

DEFYING ALL ODDS

ANNUAL REPORT | 2022





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LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we embark on another chapter, I am delighted to share the remarkable accomplishments of the Children of Armenia Fund (COAF) in 2022.

In the past year, COAF made significant strides in education, healthcare, and community development. We inaugurated new state-of-the-art educational facilities, providing children with modern learning environments conducive to growth and exploration. Our innovative programs, made possible by your generosity, reached new heights, fostering creativity, critical thinking, and leadership skills.

Amidst global challenges, COAF adapted and expanded its impact, ensuring that essential healthcare services reached remote areas. Our community-driven initiatives flourished, empowering local residents to actively participate in shaping their futures.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, I extend my deepest gratitude to each of you. Your belief in our mission has not only transformed individual lives but has contributed to the resilience and vitality of entire communities.

Thank you for being the driving force behind COAF's success. Together, we look forward to continuing our journey of empowerment and sustainable change.



With sincere appreciation,
Garo H. Armen
Founder & Chairman

VISION

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

MISSION

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



2022 YEAR-END HIGHLIGHTS



Establishing a Strong Presence in Stepanakert

COAF achieved a significant milestone by establishing a physical **presence in Stepanakert**, the city of Artsakh. This accomplishment followed years of extensive humanitarian missions and support efforts. The launch of **psychological and social work services**, led by our team of nine dedicated women, marked a substantial effort to offer personalized care and support to those dealing with the aftermath of the 2020 war.



Empowering Futures: SMART Center's Expanding Impact

In 2022, the COAF SMART Center, situated in Armenia's northern Lori province, witnessed remarkable growth, extending its educational programs to encompass **28 communities**. This regional educational hub plays a pivotal role in providing rural children and youth, aged 3-18, with access to high-quality education. Since its inception, the SMART Center has successfully served a total of **4,041 students**.

Our programs consistently open up innovative educational pathways for rural youth, spanning diverse fields such as entrepreneurship, languages, music, arts, engineering, and athletics. Notably, our Mechanics program students clinched victory at the Pan-Armenian STEM Olympiad for the third consecutive year.

From Lori to Armavir: SMART Centers Expand Nationwide

2022 marks the beginning of a new era in Armenia's rural communities, driven by COAF's ambition to establish a **new SMART Center in the Armavir region**, scheduled for inauguration in 2025. Following four years of SMART success in Lori, COAF is expanding our approach nationwide, aiming to launch educational hubs in every region of Armenia.



Catalyzing Change Through Civic Education

As the Armavir SMART Center prepares to open in two years, COAF has launched a Student Council program to promote civic engagement among **196 rural youth** in Armavir. This program lays the essential groundwork for nurturing a new generation of SMART citizens who are dedicated to addressing community issues and spearheading the progress of their communities and nation.

Breaking Ground in Formal Education

Leveraging a decade of experience in providing top-notch English education through the after-school English Access program in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy, COAF has joined forces with the RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports and the U.S. Embassy to elevate the standard of English education in 23 schools across the Lori region. This groundbreaking initiative has been designed to enhance the learning experiences of **1,770 students** by empowering 21 teachers with a tailored certification program in partnership with the American University of Armenia.





Promoting Health & Well-Being Through Regional Health Center

As the highly anticipated launch of the Health Center in Dsegh approaches this year, COAF's health experts are working with the team on the ground, developing a system to deliver exceptional primary care aligned with the priorities of the RA Ministry of Health. Additionally, the new medical facility will include a specialized pediatric dental clinic, dedicated to promoting oral health among rural children. The Health Center's overarching mission is to enhance the overall health of **seven rural communities**, significantly improving the patient experience for more than **4,000 individuals** in its inaugural year, with plans to serve even a larger population in the future.



Nurturing Growth Through Educational & Psychosocial Support in Armavir

COAF continued its commitment to the Armavir region by opening a new Child & Family Center (CFC) in Karakert village. This significant achievement builds upon the success of COAF's flagship CFC in Hatsik village, which has been providing essential services, including early childhood education, speech therapy, and psychosocial support, to **over 1,000 children and adults** across Armavir.

With the addition of the new CFC in Karakert, COAF's reach will now extend to 10 communities in Armavir, making a profound impact on the lives of the people in the region, with a particular focus on preparing children for their future educational journey at the SMART Center.

