities and receive low-cost, quality agricultural inputs. As a result, the members would have efficient and high-quality production/yield ensuring further agricultural development and sustainability. JMF has four years of experience of supporting farmers with low-interest loans. Loan subsidization has become possible due to OSI's grant to JMF.

**Beneficiaries:** 22 farmer cooperatives and an average of 36 farmers per cooperative. In total about 800 farmers from Armavir, Ararat, Vayots Dzor and Aragatsotn marzes.



**Time frame:**

September 1, 2011 – November 30, 2012

**Partner Organization:** OSI Armenia

**Implementer:** "CARD Agro Credit" Universal Credit Organization CJSC (CARD)

**Project Cost:**

JMF: \$383,562

OSI Armenia: \$ 23,397

## 5. Berd Women's Business Activism Promotion – Step 1



**Brief Description:** JMF strategically is interested in supporting poor regions with their poor inhabitants in job creating activities and employment provision opportunities. Berd Women Resource Centre Foundation (BERC) is one of the few organizations in the Berd region that has initiated business activities. To support the BWRC, JMF drafted a short developmental plan to capacitate BWRC to be fully operational through providing trainings and revolving capital to expand its business activities and run business smoothly. To reach the above goal JMF identified Business Support Centre LLC to design a realistic and comprehensive development plan for BWRC. BSC surveyed the region and BWRC, met with the beneficiaries and stakeholders of the organization, and as a result provided JMF with a working research document to lead its intentions regarding BWRC development. It is expected that after JMF's support the BWRC will become a sustainable foundation with clear organizational structure and staff, promoting business activism of women of the region and addressing women's issues.

**Beneficiaries:** Berd Women Resource Center (BWRC) Foundation's staff and beneficiaries, mostly women doing business activities (making teddy bears).

**Time Frame:**

December 5–15, 2011

**Implementer:** Business Support Center LLC

**Project Cost:**

JMF: \$1,370

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

In 2011 JMF's Community Development Department prioritized projects that empower Armenian communities to find solutions to socio-economic problems within communities through the mobilization of local resources. JMF continued focusing on the projects that assist in the empowerment of communities, encourage community members' active participation, and broaden youth perspective in the community development processes.

**The following objectives have been set to serve JMF's Community Development Department prioritized areas:**

1. Communities are mobilized and empowered to find solutions to local community-based problems using internal and external resources.
2. Community Active Groups are empowered to operate sustainable.
3. Links and collaboration between Community Active Groups and government bodies at all levels are strengthened.
4. A network of collaboration and synergy between communities at regional and national level is facilitated.

**The following strategic actions have been developed to reach the objectives:**

- Providing support to communities, such as learning opportunities, community development and civic participation grants, matching and new opportunity grants, etc.
- Support to Community Active Groups for external resources acquisition.
- Partnership with local partners.
- Network establishment and strengthening.
- Continuous update of the community development model.



## 1. An Integrated Approach to Poverty Alleviation in the Regions of Armenia



**Brief Description:** The project is about supporting the poverty reduction efforts of the Government of Armenia in the regions through an integrated approach assuring provision of sustainable needs-based social assistance to all vulnerable residents of the community. The project has advised cooperation and strengthened the capacity of the local authorities, identified existing social assistance needs at a community and regional levels, raised awareness among the community residents to ensure

enrolment of all eligible social vulnerable into the community social assistance programs, developed a basis for the inclusion of community social needs into the Four Year Community Development Plan. This project has been implemented in all marzes of Armenia.

**Time Frame:** May 1, 2010 – May 1, 2011

**Partner Organizations:** Jinishian Memorial Foundation, European Commission - European aid and Antares LLC Armenia

**Implementer:** Center for Community Dialogues and Initiatives (CCDI) NGO

**Beneficiaries:** 25-30% of the population of the selected 10 marzes of the Republic of Armenia

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$13,698  
European Commission - European aid: € 162 000  
Antares LLC Armenia: - € 8, 825, 80

**CCDI:** In-kind contribution

## 2. Toumanyán Fairy Tale Day International Festival of Puppet Theaters 2011



**Brief Description:** The project supported the UNIMA Armenia NGO (Union Internationale de la Marionnette) to cover publishing and design expenses of the “Toumanyán Fairy Tale Day” International Festival of Puppet Theaters, which hosted 26 puppet theaters from Armenia and abroad. The Festival was organized and managed by the UNIMA-Armenia NGO. The opening ceremony of the festival took place in Dsegh, the native village of the greatest Armenian writer, Hovhannes Toumanyán. This important international puppet show festivity has gained a deserved reputation worldwide and more and more puppet theaters from Armenia and abroad express willingness to become participants. During the event a large number of entertaining and educating activities were organized—scenic events and fireworks, master classes in puppet art, a puppet exhibition, daily evening clubs, excursions, video demonstrations, etc.

**Beneficiaries:** 5,000 children and teenagers

**Time frame:**  
April 1, 2011 – June 30, 2011

**Implementer:** UNIMA-Armenia

**Project cost:**  
JMF: \$3,146;  
UNIMA Armenia & other donors: \$94,251

**Beneficiaries:** About 1,122 residents of Lorut village of Lori marz

**Time Frame:**  
October 5, 2011– December 31, 2011

**Partner Organizations:** JMF and Counterpart International /CI/Armenia

**Implementer:** Community core group (CCG) of Lorut village

**Project Cost:** \$6,123  
JMF: \$2,298  
CI: \$2,704

### 3. Tribute to Historical Values



**Brief Description:** In August 2011 Counterpart International Armenia (CI) announced a Community and Volunteerism Incentive Grants proposal, a competition for the communities and community-based organizations. As JMF closely cooperates with the CI, JMF has been requested to encourage experienced communities to apply for the grant. Under this grant scheme, JMF took an obligation to co-fund some of those projects. The “Tribute to Historical Values” project, presented by the Lorut community core group (CCG) and approved under this agreement, was implemented in Lorut village of Lori marz.

A “Pavilion of Honor” was constructed on the area known as “Monument,” where community members and guests could organize meetings, discussions and other activities honoring historical values of the Lorut community. Community members worked voluntarily on the construction of the “Pavilion of Honor”.

