In an effort to jump-start socioeconomic development in the legendary town of Shushi, Karabakh, Armenia Fund USA and its worldwide affiliates will launch a comprehensive program of infrastructure and business development projects beginning in 2010.

“In the 1990s, the Armenians won the pivotal battle for liberation in the hills and fields of Shushi. Today, they are fighting a very different battle—this time against poverty—but not alone; they are working for the greatest good. And we are committed to ensuring that your contributions are appreciated. We do not take your support for granted, and we are committed to ensuring that your continued involvement is especially appreciated. We do not take your support for granted, and we are committed to ensuring that your continued involvement is especially appreciated.”

The Armenia Fund “Our Shushi” campaign will officially kick off on its annual Thanksgiving Day Telethon, with supporting pre-Telethon fund-raising drives, such as direct mail and phone campaigns, conducted by Armenia Fund USA and other affiliates in the All-Armenia Fund global network.

Just as Shushi was the turning point in the war for the liberation of Karabakh, this year’s Telethon will be the turning point that wins the war on poverty in Shushi.
Armenia Fund Declares 2010 “The Year of Shushi” from page 1

scheers, many of the mostly jobless residents live with no heat, electricity and functioning appli-
cances. Provincial schools are also physically unsafe and unhygienic, leaving families little incentive to remain in Shushi without hope for a better future.

During the early 20th century, the Armenians of Shushi boasted a population of 45,000, seven churches, 22 newspapers and a public theatre. After the liberation of Shushi, many presumed that this history-making province would be reborn, attracting business investment and tourists, generating jobs, and building strong, robust communities. Despite the best of intentions, the rebirth of Shushi is still a dream deferred.

Today, the officials of the Shushi and Karabakh government, along with leaders of Armenia Fund, have agreed to put Shushi on the economic map. To stimulate growth in Shushi, the government of Karabakh decided to move a number of state institutions from Karabakh’s capital of Stepanakert to Shushi, such as the Supreme and Appeals Courts.

Constructing the buildings to house these offices, and paving roads and streets to reach them, would immediately generate local jobs. But that is only a small step toward the substantive change so desperately needed to save Shushi.

Although the government of Karabakh is prepared to subsidize all such infrastructure projects, in limited budget cannot address all the imperatives for revitalizing Shushi within a small window of time. This is where the Armenian Diaspora becomes a critical factor in determining the ultimate fate of this legendary region.

“Without jobs, good schools and a place to call home, there is very little incentive to stay in Shushi, which has great strategic importance to the security of Karabakh,” states Ira Lazarian, Executive Director of Armenia Fund USA, Eastern Region. “This is why Shushi’s war on poverty must be fought on multiple fronts: housing, healthcare, education, business and cultural development, not to mention well-functioning institutions that can facilitate and prosper.” Ms. Lazarian adds.

With funds generated from fall fund-raising efforts, culminating with the Thanksgiving Day Telethon, Armenia Fund intends to break ground early in the new year to build enough momentum to give the people of Shushi a fresh outlook on their future.

Among the many large and small infrastructure projects slated to begin in 2010, under the leadership of Armenia Fund USA and some of its affiliated agencies, are construction and restoration of homes and apartments; local town halls and healthcare hubs; parks and water fountains; plus cultural and recreational centers. Water pipelines, school heating systems, gymnasiums, school facilities, roads and street repairs also will be undertaken.

In addition, a brand new medical hospital is planned to provide villagers access to emergency and critical health care, plus a state-of-the-art administrative center to help fast-track economic growth and investment. Other business development efforts include a Rug Manufacturers Association and micro-loans for start-up local enterprises.

These projects will take place not only in Shushi proper, but in the seven villages within Shushi province, including Karvank, Kuravan, Hin Shenk, Men Shenk, Eghbnaghch, and Lusap.

“Obviously, this is a massive undertaking. There is much catching up to do and so little time left before the people will give up on Shushi altogether,” notes the mayor of Shushi.

“But with the will of Armenians everywhere, who draw inspiration from what Shushi has come to symbolize in our story of national survival, it will rise from the ashes once more. Not only victorious, but prosperous, too.”