Lori, Your Next Destination

In 2022, COAF, in partnership with GIZ, achieved significant milestones in our mission to enhance tourism in the Lori region. We expanded the region's hiking and trail network by introducing 16 new trails. Furthermore, we inaugurated a state-of-the-art Visitor Center along the M6 highway. This center serves as a hub offering tourists access to informative resources, a souvenir and equipment shop, and an array of tour packages.

Our commitment to elevating the standard of tourism services was evident through intensive training programs for local tourism service providers. These initiatives collectively influenced and positively impacted the lives of **1,776 individuals**, fostering growth and prosperity in the region.



Cultivating Prosperity for Small Family Farms

In 2022, two impactful initiatives came to fruition in Lori province, harnessing the region's agricultural potential. The CheeseUp project, a collaboration between COAF and AMAA, revitalized over 190 hectares of previously unused land. It not only bolstered milk production through cow insemination but also gave rise to two dairy enterprises, positively impacting over **200 households**.

Concurrently, COAF's BEES initiative empowered **14 households** in beekeeping, equipping them with resources, training, and a cutting-edge beekeeping center. This initiative aims to foster sustainable honey production and drive economic prosperity in the region, ensuring a brighter future for local farmers.



OUR **PILLARS**

Education

COAF's Education programs are a gateway for fostering lifelong learning, with a primary emphasis on cultivating the holistic growth of children from 3-18 years old. Furthermore, we are committed to empowering adults through valuable professional development opportunities. By combining formal and non-formal extracurricular educational endeavors, innovative pedagogical approaches, and enhancements to local learning environments, COAF is steadfast in its mission to enhance the educational standards within the rural communities of Armenia.

Health

With nearly two decades of on-the-ground experience, COAF stands as a pioneer in rural healthcare in Armenia. Our Health program prioritizes the well-being of entire communities through high-quality intervention, treatment, and accessible, comprehensive health education. COAF's initiatives are centered on enhancing primary care and capacity building, with a specific focus on addressing major health concerns in rural Armenia: cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes.