### 4. Matching Grants to Rural Communities in the Frame of Counterpart International's Civil Society / Local Government Support (CSLGS) Program



**Beneficiaries:** 11 rural communities with about 7,000 residents

**Time Frame:**  
November 1, 2011 – December 30, 2012

**Partner Organization:** Counterpart International (CI)

**Implementers:** The LSGs and CAGs of the targeted communities

**Project cost:**  
JMF: \$37,699  
CI: \$108,219

**Brief Description:** JMF established partnership relations with Counterpart International Armenia to support the USAID approved Civil Society / Local Government Support (CSLGS) Program technically and financially. This project is aimed at increasing the level of informed and effective civic activism at the local and national levels, along with more participatory, decentralized, efficient and responsive local governance that supports the democratic process. In total 11 communities will benefit from the project. JMF prioritized Lori, Syunik and Tavush marzes for the projects to be co-funded, and first of all communities that had been targeted previously under JMF's CMI Program. In 2011 JMF and CI in collaboration targeted 5 communities and delivered grants (JMF co-funded the projects): Gandzaqar and Aigehovit of Tavush marz, Tsater and Debet of Lori marz, and Khndzoresk of Syunik marz. Communities implemented infrastructure or construction projects, which helped them to get more mobilized and united, able to identify community problems, combine internal and external resources, and find durable solutions to the local problems.



## 5. Community and Voluntarism Incentive Grants for Civil Society Groups



**Brief Description:** In 2010 JMF established partnership relations with the Counterpart International Armenia (CI) to support the USAID approved Civil Society / Local Government Support (CSLGS) Program technically and financially. Later on, upon CI's request, JMF became involved in the other project activities as well. CI provided JMF with a grant fund for awarding and managing grants to four Youth and Community Action Groups (Y/CAP) of the Gegharkunik region. JMF awarded grants to the four projects below:

### Time Frame:

October 03, 2011 – May 31, 2012

**Partner Organization:** CI Armenia

**Implementers:** JMF, Y/CAPs of Lchashen, Martuni, Vardenik and Tsovazard villages

### Project cost:

CI Armenia: \$6,192

Communities: \$2,192 (at least)

JMF: \$1,890

### 1. Playground Establishment

#### Time Frame:

October 3, 2011-May 31, 2012

**Implementer:** Vardenik Y/CAP

#### Project Cost:

CI: \$1,354

Community: \$1,592

### 2. Tsovazard Soccer Field Renewal

#### Time Frame:

October 3, 2011 – May 31, 2012

**Implementer:** Tsovazard Y/CAP

#### Project Cost:

CI: \$1,370

Community: \$1,007

### 3. Youth Mobilization and Volunteerism Fostering in the Chambarak Region

#### Time Frame:

October 3, 2011 – December 30, 2011

**Implementer:** Martuni Y/CAP

#### Project Cost:

CI: \$1,370

Community: \$1,007

### 4. Identification of New Talents

#### Time Frame:

October 3, 2011 – December 30, 2011

**Implementer:** Lchashen Y/CAP

#### Project Cost:

CI: \$1,368

Community: \$1,548

**Beneficiaries:** Around 1,000 children, teenagers and other community members



## 6. Christmas Performances for Disadvantaged Children



**Beneficiaries:** 95 children and teenagers

**Time Frame:**  
December 19, 2011 – January 31, 2012

**Implementer:** UNIMA Armenia

**Project cost:**  
JMF: \$1,096  
UNIMA Armenia: \$540

**Brief Description:** Every year UNIMA Armenia NGO (Union Internationale de la Marionnette) prepares New Year performances for special schools and orphanages of Yerevan. On the Christmas eve JMF supported UNIMA-Armenia to organize Christmas performances for 21 children residing at Missionaries of Charity Yerevan Branch and 70 children of No. 1 Republican Special Educational Center. UNIMA artists visited the institutions and participated in the funny performances and games characterizing Snow Maiden, Santa Claus, tale heroes, and clowns. Presents have been delivered to the children.



# HEALTH

In 2011, JMF's Health Program prioritized projects that focus on Women, Children and Adolescents Health, Disabled Children Health, Community Health Development. These areas/beneficiary groups have been selected based on the ongoing needs in Armenia identified through the available researches and JMF's experience in recent years.



**The following objectives have been set to serve JMF's Health Department prioritized areas:**

1. Improved accessibility and affordability of quality health care services through awareness raising, health education promotion, and capacity building of health specialists for children, adolescence and women in Armenia.
2. Improved access of rural communities to health services by providing training, education, and resources to health specialists and community members.

**The following strategic actions have been developed to reach the objectives:**

- Health education and promotion.
- Preventive care.
- Awareness raising campaign.
- Development and strengthening of health resource and information centers.
- Community based health development.
- Advocacy (policy making, curriculum development, etc.).
- Networking.

## 1. Establishment of Children's Development and Rehabilitation Centre (CDRC) in Artashat Project



**Brief Description:** To address the children's disability problems in one more region of Armenia, the Arabkir Medical Centre implemented the "Establishment of Children's Development and Rehabilitation Centre (CDRC) in Artashat" project in Artashat of Ararat marz with the co-funding of JMF. The project supported to have a fully functional rehabilitation center providing children with special needs comprehensive services such as lasting treatment, rehabilitation and supervision at the regional level. The activities of the center include but are not limited to disability prevention, including early detection of developmental disorders, when delay potentially leads to disability; comprehensive professional assessment of a child health status; and initiation of early and long-term rehabilitative interventions, etc.

Through the support of JMF the rehabilitation rooms of the centre were equipped with the following special equipments: therapy mats, glass mirrors, therapeutic balls that provide control and security during balance activities, parallel bars that improve the function of standing and walking, assisting equipment like a posterior walker that supports children and enables them to walk and move considerably independent from the support of parents or caregivers, etc. Also JMF helped to train six specialists of Artashat CDRC.

**Beneficiaries:** Direct beneficiaries of the project are about 722 children with special needs (disabled and with developmental disorders) and their families, and Artashat CDRC's rehabilitation team's 6 specialists.

**Time Frame:**  
March 1 – July 31, 2011

**Implementers:**  
"Arabkir" JMC-ICAH, ArBeS  
HHC

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$ 13,381  
Arabkir JMC-ICAH: \$155,011



## 2. Village Health Post Nurse Capacity Development Project in Nagorno Karabakh Republic (NKR)



**Brief Description:** The project improves the accessibility and delivery of quality primary health care at the village level in NKR. This project has been carried out according to the Village Nurse Educational Curriculum developed by JMF efforts in 2005. In the frame of the project the knowledge and skills of 5 doctors/nurses of NKR were developed at the National Institute of Health in Yerevan. These trained doctors/nurses have conducted trainings for village nurses. During the training educational materials were published and provided to the trainees. In total 53 nurses from the Martakert and Shahumyan regions of NKR obtained proper knowledge and skills to provide primary health care services in their communities. At the end of the project, participants have been certified as competent nurses. By the support of the Izmirlian Foundation in total 142 medical equipments have been purchased and delivered to the village health posts of NKR.