There is a small village north of Stepanakert, in the Martuni region of Karabakh. It is called Spitakasent. Some 414 residents live in this small but tight community of hardworking people.

Like so many villages in Karabakh, Spitakasent has long been impacted by quality-of-life issues such as water shortages, a crumbling school, and unpaved roads.

Until recently, Spitakasent’s only source of clean drinking water was a type of traditional well, located three kilometers from the village, which collected water from underground springs through a network of stone tunnels. The water reached the village through old pumps.

“Whenever the pump broke down, the village would be left without water for months,” says Armen Khachatryan, the mayor of Spitakasent.

“And since the type of pump used at the source has been discontinued from production a long time ago, it was nearly impossible to find spare parts and replace the system.”

Never mind the pump. There was also the problem of chronic water shortage in the village during the summer months, when springs all but dried up due to the sweltering heat.

In 2008, the lives of Spitakasent’s residents were improved significantly when Armenia Fund built an eight-kilometer pipeline, providing the village with a reliable supply of potable water from a number of mountain springs. This vital project was sponsored by the Fund’s Argentine affiliate.

“Things are so much better now,” says Armen Petrosian, a Spitakasent farmer. “Moreover, as we finally have plenty of drinking water, thanks to the new pipeline, we can use the water coming through the old well to irrigate our lands.”

On the heels of the pipeline project, Armenia Fund launched another major initiative in Spitakasent, aimed at revitalizing local education with the construction of a new school.

Speaking of the existing campus, which was

TELETHON 2009. HELP BRING HOPE AND DIGNITY BACK TO SHUSHI

YES. Please include my donation to Armenia Fund USA in this year’s Armenia Fund Telethon, sending a message to the people of Shushi that their future matters to us and to our Homeland.

Name _________________________

Street Address _________________________

City ___________________ State _____ ZIP ______

Day Phone _______

Cell Phone ______

Email Address _________________________

Method of Payment:

☐ By Credit Card ☐ By Check: Please make payable to Armenia Fund USA, 80 Maiden Lane, New York, NY 10038
☐ MasterCard ☐ Check Memo: Telethon 2009
☐ Visa ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover ☐ Other $ ______

Authorized Signature _______________________

Expiration Date _______________________

Date _______________________

Please check your donation amount and check your area of interest on the reverse side.

Continued on page 3

$250 $500 $1000 $1500 $5000 Other $ ______
Armenia Fund Brings Water to Berdashen Village in Karabakh

Armenia Fund has completed the construction of a water-supply system in Berdashen, a village in Nagorno Karabakh’s Martuni region. Comprising 16 kilometers of both gravitational and pressurized water mains as well as an inner distribution network, the new system has already begun supplying the 1,582 residents of Berdashen with fresh, healthful water, derived from a number of mountain springs.

The new water-supply system brings fresh, clean water to residents of Berdashen.

The projects now being carried out in Spitakashen are yet another example of the invaluable partnership between the government of Nagorno-Karabakh and the Armenia Fund, reiterating some of these issues during the meeting is that an economically prosperous Armenia is a shared goal for both the U.S. government and large Armenian-American organizations such as Armenia Fund. The real challenge is how to best assess our respective strengths and make an impact where help is most needed,” said Armenia Fund USA Executive Director Irina Lazarian.

The meeting presented an opportunity for the Armenian Fund leadership to express its thoughts on how the U.S. government can more effectively leverage the good work already being done in Armenia by civil society and nongovernmental organizations. “An important conclusion from the meeting is that an economically prosperous Armenia is a shared goal for both the U.S. government and large Armenian-American organizations such as Armenia Fund. The real challenge is how to best assess our respective strengths and make an impact where help is most needed,” said Armenia Fund USA Executive Director Irina Lazarian.

As part of a series of meetings in four major Armenian-American communities in Greater Boston, New York, Washington, DC, and Southern California, U.S. Ambassador to Armenia Marie Yovanovitch visited the offices of Armenia Fund USA in New York on June 22, 2009. Ambassador Yovanovitch met with the members of the Armenia Fund USA Board and staff, as well as young professionals and volunteers.