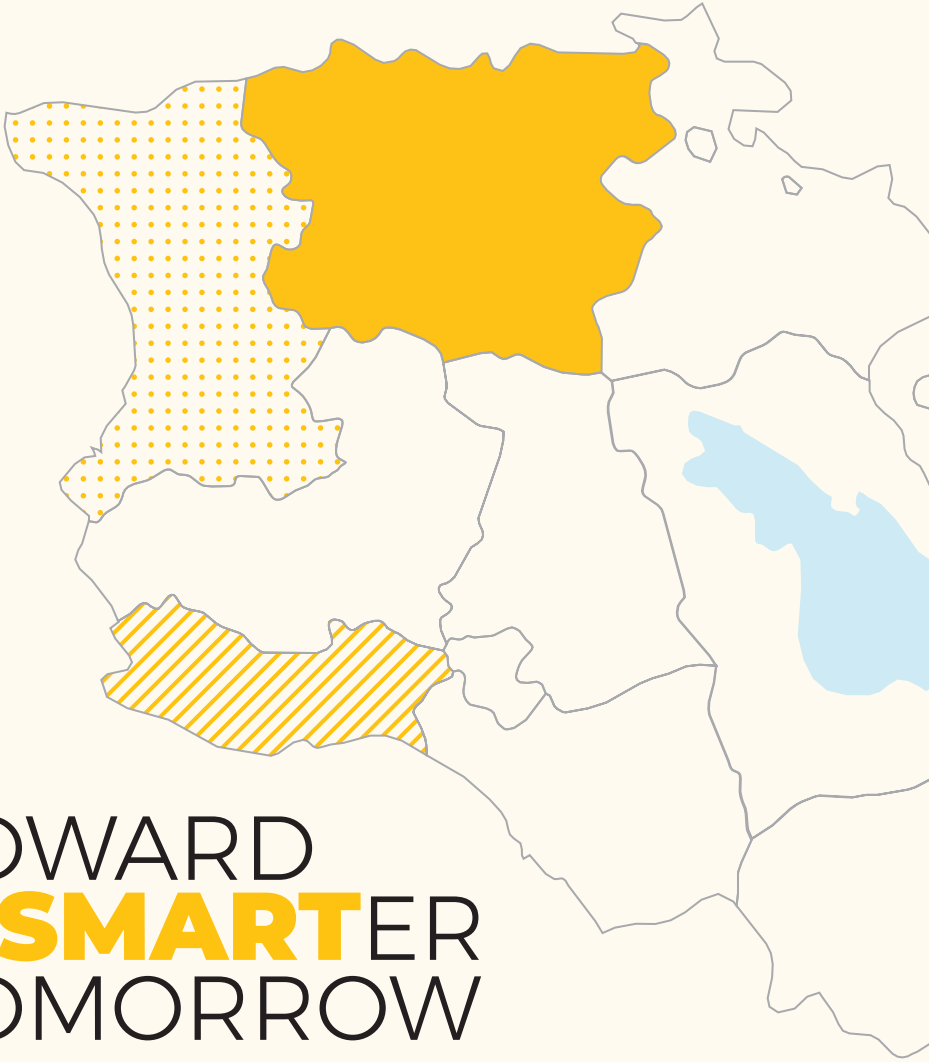
Child & Family Services

COAF's Child & Family Services embrace a comprehensive approach aimed at providing children aged 3-5 with a strong foundation for lifelong success. Our programs not only ensure access to quality early childhood education but also encompass speech therapy, psychological care, and social work support, all designed to foster the holistic development of children. We also extend our services to parents and engage them in parenting seminars, ensuring that children grow up in a nurturing and supportive setting conducive to their overall well-being.

Economic Development

COAF's Economic Development program plays a pivotal role in bolstering rural communities by prioritizing business growth, creating jobs and enhancing local infrastructure. Our commitment extends to various sectors, with notable successes in supporting diverse value chains including dairy, agriculture, honey production, and tourism and hospitality. With a particular emphasis on empowering small family farms, COAF's initiatives pave the way for sustainable economic progress in rural Armenia.





TOWARD A **SMARTER** TOMORROW

By 2025, COAF is committed to replicating the successful Lori model in the **Armavir** region, as well as the cities of **Gyumri**, **Kapan**, and **Goris**. This expansion will empower generations of Armenian youth with the education and skills required to ignite significant progress and transformative change within their communities.



Existing

SMART
LORI



Ongoing

SMART
ARMAVIR



Planned

SMART
GYUMRI
SMART
KAPAN
SMART
GORIS

IMPACT DATA

LORI

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Akori | 10. Dsegh | 19. Marts |
| 2. Alaverdi | 11. Dzoraget | 20. Mets Ayrum |
| 3. Arevatsag | 12. Dzoragyugh | 21. Odzun |
| 4. Arjut | 13. Gugark | 22. Pambak |
| 5. Aznavadzor | 14. Hagvi | 23. Shahumyan |
| 6. Bazum | 15. Karinj | 24. Tumanyan |
| 7. Chkalov | 16. Lernapat | 25. Vahagnadzor |
| 8. Darpas | 17. Lorut | 26. Vahagni |
| 9. Debet | 18. Margahovit | 27. Vanadzor |
| | | 28. Yeghegnut |

ARMAVIR

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Arevadasht | 10. Karakert |
| 2. Argina | 11. Koghbavan |
| 3. Artamet | 12. Lernagogh |
| 4. Bagaran | 13. Myasnikyan |
| 5. Baghramyan | 14. Sardarapat |
| 6. Dalarik | 15. Shenik |
| 7. Getashen | 16. Talvorik |
| 8. Hatsik | 17. Vanand |
| 9. Hushakert | 18. Yervandashat |

TAVUSH

- | |
|--------------|
| 1. Archis |
| 2. Aygehovit |
| 3. Berdavan |
| 4. Koti |
| 5. Navur |
| 6. Ptghavan |
| 7. Vazashen |
| 8. Zorakan |

SHIRAK

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Beniamin | 5. Vardakar |
| 2. Gusanagyugh | 6. Lanjik |
| 3. Horom | 7. Sarnaghbyur |
| 4. Meghrashen | |

ARAGATSOTN

- | |
|----------------|
| 1. Aragatsavan |
| 2. Arteni |

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE

Holistic Model

We take a comprehensive approach to community development by empowering rural children and youth through education, all while nurturing the mental and social well-being of their families and the broader community.