**Beneficiaries:** 44 nurses of Martakert and 9 nurses of Shahumyan regions of NKR

**Time Frame:** March 2010 – November 2010

**Partner Organization:** Ministry of Health of NKR

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project Cost:**

JMF: \$22,989

Izmirlian Foundation \$13,027

Ministry of Health of NKR: \$148



## 3. Support to Disabled in Karabakh

**Brief Description:** The project improves the quality of life for disabled veterans throughout the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. The project has been implemented through the Lady Cox Rehabilitation Centre of Stepanakert, which offers special treatment and health care to disabled individuals. In the frame of the project 300 outreach visits were organized to 100 most vulnerable disabled war veterans to provide appropriate professional health care. Based on the needs of the patients the project team purchased and delivered necessary medicine and medical equipment. As a result of the project, veterans received medical care and psychological support. The project has been ongoing since 2007.



**Beneficiaries:** 100 disabled war veterans of the Karabakh war

**Time Frame:** September 1, 2011 – August 31, 2012

**Implementer:** The Lady Cox Rehabilitation Centre, Stepanakert, NKR

**Project Cost:**

JMF: \$12,085

## 4. Disability Prevention Among Children and Outreach Clinics in Armenia



**Brief Description:** The goal of the project is to reduce developmental displacement/dysplasia of the hip/DDH disability among children and to improve the quality of life of disabled children in Martuni & Gavar cities of Gegarkunik marz, Hrazdan city of Kotayk marz, Ijevan city of Tavush marz and Akhuryan city of Shirak marz of Armenia. JMF in collaboration with the Ministry of Health of Armenia (MOH) developed training/educational modules with guidelines for ultrasound specialists and pediatric orthopedists training. In the frame of the project 10 doctors (7 ultrasound doctors and 3 pediatric orthopedists) were trained. At the end of the project ultrasound doctors learned how to properly screen infants for DDH before and after the disability is identified, while the pediatric orthopedists learned how to read the ultrasound pictures, identify different levels of DDH and its risk groups, observe changes and improvements of hips and provide updated treatment of newborn with DDH. Now targeted regions have at least one ultrasound specialist specialized in imaging of the hip joint in newborns and an ultrasound device upgraded by the appropriate nozzles/tubes for scanning of hip joints.

**Beneficiaries:** Direct beneficiaries of the project were about 500 disabled children and 7 trained doctors of the targeted regions

## 5. Home Health Care Services for Physically Disadvantaged People

**Brief Description:** To foster the Home Health Care (HHC) concept in Armenia, JMF piloted the "Home Health Care Services for Physically Disadvantaged People" project. In a larger scope the project focused on the establishment of reliable and accountable Home Health Care services in Armenia to improve health care conditions of physically disadvantaged people (who need short- or long-term qualified and dignified home health care services). In the frame of the project a team of caregivers (7 women with little experience in similar activities) and a team of specialists (psychologist, general practitioner, lawyer) were formed. Potential clients/patients needing caregivers were identified through three or four medical institutions.



**Beneficiaries:** Direct beneficiaries of the project are 5–10 caregivers and about 32 physically disadvantaged people. Indirect beneficiaries are families of disabled.

**Time Frame:**  
April 18 – November 18, 2011

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$10,214



**Time Frame:**  
December 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$ 8,411

## EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL UPLIFT

In 2011 JMF's Education Program Department prioritized educational and cultural programs supporting the professional, cultural and spiritual development of children and youth. JMF focused its assistance mainly on socially and economically vulnerable children.

**The following objectives have been prioritized to serve JMF's Education Department prioritized areas:**

1. Improved knowledge and skills of children in technical, handicraft and other activities.
2. Equal opportunities are provided to street children to acquire secondary education and to meet their special learning needs.
3. NGOs working with children at risk are empowered and supported.
4. Interest and respect for work among children at risk is facilitated.
5. Activities supporting creative thinking and appreciation of culture among children and youth are promoted.
6. Activities helping to maintain and develop spiritual-cultural identity of Armenia among children are supported.

**The following strategic actions have been developed to reach the objectives:**

- Ongoing identification of the most vulnerable groups
- Education
- Partnership
- Capacity building
- Awareness raising



## 1. Summer Camp 2011

**Brief Description:** JMF supported three Armenian denominations, Apostolic, Evangelical and Catholic in organizing summer camps for schoolchildren from vulnerable families. The camps are located in rich and beautiful nature sites. The camps provided an environment conducive to spiritual and physical growth of children along with developing moral and aesthetic values of children through extracurricular activities such as arts and crafts, outdoor and indoor games, and music classes. The daily program at the camp provided a blend of Armenian religion, language, culture, history, dance, music and sports. Children have been provided with four nutritious meals during the day and learn to live in a group environment and develop new social skills.

JMF has been contributing to the organization of summer camps since 1994.

### Apostolic Community

**Beneficiaries:** About 70 children from needy families and 15 pastors/mentors from Center of Christian Education of Echmiadzin city

**Time Frame:** July 11, 2011 – July 17, 2011

**Implementer:** Armenian Apostolic Church, Center of Christian Education

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$10,000  
Armenian Apostolic Church: \$945

### Evangelical Community

**Beneficiaries:** About 720 children, youth and young adults from vulnerable families and 150 camp counselors

**Time Frame:** June 17, 2011 – August 15, 2011

**Implementer:** Armenian Missionary Association

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$10,000  
Armenian Missionary Association: \$50,231