The meeting was an opportunity to familiarize the ambassador with the completed and ongoing projects that Armenia Fund is implementing in Armenia and Karabakh. Some of the most exciting news in the field of healthcare has been Armenia Fund’s Telemedicine project—the HyeBridge Telehealth program, through which Armenia Fund aims to improve the delivery of healthcare to Armenia and Karabakh on two fronts – digital diagnosis, and distance learning and continuous education.

The ambassador expressed special interest in this innovative program, and took this opportunity to report on the numerous important and beneficial projects that the U.S. government is pursuing in Armenia on behalf of the American people.

In an earlier interview with Armenian-American newspapers, the ambassador had acknowledged that many in the Diaspora feel very strongly about Armenia and the challenges the young democracy faces. She reiterated some of these issues during the meeting, indicating that real efforts are being made by the State Department to enlist more Armenian-Americans, not only by participating in State Department-sponsored humanitarian initiatives, but also by investing in public-private partnerships in Armenia.
Armenia Fund Named Beneficiary of Edgar Hagopian Tribute

Armenia Fund is very grateful to have been named the beneficiary of an unforgettable event honoring Edgar Hagopian. On September 20, 2009, nearly 300 people from across the nation gathered at the stylish Royal Park Hotel in Rochester, Michigan, to demonstrate their great admiration for a man who has earned a stellar reputation and has been labeled a humanitarian, prominent businessman, philanthropist, leader, and friend.

As a teen, Edgar worked with his father, Haroutun, in the family cleaning business. The company expanded and in 2009 the Hagopian Family of Companies celebrated 70 years of business. The third generation of Hagopians, including Mr. Hagopian’s son-in-law Ken Snow, is now operating the business with the same ideals of community involvement, and a mission is now operating the business with the same

carpet, serves as a backdrop for Armenian gatherings that feature authors, professors, scientists, and even Turkish scholars. Many writers have had solemn wine-blessing ceremonies performed on their books there. Guests are encouraged to seat themselves on these priceless works of art as authors showcase their literary accomplishments in this rarified atmosphere of stimulating conversation reminiscent of the great salons of Europe, all the while they

freely partake of an ample assortment of food and refreshments generously provided by the Hagopian family. The tribute had been in the planning stages for several months, and was brought to smooth fruition by a loyal group of Mr. Hagopian’s friends known as the Armenian Festival Committee because of their summer outdoor food and music festival, which attracts thousands. They are a band of Armenian-Americans dedicated to perpetuating the Armenian spirit by uniting the community. Hagopian is quick to give credit to while they, in turn, say he is their inspiration.

Guests were greeted warmly by members of the Hagopian family and committee members as they arrived at the candlelit, floral-filled reception area of the Royal Park for the cocktail and hors d’oeuvres hour. Among the dignitaries who shared their thoughts, love, and respect for Mr. Hagopian were Edgar’s long-time friend and former congressmen, Joe Knollenberg, who gave the toast, stating “this day should have come long ago,” referencing how Edgar worked to increase military aid to Armenia, and Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, who, with Hagopian, worked hard to get “Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day” signed into Michigan law. Hagopian’s involvement in local, national, and international causes is legend and his contributions too numerous to mention. Edgar is a man who loves all things beautiful—art, music, literature, architecture, and people—but more than that, his wish is to bring the Armenian community together in unity, the best gift he could receive. The Very Reverend Diran Papazian delivered a fitting and beautiful blessing commenting on Mr. Hagopian’s true Armenian spirit and generosity. These qualities became apparent, once again, when Mr. Hagopian requested that the net proceeds from the event be donated to Armenia Fund USA.

Inna Lazarian, Executive Director of Armenia Fund USA, took the floor thanking the Hagopian family for their continued generosity to Armenia Fund. She reminded everyone of the Odzun project that the same community supported in 2008. “The Odzun Center is already completed and scheduled for inauguration at the end of next week,” said Ms. Lazarian. “And although I could not bring the building with me this evening, what I could do is share with you an image of it, along with the joy and gratitude of the village residents and officials who stand to benefit from the center. Please accept this original poster created to announce the new Odzun Cultural Center. I hope it will serve as a reminder to you of the fruit of your tireless efforts to make it a reality.”

