

2 0 0 9 W I N T E R E D I T I O N

in the SMALL corners

FRIENDS OF WARM HEARTH, INC. NEWSLETTER



Sassoon

remains in the local clinic. In April, we will be bringing Erik, a specialist in crisis

management & assaultive behavior, to our home to complete a four-day training with our staff. It is with hesitancy *and* hope that we will consider bringing Sassoon home after this training. It is uncertain, as the future always is, but it is something we deeply care about. In the meantime, Sassoon is still receiving weekly visits from our Mental Health Specialist. She has begun to draw and paint with him during these times. These visits bring Sassoon a lot of encouragement. Anahid, our specialist, wrote that "he paints with great pleasure, even though during the conversation he repeats, 'when the car comes, I'll go home. When the car comes, I'll go home.'" We hope that this will be true for him this year. Please hope along with us and on behalf of this dear heart.

✕ Together Again ✕

After years apart, our residents find old friends in one another.

A JOYOUS SEASON OF CHANGE

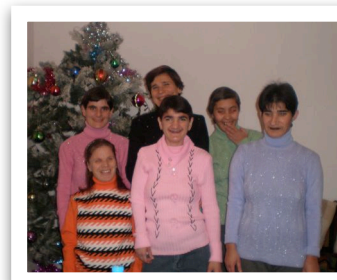
After almost three years of learning to live together, we knew that it would be a big change for our residents to welcome others into Warm Hearth. What we did not know was that this would be a joyous change for all of them. When I wrote to our director to ask how the homecoming had been for all involved, our director responded with the following email: "Natalie jan, I forgot to write that our resident were VERY happy because they all knew our new residents (from previous times in orphanages) and were very happy when they saw them. Our residents love them very much. I think that we couldn't even

have imagined that their reaction would be so good. So I think that everything will be very great." And she has proved to be correct. I called the home shortly after the

homecoming and could feel the peace in the voices of all those we now are honored to call "our own." Alya's email continued: "The most happy of all was Yulia because when she was in Nubarashen

O r p a h a n g e ,

Agappy (a new resident) cared for her and they lived in the same room. In a world where these whom we love are without a mother and father, this is as close as it gets to bringing family back together again.



Thank you

2008 friends, donors & volunteers

Thank you, to each of you, for making 2008 such a special year for our residents. It is an honor and joy to watch our family of supporters and residents grow, as each did in 2008. On both sides of the globe, people are our "home." We have

energetic and beautiful residents. We have an exceptional group of staff in Armenia and generous supporters here in the U.S. We have volunteers who give of time, energy and late-night hours. We have been given so much. This week we celebrate three years of being open. We celebrate a



renovated third floor and five new residents. We recognize that we have made steps forward and back. In all that has changed, what remains is our love for our residents. Together we share a commitment that widens to embrace a few more people, but remains rooted in the third village of Armenia. Again, thank you.



"Making Happiness" on Christmas

A dear family gave to our residents this year instead of exchanging gifts with one another. They generously provided gifts, feast food and a few decorations. When I called to speak with the residents during the celebration, there was so much excitement in their voices that I had to hold the phone far from my ear. These are the snippets I wanted to share with you who have provided such a haven for them. "There is snow on the ground. We have gifts. We have danced. We have sung. We have eaten and had many guests. *We have 'made happiness.'*" That is an incredible phrase to me. Joy is something they know how to bring

about. Sometimes it is a gift, pure & simple, but many times we create it. Alya, when writing about the Christmas party, said: "I know you thought about us & our party. I should tell you that everything was wonderful. The residents were very happy & very beautiful. Our music teacher taught them to sing so beautifully that if you heard them, I'm sure you would cry. They really have begun to sing very wonderfully. The only problem is that our camera didn't work, so I cannot send photos of the day. I think you should just imagine that day in your thoughts." And I ask each of you to do the same.

SUSTAINABILITY IS ANOTHER WORD FOR JUSTICE.

*Providing a home for
Armenian Orphans
with Disabilities*

**Your kindness
makes all the
difference.**

DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO:
FRIENDS OF WARM HEARTH
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Friends of Warm Hearth, Inc.
is a 501(c)(3)
charitable organization.



Thank you to Carl Van Dyke for representing Warm Hearth at the Armenians of the North Bay banquet.

Thanks to the Armenian Apostolic Church in Scottsdale, Arizona for hosting Warm Hearth at their annual bazaar.



Thanks to Harish Sathyan, a children's fantasy author who has donated a portion of his royalties to Warm Hearth.

2008 ANNUAL REPORTS

In order to save resources, we have opted to make our 2008 Annual Report available primarily online. It is located on our homepage at www.friendsofwarmhearth.org. Here you can read about our year, our accomplishments, our heartaches and our vision for the future. Full color copies are not available this year, but if you would like a black-and-white print copy, please contact us at any time. Full financial statements for 2008 are now available upon request. It is important to us to be transparent and efficient stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

Fundraising Update

**OUR DEEPEST
GRATITUDE
TO ALL THOSE
WHO MAKE
WARM HEARTH
POSSIBLE.**

FINANCIAL DETAILS
CAN BE PROVIDED
UPON REQUEST.

*Our 2009 Goals:
loving care for all
our residents.*

PLEASE CONSIDER
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WITH US.

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