

2 0 1 0 S U M M E R E D I T I O N

in the SMALL corners



FRIENDS OF WARM HEARTH, INC. NEWSLETTER

✧ Fullness of Summer ✧

Mapping Out Our Days

VOLUNTEERS & VISITORS



Alina

has been going to a university program for a year now where she studies carpet making. She is quite the artist, as

many of you know, and also enjoys needlework and painting. Diagnosed a couple of years ago with diabetes, she now has a treatment plan that has made her life and health much more manageable. Her sister, who lives nearby, still is not as much of a part of her life as she desires. We long for more restoration between them though the reality is that it is largely not up to us. Alina still has the same heart to serve and said recently that she would like to be able to help Yulia in everything. This desire to help is something we consider precious and hope to encourage in her and the other residents. Alina enjoys her life at Warm Hearth and especially the opportunities to go to church and concerts in the city.

Summertime brings with it not only trees ripe with fruit and our garden full of flowers but also visitors, parties, hours spent outdoors after the chill of winter has worn off, excursions, ice cream, and celebrations. Our home life tilts in the same direction as the earth and our days are lengthened. Our residents, who normally attend university classes, have more wide-open days. This summer we are welcoming a group of student volunteers from Arizona State University's Critical Languages Institute. The students will be in Armenia for three weeks to learn Armenian and during that time will volunteer some of their time to be

with our residents. They will work with Alya to develop activities that both the residents and volunteers will enjoy. It is our joy to welcome them into our home for a time. Each group and individual who shares in our home life is woven into the fabric of our story, introducing new colors and designs to the life we carefully build. Natalie will also be heading to Warm Hearth this summer for two weeks in August. That will be a time of sweet reunion, as always. Erik Logan will be in Armenia for a week during that time to conduct an additional staff training on behavior management. We have much to look forward to this summer.

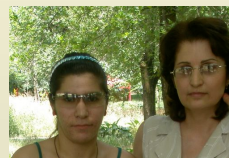


Onward Journey

Anna

In the springtime we wrote about how amazed and surprised we were to find Anna doing so well at home. It is tempting to say that we spoke too soon, as only a few weeks later, things began unraveling for her. But that is not quite true. The

truth is that she was doing well at home. And we *were* amazed and surprised. It was a very good year. There was so much grace in her being home. I suppose it is the nature of this work, and of being human that nothing stays the same. Our lives do not remain static. Our vision does not dictate a certain out-



come. In these coming weeks, while she is in the clinic yet again, we will continue to support her journey by considering how we can best care for her. Our staff has been vigilant about creating an environment in which Anna can flourish. We will continue this work on her behalf in the coming weeks.



Compassionate Next Steps

As word about Warm Hearth spreads in Armenia, we receive more inquiries from people who have a family member with a disability. They are discouraged from having walked this road alone for too long. While we are committed at this time to only taking residents who have been orphaned or abandoned, we have been struck by the lack of support that families have in regard to caring for their loved ones with disabilities. In an effort to prevent further institutionalization and respond to this need, we have considered for some time the possibility of opening a Day Center out of our home in 3rd Village that would be avail-

able to some of these individuals for a fee. We have a large basement with a separate entrance that may be used for the Day Center, thus preserving the privacy of our residents and their sense of "home," which is our priority. The addition of a Day Center would provide support to the families and individuals with disabilities, allow us to cultivate independence and financial stability with an income-generated project for Warm Hearth, and in general enable us to share our vision with the community. A project plan is being drafted at this time. It is exciting to consider the possibilities as we look forward to the future.

**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
PO BOX 4784
SUNNYSIDE, NY 11104

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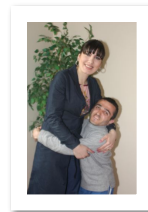
ONGOING STORIES

- We mentioned our former resident, Sargis, in past newsletters. He was in need of a home and work in the Yerevan area as he desired to live more independently. Thankfully he has found a small home to rent as well as work that is supporting him. We are grateful that he has been provided for and that he thrives.

- Our backyard garden is more beautiful than ever. The residents (especially Roman and Agappy) have worked hard. For the first time, we also planted flowers along the street in front.

NOTES & NECESSITIES

- A special thanks to Vartuhi Vartanyan and Juliet Setian for their translations and time.



- A special thanks to those who offered their time and help during Natalie's maternity leave, especially Katherine Larson and Jessica Barrett Simpson. Thanks to all of our donors and friends who were patient with us during this past season. We are now back in full swing!

*Everyone can do
something
to bring some
portion of misery
to an end.*

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

FINANCIAL DETAILS
CAN BE PROVIDED
UPON REQUEST.

*Our 2010 Goals:
loving care for all
our residents &
a solution for Sassoon.*

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