Ms. Lazarian assured the community that the proceeds of the event will go toward the completion of yet another successful project benefiting thousands in Armenia.

Armenia Fund Initiates Reconstruction of Noyemberyan Hospital in Tavush Region

In July of this year, Armenia Fund launched a major development project to rebuild the Noyemberyan Hospital in Armenia’s Tavush region. The initiative is cosponsored by the Fund’s German, Australian, Swiss, and Lebanese affiliates. Additional support, in the form of medical equipment, will be provided by the Union of Armenian Physicians and Healthcare Professionals of Germany. Currently crews are working on the first phase of the reconstruction project, demolishing the existing building and laying the foundations of the future structure, which will comprise an area of 2,600 meters square. Slated to be completed in the fall of 2010, Armenia Fund’s ambitious initiative will result in an outstanding, state-of-the-art healthcare facility offering a broad range of medical services.

“I think it’s wonderful that our community in the Diaspora continue to make a concerted and decisive effort in helping secure the ongoing progress of our homeland, which hinges to a great degree on the physical health of the Armenian public,” said Ara Vardanian, executive director of Armenian Fund in Yerevan.

“aritana Lazarian presents an award to Mr. Edgar Hagopian in appreciation for his continuous support of Armenia Fund USA.

“aritana Lazarian presents an award to Mr. Edgar Hagopian in appreciation for his continuous support of Armenia Fund USA.

“The reconstruction of the Noyemberyan Hospital is an important step toward that goal.”

Commenting on the project, Henrik Harutyunyian, chief physician at the Noyemberyan Hospital, said that the facility serves some 1,400 individuals per year, admitting patients from not only Tavush but the neighboring Lori region as well. Dr. Harutyunyian added that the Noyemberyan Hospital has long been in a state of disrepair and the need for major renovations had reached a critical stage. “Thanks to Armenia Fund’s initiative of this project, we expect to have a first-class facility,” he said.

Major work is being done to rebuild the Noyemberyan Hospital in Tavush.
Programs and benefits of Armenia Fund USA’s recently unveiled HyeBridge Telehealth™ program were presented at the 10th Armenian Medical World Congress held in New York City in early July.

“Our HyeBridge Telehealth program is the next important phase of our already successfully implemented healthcare programs. This program builds on our experience in delivering direct care to patients, educating healthcare providers, and building and equipping clinics,” says Irina Lazarjan, executive director, Armenia Fund USA. “We are taking many of these successful elements to the next level. Armenia Fund has never shied away from new challenges – rather, we look at this as a tremendous opportunity to build a hallmark program.”

HyeBridge Telehealth Benefits Discussed

Live Diagnostics

During the conference, Armenia Fund USA showcased its healthcare experience and outlined HyeBridge Telehealth’s various programs and patient benefits. Armenia Fund used Polycom videoconferencing technology to broadcast the conference’s plenary sessions live to Armenia and Karabakh and to facilitate a live diagnostic session. The interactive technology enabled more than 400 doctors, nurses, and university administrators in Armenia and Karabakh to participate in the conference. Not only did use of the technology save remote participants significant time and money, it opened the conference into a more dynamic event.

Conferees attended in a diagnostic session where the healthcare needs of a seriously ill child were discussed. Armenia Fund used this opportunity to stress that HyeBridge Telehealth is designed around the essential role that people, not necessarily the technology, play in delivering critical healthcare services efficiently and successfully to those who need it most.

“It was a very successful and positive exercise,” said Dr. Vicken N. Pamboukian, vascular surgeon, Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, and United States cochair of the conference. “I am very happy we were able to collaborate in this fashion.”

Doctors at Yerevan State Medical University (YSMU), a key HyeBridge Telehealth partner, were impressed by the program’s broad impact and expressed excitement about the future of Armenian healthcare.

“I am happy to say that the telebroadcast of the 10th Armenian Medical World Congress was successful and accepted with great enthusiasm by the Yerevan State Medical University after Mkhitar Heratsi, including the Department of Postgraduate Education and CME, and the representatives of various regional hospitals,” said Dr. Mikhail Z. Narimanyan, Vice Dean of Postgraduate Education and CME, Yerevan State Medical University. “This is a place where all Armenian doctors can consolidate their services, which allow participating healthcare professionals or organizations interested in providing healthcare services to rural Armenia through HyeBridge Telehealth are encouraged to contact Armenia Fund. Karabakh Telecom, a leading provider of Internet and other telecommunication services to the Nagorno Karabakh, and VivaCell, a cellular service provider in Armenia, are contributing their services, which allow participating healthcare facilities to connect with YSMU.”