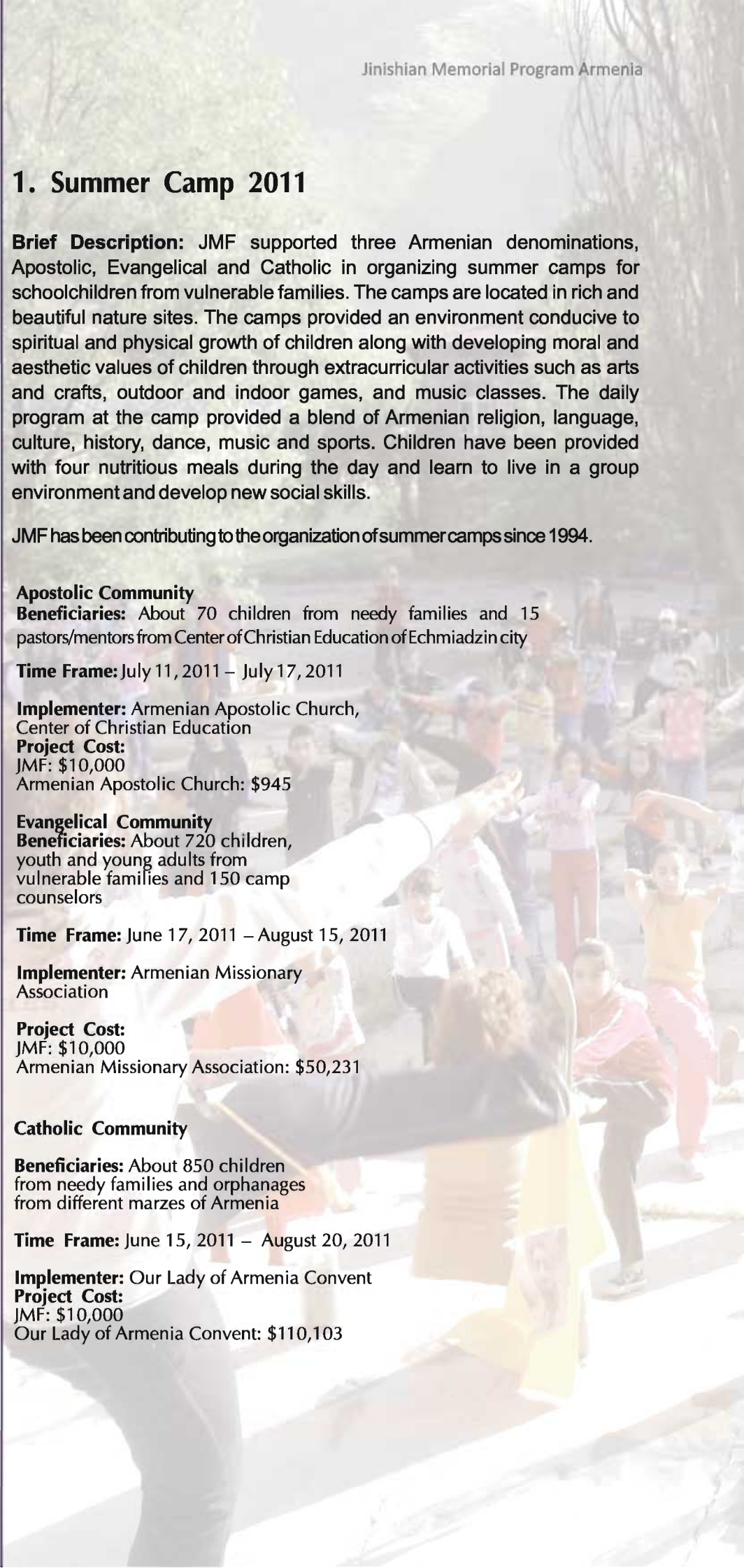
### Catholic Community

**Beneficiaries:** About 850 children from needy families and orphanages from different marzes of Armenia

**Time Frame:** June 15, 2011 – August 20, 2011

**Implementer:** Our Lady of Armenia Convent

**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$10,000  
Our Lady of Armenia Convent: \$110,103





## 2. Social and Cultural Development of Individual Through Traditional National Values



**Brief Description:** This project provided vocational skills in the culinary field to nearly 60 beneficiaries (aged 14–25) from vulnerable families of Echmiadzin and surrounding villages, thus promoting their self-fulfillment and integration into the labor market, raising their awareness of a healthy and safe lifestyle. The project runs at the premises of the Cross of Armenian Unity NGO (CAU). A national kitchen in traditional Armenian manner is established, where CAU delivers courses on national cuisine and healthy food, promoting the development of vocational education of young people in the culinary field and ensuring the sustainability of CAU further activities.

**Beneficiaries:** About 60 teenagers and young people (age 14-25) from vulnerable families of Echmiadzin and neighboring villages.

**Time Frame:**

July 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011

**Implementer:** Cross of Armenian Unity (CAU) charitable cultural NGO

**Project Cost:**

JMF: \$ 39,373

Cross of Armenian Unity: \$5,302

## 3. Spiritual Uplift and Experiences for Children



**Brief Description:** The project provides the children from remote villages with a non-formal spiritual education and experiences, which help them to develop, foster and strengthen a personal faith. Through a number of inspiring activities such as interactive spiritual discussions with the priest and Bible studies, excursion trips to the historical places, production and

presentation of spiritual performances, and administering baptism children have been provided with both theoretical and practical spiritual education and experiences. The project has been ongoing since 2006.

**Beneficiaries:** Approximately 700 children aged 10–15 from 14 remote villages of Lori, Gegharkunik and Syunik marzes. Indirect beneficiaries are families of these children and school staff.



**Time Frame:**

September 1, 2010 – June 1, 2012

**Partner Organizations:** Gugarats, Gegharkuniats and Syunyats Dioceses of the Armenian Apostolic Church

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project Cost:**

JMF: \$13,839

#### 4. Creative Expression Workshop (CEW) 2011



**Brief description:** JMF continued supporting the Future is Yours Charitable Social NGO to implement the Creative Expression Workshop project for the socially disadvantaged children residing in the Child Social Care Center of Ajapniak and Yerevan No1 Child Care and Protection Night School. Institutionalized children have been encouraged to express themselves creatively through a series of creative expression workshops, plays, puppet shows, speech development classes, musical productions, visits to cultural institutions, and meetings with honored artists. The CEW project has been ongoing since 2005.

**Beneficiaries:** Totally about 100 school-age children from socially vulnerable families attending special educational institutions.

#### 5. Jinishian Life-Skills Resource Center

**Brief description:** The Jinishian Life-Skills Resource Center aims at helping university students and young professionals aged 17–30 acquire and grow in life skills that will bring them greater success, effectiveness, and contentment in personal relationships and career. The center features a library that provides self-help books, lecture DVDs and movies that teach life skills. Furthermore, the center organizes seminars, lectures, debates and discussions that challenge the participants to consider and adopt these skills. The center is located at AMAA's Yerevan center.



**Beneficiaries:** The direct beneficiaries of the project are around 1,000 youth of 18-30 years of age with higher education who need their life skills development for further effective integration into society. Indirect beneficiaries are their peers, parents, and educational institutions they represent.