Sustainable Change

Whether we invest in individuals or the community as a whole, our interventions are designed to generate long-term value and foster self-sufficiency.

100% Pledge

Every donation goes directly toward our programs in rural Armenia. Our Founder and Board of Directors underwrite all administrative costs, allowing us to maintain transparency and dedication.

Our SMART Center

The COAF SMART Center is a non-formal education hub, offering a holistic curriculum that focuses on nurturing students' academic, emotional, and psychomotor development.



COAF Alumni

Our alumni are the bearers of COAF's enduring legacy. Since inception, we have nurtured a diverse and expansive community of alumni from all over Armenia who are active contributors to our ongoing mission, driving sustainable change and fostering a better future for all.

Our Social Enterprises

Concept by COAF is Armenia's largest social enterprise, encompassing a boutique hotel, a restaurant, and a state-of-the-art conference center — all situated within our SMART Campus in Lori. 100% of the proceeds are reinvested in the educational programs offered at our SMART Center.



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We are grateful
for your support!

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2022 ANNUAL COAF HOLIDAY GALA



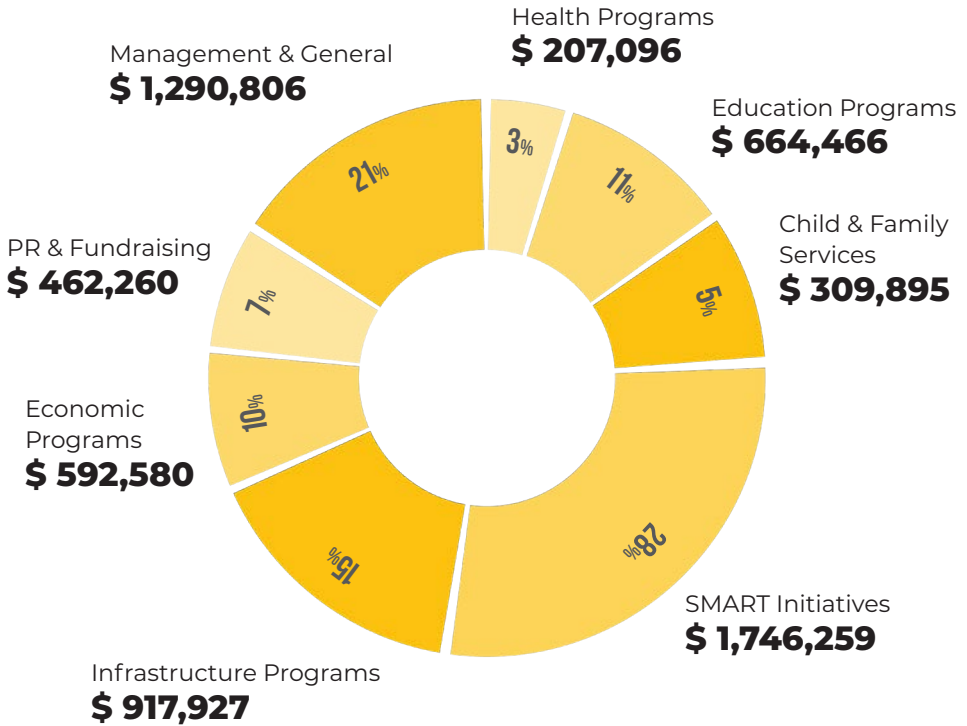
19TH ANNUAL COAF
HOLIDAY GALA

BUILDING A NATION

OVER
\$6M
RAISED

FINANCIALS





TOTAL 2022 EXPENSES
\$ 6,191,289

100% SPENDED

DONATE

Your contribution goes directly to the work we do in rural Armenia. Donate once, monthly or annually, have a birthday pledge or start a fundraiser. Every dollar makes a change.

Donate here



NEW YORK OFFICE

📍 149 5th Ave., Suite 500, NYC, NY 10010
☎ +1 (212) 994-8234

YEREVAN OFFICE

📍 2/2 Melik-Adamyan Str., Yerevan 0001
☎ +374 10 533412

WRITE TO US

✉ coaf@coaf.org

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OF ARMENIA
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