Continuous Medical Education

Aside from videoconferencing, HyeBridge Telehealth builds on the ten healthcare related lectures and seminars held between Yerevan and Karabakh in 2008.

Program Partners and Providers

Armenia Fund encouraged conference attendees to become involved in HyeBridge Telehealth. Currently, Armenia Fund is working with a number of groups in Armenia and the United States to deliver healthcare and medical education.

HyeBridge Telehealth is about people,” said Lazarjan, Armenia Fund USA. “The program’s state-of-the-art buildings, equipment, and technology are critical to our success. But they don’t save lives…people do. We saw the conference as an opportunity to talk about our program to people deeply committed to providing the best care possible to those who need it most.”

Current Partners

Armenia Fund’s high quality video broadcast allows the panel of medical professionals in New York to collaborate with doctors at YSMU, Armenia, and contribute to the consultation of seriously ill patients.

“We are excited by HyeBridge Telehealth’s success and are thankful for the many in-kind gifts and volunteer hours both here in the United States and in Armenia,” said Raffi Festekjian, chairman of Armenia Fund USA. “Our goal is to expand from these pilot sites to all of rural Armenia and Karabakh, thus enabling connectivity between rural Armenia, Yerevan, and the United States. We are confident that HyeBridge Telehealth will continue to advance Armenians’ health, expand the community’s medical knowledge, and most importantly, improve quality of life.”
Armenia Fund Completes the Reconstruction and Furnishing of Khashtarak School in Tavush Region

On a beautiful September day, Khashtarak, a village in Armenia’s Tavush region, celebrated the opening of its newly rebuilt school with a jubilant ceremony attended by hundreds of community members as well as government officials, spiritual leaders, and Armenia Fund benefactors and representatives, many of whom had traveled to Armenia to participate in the event.

Built in 1973, the Khashtarak school had not undergone upgrades until recently, when Armenia Fund stepped in to fully rebuild and furnish the campus. The reconstruction project was financed by the Fund’s French, German, and Swiss affiliates as well as the Germany-based Armenian Merchants’ Union. Also contributing to the initiative were the Fund’s Australian affiliate, which donated classroom furniture and related fittings. In addition, the Fund’s British affiliate donated various school supplies. The total cost of the project is $480,000 USD (close to 180 million AMD).

Guests of honor at the school’s opening ceremony included Armen Gevorgian, Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of the Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia; Armen Ghularian, Governor of the Tavush region; Mikael Vardanian, Deputy of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia; Reverend Torgom Tomikian, Vice-Primater of the Gugark See of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Tavush region; Haik Kamalian, Mayor of Khashtarak; Avedis Kizirian and Gilbert Momdjian, Chairmen, respectively, of the Fund’s Swiss and German affiliates, Murad Skyuz and Arman Derderian, representatives of the Armenian Merchants’ Union of Germany; and Anahid Kazarians, representing the Fund’s British affiliate.

The school reconstruction project has resulted in a modern, fully equipped, and spacious campus. The Hayastan All-Armenian Fund has rebuilt the school’s three main structures, including the gym, cafeteria, and events hall. New furniture donated to the school includes desks and chairs, chalkboards, bookcases, and lockers, as well as equipment for the physics and chemistry labs. A major addition has been the establishment of a computer lab, complete with furnishings and computer systems, which were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Weidemann. The reconstruction project also encompasses the landscaping of the school’s grounds and surroundings, and provision of school supplies—this year some 350 schoolchildren of Khashtarak began the academic year with new schoolbags and ample paper, donated by the Fund’s British affiliate.

Commenting on the reconstruction project, Minister Armen Gevorgian expressed high praise for the Fund and Diaspora benefactors, thanks to whose steadfast support, he said, the number of renovated schools continues to grow throughout Armenia.