**Time frame:**  
April 1, 2011 – September 31, 2011  
**Implementer:** Future is Yours  
Charitable Social NGO  
**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$14,804

**Time frame:**  
January 9 – December 31, 2012  
**Implementer:** Armenian Missionary  
Association of America (AMAA)  
**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$19,997  
AMAA: \$27,863

## 6. Summer Camp for Disabled Children



**Brief Description:** In the framework of the project JMF supported the Full Life NGO in organizing summer camps for 45 children with the aim of promoting independence in disabled children and children from socially vulnerable families. The summer camp enabled the kids to learn survival techniques as well as how to provide first aid to others. Children enriched their knowledge of the values and traditions of Christianity. They learned to play Boccia ball, which is extremely popular game in the handicapped/disabled community.

**Beneficiaries:** Project beneficiaries were 10–18 years old, 45 children from Stepanavan and Tashir cities and surrounding villages (30 children out of 45 were disabled, while 15 were from socially vulnerable families)

## 7. Preschool Educational Center



**Brief description:** In the frame of the project JMF supported Virahayots Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Church with the aim of contributing to the elementary education, spiritual and cultural upbringing, and the formation of physical and working features of preschool-age children of the Armenian community living in Aragva village in Akhalkhalaq, Republic of Georgia. As a result around 30 preschool children studied such classes as elementary mathematics, Armenian language, grammar, drawing, conduct rules, spiritual lessons and singing. They also participated in spiritual events and pilgrimages to holy places, the birthplace of holy persons, museums. All this contributed to the spiritual uplift of the village.

**Beneficiaries:** Direct beneficiaries are approximately 30 preschool children; indirect beneficiaries are families of the children.



**Time Frame:**  
June 30, 2011 – August 30, 2011  
**Implementer:** Full Life NGO  
**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$4,131  
Full Life NGO and other donors: \$2,065



**Time Frame:**  
February 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011  
**Implementer:** Virahayots Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Church  
**Project Cost:**  
JMF: \$ 2,554  
Virahayots Diocese of Armenian Apostolic Church: In-kind contribution  
Collaborating organizations/partners: \$4,521

**Time Frame:**

May 12, 2011 – September 15, 2011

**Implementer:** Virahayots Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Holy Church in Georgia

**Partner Organizations:** Gulbenkian Foundation, private donors

**Project Cost:**

JMF: \$9,200

Virahayots Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Holy Church in Georgia:  
In-kind contribution

**Time Frame:**

September 2, 2011 – December 31, 2011

**Donors:** Private donors and organizations

**Implementer:** JMF

**Project Cost:** \$38,162

JMF: \$6,183

Donors: \$31,979

## 8. Hayartun Cultural & Educational Center



**Brief Description:** Within the framework of the project a cultural-educational center was established next to Saint Echmiadzin Church in the Havlabar district of Tbilisi, Georgia. The Center is the successor of the “Hayartun” center established in Tbilisi by the Armenian famous writer Hovhannes Toumanyan in 1921. The project aims to enrich the cultural and spiritual life of Armenians living in

Tbilisi, Georgia. The JMF contribution made it possible to physically capacitate the Hayartun educational center and preschool by providing appropriate furniture. The Hayartun Center will bring together separately functioning groups of dancers, musicians, artists, writers, etc., of the Armenian community in Tbilisi. Its full operation will allow young people and cultural workers of the Armenian community to be next to the Armenian Apostolic Holy Church to strengthen belief and patriotism and get closer to Armenian culture and religion through participating in various art and spiritual classes, establish contacts with the motherland, and be a dignified citizen of the Republic of Georgia.

**Beneficiaries:** Direct beneficiaries are approximately 50 Armenian children attending pre-school, 500 youth, elderly, people of various age attending cultural center.

## 9. Warm Shoes for Schoolchildren from Vulnerable Families of Armenia

**Brief Description:** JMF initiated a philanthropic activity to enable school-age children from remote northern villages of Armenia to be warmly booted during severe winter time. These are children who do not attend school during winter or attend in worn-out shoes or even in shabby home slippers, which harshly influences their health and sometimes later becomes a cause of chronic diseases. JMF targeted the Amasia and Ashotsk regions of Shirak marz and the Vardenis and Chambarak regions of Geghrahunik marz, well known for their cold and snowy winters, when during the long-lasting winter period people live isolated due to impassable roads and where people are mostly poor. The project guaranteed that school-age children from poor families from the above regions have winter shoes so they can attend school and receive proper education. It also reduced the risk of frequent illnesses among school-age children during cold winter months. Indirectly the project supported the shoemaking industry in Armenia. To raise funds for supporting school-age children from these regions a page was created on Facebook and informative/request letters were sent to potential donors, Jinishian partners, board members, etc. In total 1,106 pairs of warm shoes have been distributed.

**Beneficiaries:** 1,106 school-age children from socially vulnerable families from remote villages of Amasia, Ashotsk, Chambarak and Vardenis regions and the families of these children

# OUR STUDY TOURS

## DISCOVER AN OLD COUNTRY WITH US TRAVEL TO ARMENIA AND NAGORNO-KARABAKH

We offer a unique and exciting opportunity for you to deeply immerse in the cultural heritage of Armenia while leaning about its modern life. You will have opportunities to do more than just site see as you meet with university students, farmers, business people, and visit JMF internationally recognized programs to expand your appreciation and understanding of modern day Armenia. The tour is designed to give a more enriching experience simply missing from commercial from most tours.

### Program

Jinishian Memorial Foundation's (JMF) Study Tour Program is an ideal combination of experience sharing and learning about JMF distinguished projects while exploring and enjoying Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, renowned with their old history, traditions, Christian values, art, cultural events, food and wine. The program usually is 12 days and is tailored to each group's specific needs beforehand. Thanks to your financial contribution included in the Study Tour Fee the proceeds will directly benefit a JMF project of your choosing after the study tour.