“It’s every parent’s dream to have their child study in an airy and bright, beautiful school,” said Ararat Khlghatyan of the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund in an interview. “Every time we complete the renovation of a school, we’re filled with pride as we witness the joy of parents and students alike.” In his address during the opening ceremony, Gilbert Momdjian congratulated the Khashtarak community on the launch of the rebuilt school and called on the students to take good care of their new home away from home. Momdjian also informed the attendees that the Armenian community of Germany was the first to respond to the appeal for sponsoring the reconstruction of the Khashtarak school.

Today the German-Armenian community is once again behind a major development project in Armenia, having sponsored, through Armenia Fund’s German affiliate, the current reconstruction of the Noyemberyan Hospital, in the Tavush region. Also delivering remarks during the opening ceremony was Avedis Kizirian, who extended his gratitude to Armenia Fund, the builders, and leaders of Khashtarak and Tavush.

Khashtarak is the site of a number of significant development projects implemented by Armenia Fund. Earlier this year, the Fund built a gas pipeline, providing 122 families with access to natural gas, and rebuilt the community clinic. Presently, the Fund is rebuilding the Khashtarak-Lusahovit-Ditavan irrigation network. When completed next year, the new system will secure the irrigation of about 600 hectares of land, greatly boosting local agriculture.
The Ororots Project, or “Cradle” Project, was initiated in May 2002 by Armenia Fund USA in order to aid rural Armenian families in the care of their newest members.

As part of this project, Armenia Fund distributed infant Survival Kits to 30 socially vulnerable families in Armenia’s Tavush region in August. The urgently needed packages included shoes, clothes, baby formula, and various other infant-care items such as diapers.

Implemented within the framework of the Ororots Project, the initiative was made possible through a 5,000 euro donation by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Weidemann of Germany.

Project beneficiary Gohar Mkhitarian, a resident of Berd City, said such assistance goes a long way in terms of helping relieve the daily burden of disadvantaged families. “It also brings a measure of warmth into our lives,” she noted.

Established in 2002, the Ororots Project provides vital infant-care assistance to socially vulnerable families with newborn babies. The Ororots Project is active throughout Armenia.

Since its creation, the Ororots Project has supported 1,150 families across the republic. It is Armenia Fund’s hope that concerned donors such as the Weidemanns will enable the project to continue its work well into the future, helping secure the health and well-being of Armenia’s most vulnerable children.

The project’s ultimate goal is to promote healthy, warm, and nourished children and a stable family environment. The project is designed to help families minimize the cost of caring for their children, which often drives fathers to emigrate in search of work or pushes desperate parents to place their children in orphanages.

The Ororots Project supports newborn children by providing their families with pediatric care, medical and nutritional supplies, and awareness programs to ensure healthy development in the critical first year of life.

The program includes proper prenatal care for mothers, along with child care education in local clinics, hospitals, and community institutions.

The Survival Kits are designed to complement the four maturation stages of a baby’s first year. The kits include essentials from baby powder, bed linens, and bottles to hygiene products, blankets, and baby clothing. Funding a full year of an infant’s essential needs through a Survival Kit costs $150. With $900, Survival Kits for six infants for one year can be funded. No overhead is taken from the funds donated to the Ororots Project and every dollar results in direct aid to safeguarding the well-being of Armenia’s most precious resources.

Ororots is the first program to pool the resources of the Armenian Ministry of Social Security and the Ministry of Health, as well as various NGOs, businessespeople, and Diasporan donors, to address early childhood care throughout Armenia.

Financing needs were $660,000 for the first year of the program and $750,000 for each year thereafter.

Every Armenian infant’s first breath is a defining moment in our national destiny. Your support can ensure that Armenia’s neediest babies make it beyond the cradle and into a life of possibility.
When Meline Tufenkjian of New York decided to focus her charitable efforts on Armenian patients in Gyumri suffering from a drug-resistant strain of tuberculosis, little did the victims know that she was in it for the long haul.

Over the past three years, Ms. Tufenkjian has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to Gyumri’s TB Hospital as it struggles to provide adequate nourishment and medical treatment to an increasing patient population.