### Experience Sharing/Learning Activities

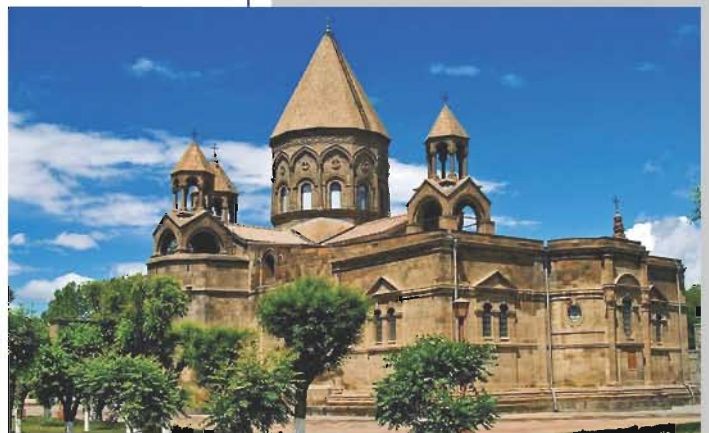
Our Study Tour provides a unique opportunity to explore JMF projects witnessing the changes JMF makes in the communities. You will see diversified urban and rural life and visit Armenian families, meet with high school and university students engaged in civic activities, meet and lunch (local food) with farmers in one of the organic gardens, meet JMF partners and stakeholders, learn and exchange your experience with people from this distinctive culture, while immersed in Armenian hospitality. Most importantly, discover ways you can be involved in making positive social change in Armenia.

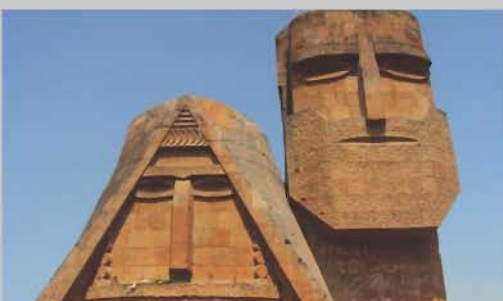
### Cultural Activities

Participate in excursions to historical sites and cultural attractions, visit Echmiadzin – the spiritual center of Armenia, spend three days in Nagorno-Karabakh, admiring its breathtaking landscapes, visit historical sites and ancient churches, shop in Armenia's largest open air marketplace, the Vernissage, and discover Armenian carpets, local art work, handcrafted jewelry, wood carvings and ornaments, and more... Besides, learn about Armenian history, culture, politics and socio-economic problems in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

### Services and Benefits of Study Tours

- Your care begins with a welcome at the airport and continues throughout your stay.
- Itineraries designed to maximize your overall experience.





- Comfortable accommodations in Yerevan and Karabakh.
- All tours are accompanied with guides.
- Tours can be customized to the group's interests.
- Access to your Study Tour coordinator/guide for free help and advice 24/7.
- Get a better value for the whole package than available by traveling on your own, or even with another group.
- No worry about visiting territories with unfamiliar customs and habits.
- No hassles about where to stay or how to get around.

#### Accommodation

After arrival you will stay at a 4 star Ani Plaza Hotel ([www.anihotel.com](http://www.anihotel.com)). Ani Plaza Hotel is comfortably situated in the Business and Entertainment Center of Yerevan. It is about 15 minutes far from the Zvartnots airport by taxi. Upon request we will book a single or double, nicely decorated and comfortable having modern amenities and conveniences.

#### Fees

**Trip cost** is \$2 500 per person (double occupancy). Single occupancy is by request with additional charges.

**Deposit** of \$500 is required per applicant. **Final Payment** is due 30 days before departure. If the payment is not received, space will be cancelled.

This trip is **LAND ONLY** to allow you the option of airlines and best fares as well as the opportunity to extend your trip on an independent basis. U.S. Domestic and International air transportation to and from Armenia are not included. However, all ground transportation in Armenia for the duration of the trip is included. Once accepted, participants will need to make their own flight arrangements to and from Armenia.

#### Cancellation

Any deposit and/or total trip price will be refunded upon your participation cancellation within 60 days of departure. JMP changes/cancellation: All trips are subject to change of itinerary and/or cancellation.

Once airline tickets have been purchased and issued they are typically non-refundable and airline rules apply. Cancellation and a variety of travel supplementary protections are available from: [www.travelguard.com](http://www.travelguard.com), [www.csatravelprotection.com](http://www.csatravelprotection.com), [www.travelinsure.com](http://www.travelinsure.com) or other vendors.

#### Visa Requirements

For air travel and visa guidance, please go to the following web-site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia / [www.mfa.am/](http://www.mfa.am/). Visas for Karabakh will be acquired in Yerevan during one business day. Please take with you two passport size photos if you have.

#### Application

If you are interested in the Jinishian Memorial Foundation's Study Tour Program please push the above-right Application button, completely fill out the Application and Pre-tour Questionnaire and return both documents along with your deposit to Eliza Minasyan, the Coordinator/Executive Director of the Jinishian Memorial Program, so we can process your application.

**PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO PCUSA** and list in the memo section either "JMP-SE12011" for the summer study tour, or "JMP-SE12012" for the fall study tour.

#### For more information and an application, please contact:

Eliza Minasyan, JMP Coordinator/Executive Director  
Tel: 888-728-7228 Ext.5291; E-mail: [Eliza.Minasyan@pcusa.org](mailto:Eliza.Minasyan@pcusa.org)

Mark McCabe, JMP Program Assistant  
Tel: 888-728-7228 Ext.5217; E-mail: [Mark.McCabe@pcusa.org](mailto:Mark.McCabe@pcusa.org)

The E-mail addresses are being protected from spam bots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it.

## JINISHIAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION GEARS UP TO HOST SPECIAL STUDY TOURS ACROSS ARMENIA



**Eliza Minasyan**  
JMP Coordinator/  
Executive Director

Among the key aspects that make the Jinishian Memorial Foundation unique is its profoundly compassionate approach to the design of its programs, and, ultimately, its beneficiaries. Rather than provide quick fixes or handouts, the organization invests in the lives of individuals and entire communities, guided by both an abiding sense of empathy and a vision of long-term development – in terms of fostering economic self-sufficiency, social equality and vibrancy, educational excellence, and spiritual growth.

Sponsored mainly by the Jinishian Memorial Program of the Presbyterian Church USA, the Jinishian Memorial Foundation operates a comprehensive program in Armenia, focusing not only on direct aid to disadvantaged families, but also community development, education, economic development, civil-society growth, health services, and spiritual uplift.

Since 1993, the foundation has assisted millions of individuals in Armenia, and supported the work of over 200 grassroots NGOs through collaborative projects. Given the enormously positive impact of its work in the Armenian homeland, today the foundation enjoys the partnership of major aid organizations such as the United States Agency for International Development and

the Delegation of the European Commission, as well as the support of a number of Diaspora and Armenia donors.