In December 2007, Ms. Tufenkjian donated $15,000 to Armenia Fund USA to help cover the cost of patient medications and nutritious meals for a life-threatening illness. An elderly patient receives treatment for a life-threatening strain of tuberculosis. Ms. Tufenkjian allowed $3,000 at the hospital, and bath linens covers, sheets, and pillowcases. Now the hospital can finally replace the threadbare linens that were compromising the hygiene and comfort of patients, many of whom are isolated for long stretches of time and unable to engage with their families due to their highly contagious condition.

Taking into account 71 patients who are provided two meals per day, this additional $5,000 can make a real difference in their day-to-day living. Meals can be prepared with healthier ingredients such as real butter and olive oil, and menus can be more varied with offerings of meat, fish, and poultry, and more balanced with the inclusion of honey, jam, fresh yogurt, and other dairy products, as well as bakery goods and some sweets.

“Thanks to Meline’s generosity and commitment, our TB patients can count on better treatment, healthier meals, and cleaner living conditions. Patients can now enjoy more nutritious and varied meals, which is crucial for their recovery.”

TB patients in Gyumri find a loyal friend in Meline Tufenkjian

I believe that Armenia Fund USA stands out among the diaspora organizations for its proven ability to tackle the broad-based infrastructure and economic development challenges facing present-day Armenia and Karabakh. It possesses the long track record and on-the-ground experience to help bring these emerging republics into the 21st century, especially in terms of medical education and healthcare delivery. I look forward to serving as a member of its distinguished board.

Armen Haig Hrant Arslanian, MD, graduated from the American University of Beirut, trained as a physician in the U.S., and taught medicine at Harvard Medical School as an award-winning educator. Currently practicing medicine and prevention in Boston, MA, Dr. Arslanian continues to pursue his interest in Armenian affairs and culture, a lifelong passion that began at a young age in Beirut, where his family was involved in many charitable and community endeavors. Having visited Armenia twice since its independence, Dr. Arslanian was impressed not only by the accomplishments in the fields of academics and the sciences, but also in Armenian art and architecture, music, and language.

He and his wife, Araz, are very hopeful that one day the younger generation in Armenia and Karabakh will have the same opportunities as their two daughters, Rose, 14, and Lily, 10 have today.

Agriculture: A Renewed Focus

Now we have access to combine harvesters and tractors,” said Sergey Sargsian, mayor of Ditzavan. “The effect has been immediate as it is so much easier for us to cultivate our lands and harvest our crops this year. The change has been dramatic. All of us felt it.”

The farmers use the machinery according strict timetables, set and managed by the communities themselves to ensure that no farmer in need of heavy equipment is left out. “This project means a lot to our communities,” said Ara Smbatian, mayor of Lusahovit. “It is as simple as and will be important as being sure that your land will be cultivated properly and all the necessary work will be carried out on time.”

“We know we will harvest again,” added Anika.

Armenia Fund USA works closely with its board members to ensure the transparency and accountability in all projects. Armenia Fund USA stands out among the diaspora organizations for its proven ability to tackle the broad-based infrastructure and economic development challenges facing present-day Armenia and Karabakh. It possesses the long track record and on-the-ground experience to help bring these emerging republics into the 21st century, especially in terms of medical education and healthcare delivery. I look forward to serving as a member of its distinguished board.
Projects Completed and Ongoing in 2009

Completed

Water Networks
- Water supply system reconstruction in Dzorapat village - $239,440
- Water supply system reconstruction for Ditavan village - $252,730
- Water supply system reconstruction for Aknaghbyur village - $218,320
- Construction of Ncnadzor village water supply system - $1,328,690
- Construction of Davitashen water supply system - $601,580
- Construction of Noyemberyan town hospital - $488,090
- Construction of Stepanakert N 11 School - $2,623,690
- Construction and asphalting of the road (1,9km) - $2,359,620
- Reconstruction and Furnishing of Spitakashen village school - $532,220

Educational
- Furnishing of Tbil N 2 School - $7,330
- Furnishing of Arasht N4 School - $2,600
- Furnishing of Aygek village school - $5,700
- Furnishing of Great N 1 & Svan N 8 Schools - $6,830
- Furnishing of Arev & Tumi village schools - $2,520
- Furnishing of Mts Taghavir village school - $11,720
- Furnishing of Ahuyran N 10 School - $20,600
- Furnishing of Charentun N 5 School - $21,730
- Furnishing of Megaken kindergartens lavatory - $1,750
- Furnishing of Nor Hach N 3 School - $2,210
- Furnishing of Klokkar & Nor Haykar village schools - $11,480
- Furnishing of Gluze Charet & Getaran village schools - $22,940
- Furnishing of Martuni town kindergartens for 100 children - $30,780
- Furnishing of Mimma & Nghi village schools - $15,490
- Furnishing of Charlart village kindergartens - $6,100
- Furnishing of Sov village school - $16,960
- Furnishing of Gyumn N 10 School - $2,210
- Furnishing of Nuradzor village school - $16,790
- Furnishing of Arasat village school - $4,310
- Reconstruction & Furnishing of Khashararak village school - $558,770
- Computer room for Khashiararak village school - $26,250
- Communalis for Khashiartrak, Luaushovit and Lunalazar village schools - $6,300
- Furniture to 10,000 students in Armenia and Artsakh - $517,320
- Total: $1,307,970

Natural Gas
- Gasification of Aknaghbyur village - $55,300
- Gasification of Davitashen village - $148,610
- Gasification of Khashiartrak, Luaushovit villages - $269,030
- Total: $472,940

Health Care
- Humantarian aid to Gyumri Antimberean Center - $5,590
- Renovation of the maternity hall in St. Virgin medical center - $120,940
- Total: $126,530

Cultural and Social
- Equipments for Artsakh television - $87,510
- Construction of Taghope village Concert Hall - $5,120
- Fortification of "Mghilvik" children center building - $4,720
- Playground for Aknaghbyur village - $3,700
- Construction of Davitashen Community Center - $14,250
- Construction of Davitashen Community Center - $124,140
- Total: $239,440

Grand Total for 2009: $3,021,320

Ongoing

Water Networks
- Water-main for Mts Taghavir, Arasht and Duplitsk village - $805,520
- Reconstruction of Sooc village water supply system - $404,680
- Khashiartrak, Luaushovit, Davitashen water irrigation system reconstruction - $683,370
- Water supply system reconstruction for Aknaghbyur village - $218,320
- Water supply system reconstruction for Davitashen village - $352,730
- Total: $2,359,620

Agricultural Development
- Construction of Milk Collection Center in Davitashen village - $102,630
- Provision of seeds to Tavush villages in the frames of Agricultural Development program - $4,380
- Total: $115,160

Educational
- Furniture for Artsakh Schools - $358,870
- Reconstruction of the right-wing and sport building of the Togh School - $858,960
- Construction of Sports Hall in Spitak Town School N 2 - $263,160
- Construction of Vaghvus village school - $1,142,320
- Construction of Gdeh village school - $1,351,010
- Construction and Furnishing of Spitakashen village school - $532,220
- Construction of Charkar village school - $675,980
- Reconstruction of Artsakh State University roof - $34,360
- Construction of Stepanakert N 11 School - $2,623,690
- Total: $7,797,570

Roads
- Construction and asphalting of the road (1,9km) leading to Vaghvus Sch coo - $126,170
- Maintenance of Gors-Stepanakert 64.4 km road - $154,450
- Renovation of the access road to Hagharmun Monastery - $1,328,690
- Complex, construction of water supply, power transmission and gas supply systems - $1,609,310
- Total: $1,609,310

Health Care
- Construction of "Zangar" cardiology center in Gors - $778,690
- Reconstruction of Noyemberyan town hospital - $488,090
- Renovation of the Second Floor of the St. Virgin Medical Center Obstetric Department delivery ward - $219,850
- Total: $1,486,630

Cultural and Social
- Design and Setup of Artsakh TV and Radio Company’s official website - $27,160
- Construction of Cultural Center in Artik - $460,820
- Reconstruction of the events hall floors of Our Lady of Armenia Concert Sports and Culture Center - $40,590
- Construction of Aknaghbyur Community Center - $311,814
- Project “Ovres” – assistance to newborns - $786,384
- Total: $1,454,674

Grand Total for 2009: $14,154,674