Recently the foundation announced two extraordinary Study Tours in Armenia intended to give tourists the opportunity to experience the very best of Armenia, through guided sightseeing, and also gain first-hand insight into the work of the foundation.

The following is a conversation with **Eliza Minasyan**, JMP Coordinator/Executive Director. I caught up with her in Yerevan, at the headquarters of the Jinishian Memorial Foundation, where she was busy responding to a flurry of overseas inquiries about the upcoming Study Tours.

### **Sona Hamalian: How did the idea of organizing the Study Tours come about?**

**Eliza Minasyan:** The idea came about in response to a variety of needs but also considering our foundation's key capacities for organizing such tours.

First, the needs:

- there is a need in the Diaspora to learn about the motherland, to discover not only the wonderful cultural heritage of our ancestors but also the everyday life and aspirations of the Armenian people;
- there is a need in the Armenian tourism industry to introduce unique, extraordinary tours that offer visitors the sights, sounds, and aromas of modern Armenia and also explorations of the country's timeless historic destinations;
- there is a need among current and potential donors and supporters to gain first-hand insight into Armenia's economic, social, cultural, and educational aspects as well as the ways to address core issues in a proven and effective manner;
- and there is a need for external expertise and funds to help Armenians overcome ongoing social and economic adversities.

As for the capacities:

- our foundation has extensive development experience throughout Armenia, with projects dedicated to economic and community development, education, health, and spiritual uplift. This means that those taking the Study Tours will get to see most of the country's regions, interact with people from all walks of life, and visit all the institutions around which Armenian life

*"Thanks ever so much for the opportunity to experience the many facets of Armenia and Karabakh. There is much to process and so much to discuss about the trip and from the learning to which we were exposed. The essence of Jinishian, as has been distilled in my mind so far (my 30 second elevator speech), is as follows: ecumenical, sustainable, multi party focus, engagement and support toward goal achievement and beyond, re-engagement and giving back from those who have benefited from assistance."*

**Mary Pendleton,**  
Arlington, Virginia

*"... I was privileged to see the stunning beauty of Armenia, experience the authentic life of the country, and receive the hospitality of the Armenian people. First hand I witnessed the difference the Foundation makes in community, education, and economic development, in direct aid to disadvantaged families and in health services, spiritual uplift, and civil-society growth. I hope to return and participate in another Study Tour again in the future. The work done by the Jinishian Memorial Foundation is truly honorable."*

**Charlotte Tanner,**  
Ward Cove, Alaska

*"...you really gave us an insightful study tour. I was especially struck by the incongruence of all the beautiful crosses and churches, which testified to the endurance of Christianity in Armenia, on the one hand, and the challenge of restoring Christianity after so many years of Communism, on the other. I also found impressive the commitment of the people of Artsakh to holding fast to their Armenian identity."*

*Lois Aroian,  
Fairfax, Virginia*

*"...thanks again to you and the whole team that put together an incredible journey – what a rewarding experience! Thanks for the incredible gifts of the journey and most of all for all the work you and the team do with JMF."*

*Phil Asgian,  
St. Paul, Minnesota*

thrives – such as universities and schools, children's art centers and theaters, churches, community organizations, and hospitals. It's important to note that these visits will not be "passive." Rather, they will give Diaspora visitors the chance to communicate and spend time with students, priests, and professionals from various fields including NGO representatives, farmers, and community activists;

- many of our staff members, including myself, have considerable experience in guiding tours. In addition, for the past ten years, I've witnessed a growing need for what I like to call "living" tours, which would enable visitors to gain a real sense of the country;
- finally, the Study Tours are being jointly organized by our mother organization in the U.S., the Jinishian Memorial Program, whose great reputation gives tour takers the confidence that they will enjoy a professionally planned, well thought-out, and profoundly fulfilling travel experience.

#### **Are the Study Tours open to all tourists or just Jinishian Foundation supporters?**

They are open to everyone, though our current donors are being offered special rates. Depending on the applications, the Study Tours can also be customized for specific groups, based on traveler preferences and even the age of participants.

#### **What will the sightseeing components of the tours entail?**

They will comprise all the major attractions and much more. Cities will include Yerevan, Echmiadzin, Vanadzor, Dilijan, Goris, Jermuk, Sevan, Gyumri, as well as Stepanakert and Shushi in Karabakh.

Specific sites will include Khor Virap, a place of pilgrimage for Armenians all over the world; Noravank Monastery (13-14th centuries), situated on a ledge over the Arpa River gorge and surrounded by fantastic red rocks; Tatev monastery (14th-15th centuries), on the edge of a gigantic canyon; Holy Echmiadzin, the Vatican City of Armenia and the center of the Armenian Apostolic Church; Zvartnots Cathedral, famous for its unique architecture; the magnificent Odzum Church (7th century); the Sanahin monastery complex; and also Ghazanchetsots Cathedral and Gandzasar Monastery in Karabakh. Of course, the tours will also include visits to a number of major museums and theaters.

#### **So it seems to me that tour participants will get to visit not only popular destinations but also unusual, off-the-beaten-track sites.**

Exactly. That is the main purpose. Some of the places I mentioned are usually left out of commercial tours because they're considered inconvenient or too time-consuming for big groups. But that's not an issue with us, since we're flexible and our groups will not exceed 12 people each. In short, the Study Tours will definitely go further than conventional, business-driven tours.

#### **In terms of becoming familiar with the work of the Jinishian Foundation, what are some of the sites that tour participants will be taken to?**

They will visit regional universities where we implement projects that provide students with the necessary skills and experience for contributing to the country's civic life. Tour participants will join school debates to discuss topics of vital importance to the youth. They will witness the dedicated work of medical personnel at a rehabilitation center in Stepanakert. Participants will also view artworks produced by socially disadvantaged children and interact with farmers and villagers in some of Armenia's most pristine rural communities.

All the site visits included in the Study Tours are designed to encourage meaningful communication and socialization. Thus local-community members and leaders will be meeting us, telling us their stories, expressing their feelings, and even joining visitors for dinner or lunch.

#### **Is there a major challenge or hurdle that the foundation still faces in implementing its projects?**

The main challenge that we face is not logistical in nature but rather psychological. It has to do with certain social stereotypes and taboos that have been inherited from the Soviet era. But in this sense Armenian society has come a long way since independence, and I am confident that greater social awareness and equity are constantly being fostered.



**Do you agree that beneficiary participation is a core element of the success of your programs? In this sense, how would you generally characterize the foundation's relationship with its beneficiaries, at both the individual and community levels?**

Our beneficiaries play an enormous role in all of our projects. We work with them very closely in terms of both project design and implementation. In certain instances, beneficiaries are now actually running the projects and doing a much better job than would be expected from any professional NGO staff.

**What would you say is the role of the Diaspora in the ongoing success of Jinishian projects? And what can the Diaspora do to help ensure the long-term viability of these initiatives?**

The Diaspora's role is essential, and also greatly facilitated by the fact that we're a Diaspora-based foundation. The Jinishian Memorial Program, our main supporter and mother organization, was founded through an endowment fund established by Vartan Jinishian. He bequeathed all his property to Armenian communities in need. His generous gift has helped change millions of lives since the 1960s, bringing hope and support to Armenians not only in Armenia, but also Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, and elsewhere.

In addition, the foundation is assisted by private donations from numerous Diasporans, whose support helps nurture a sense of both unity and responsibility in the Armenian world.

I would say that at this point I consider the biggest help from the Diaspora would be understanding and awareness of realities in Armenia. I know that love rests at the heart of altruism. Yet constructive, practical help comes out of understanding.

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*Sona Hamalian is a philanthropic advisor based in Yerevan. She also heads Creative Networks, an international public-relations firm promoting nonprofit organizations, cultural and educational institutions, and artists*



## Warm shoes... Warm winter... Warmth...



Is it really only about warmth on the outside? Is it only about children in the northern areas who received warm shoes for the winter... thousands of investments that have been made... and at last a "thank you".

Perhaps words simply can't describe what happened in a matter of hours, and what I felt as I was distributing those shoes. It was a sort of unique paradox -- I was happy and sad, joyful and in despair at the same time. I was happy to help an Armenian family living in heavy social conditions, to help parents relieve themselves of worry and not think about that particular issue before laying their heads down to sleep at night.

Sometimes I was sad and was simply amazed at how we can live in such narrow circles and be so selfish and self-centered without thinking of how people live in the distant villages where snow, rain, terrible thunder and strong winds have become the residents' permanent "neighbors". It is not the newborn child's fault that he or she will be living in that distant residence and that there can be about 50 people in "his or her world".

You might think to yourself that this is the way that it should have been and ask yourself what you could do. You can do a lot. For instance, what made me do this was a small girl, who was standing there in the corner and looking at her new winter shoes with inspiration and admiration, and she loved them so much that she couldn't hide her emotions and literally k-i-s-s-e-d her new winter shoes.

Do you understand? She kissed the shoes...

At that moment, I was filled with heart-breaking sadness, my heart was petrified, and that sadness was expressed through my tears. She was one of those little children who was simply unable to contain her infinite joy and delight. The others waited until we left and then immediately opened the bags and happily examined their new winter shoes...

The important thing is to help... Believe me, you will only enrich yourself because there is perhaps no feeling that is more wonderful and more enriching than that of having helped someone.



# OUR FINANCES

The Financial statements of JMF for the year ending December 31, 2011 have been audited by the auditing and accounting firm Grant Thornton Amyot LLC. The independent auditors' report indicated that "the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Foundation as of December 31, 2011, and the result of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with US GAAP and Accounting Standards of the Republic of Armenia".

## BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 2011

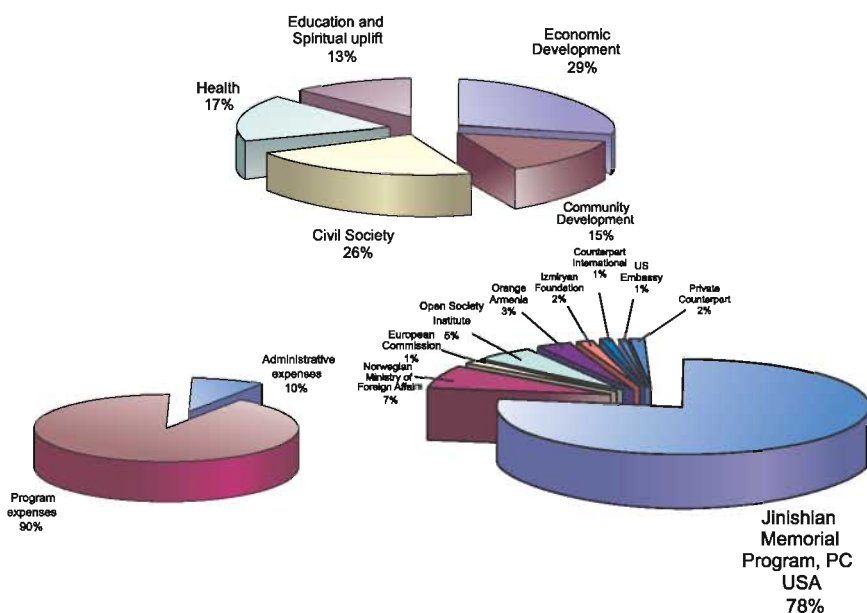
### ASSETS

<b>Non-current assets</b>	<b>199,213</b>
Property, plant and equipment	199,130
Intangible assets	83
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>1,280,856</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	849,340
Partially repayable grants and loans	415,446
Inventory and other assets	9,131
Account receivable	6,939.
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,480,069</b>

### EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

<b>Liabilities/Accounts</b>	<b>245,311</b>
Project commitments	244,325
Other/Admin.	986
<b>Equity</b>	<b>1,234,758</b>
Revolving Fund	1,065,190
Deferred Revenue	169,568
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,408,069</b>

### 2011 BUDGET SPLIT



*“The project makes a marked change in the mentality of young people. It helps to reveal one's intellectual capacities and improve communication skills.*

*Discussions provide the participants with an opportunity to disclose their abilities, to learn and teach one another.” – Diana Miribyan, participant of JMF “Civic Dialogue and Action” project*

*“It is remarkable to see the diversity of opinions that these young people have formed, to witness the work of their inquisitive minds and analytical skills. I am not ashamed of saying that I myself learnt a lot from these debates.” – One of the judges of the National Debate Championship “Youth Engaged in Society” project.*

*“This project was the will of God and we are simply the hands that perform the will of God.” – Father Vrtanes, “Spiritual Education and Experiences for Children” project*

*“Finally, I got answers to my questions about God. Before nobody could give me full answers.” – a participant of “Spiritual Education and Experiences for Children” project.*

*“The lessons helped me to understand that each Christian ought to know history of his nation and religion.” – participant of “Spiritual Education and Experiences for Children” project.*

### **Contacts**

**Those wishing to know more about JMF**

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