

WARM HEARTH

In the Small Corners

Arsen

Arsen (pictured below) is our most recent resident, who came to us after the death of his parents a year ago. After struggling initially to engage in any of the group activities, he recently told us that he now lives harmoniously at Warm Hearth. He has begun to go on group outings with the residents and participate in art classes with great joy. He enjoys drawing and making mosaics in our arts program. Of course, he misses his parents.

Quotables



love is a place & through this place of love move (with brightness of peace) all places. yes is a world & in this world of yes live (skillfully curled) all worlds. - e.e. cummings



Sleigh Bells Ring

Armenians celebrate Christmas and New Year (Nor Dari) with abandon. Their homes are full of family, friends and neighbors for the twelve days of Christmas (between Christmas and Epiphany). And our home is no different. Christmas and New Year are a time of celebration at Warm Hearth. We decorate a beautiful tree and overwhelm it with tinsel, decorations and lights. We participate in the feasts, songs and fullness of the season. Our staff labors with the residents to make platters and tables of food. With your support, our staff picks out meaningful and lovely gifts for each resident. Last year, Santa Claus even made an appearance at the home and handed out the gifts. Our residents were brimming over with excitement and happiness. It is a joy to create a life-giving Christmas for our dear residents who too often were forgotten and alone at this time of year in the past. Thank you for joining with us to make a space for joy and peace both in this season and through the year. May you experience joy and peace in your own homes and hearts, too.



Your kindness sustains our residents, our hearts and our home.

- Every year some friends in Colorado host the "January Art Show" to raise funds for our residents' arts program (pictured above). The SOAR-Colorado group is looking for raffle items for this January event. If you are going to be in the Colorado area, join us on Jan. 31, 2015, from 4-7 p.m. Contact us for details.
- Consider giving to our home on globalgiving.org for your year-end gift. Between December 1st and December 31st, if we are able to raise at least \$3,000 from at least 30 unique donors, then we will qualify for one of nine bonus awards. Search for our project on their website.

Our 2014 Goals: sustainable and loving care for our residents and a home that is increasingly independent.

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The Widest and Wisest View

Please keep our resident, Anna (pictured below left), in your heart this Christmas. After intense struggles in our home, she was staying in a short-term local psychiatric clinic. However, the clinic recently transferred her to an institution due to her behavior. While our staff will visit her once a month, she will not have the warmth and joy of our home this Christmas. Our hope and work is to bring her home and we are engaged in that work. While Anna is much more than a Cause, and while we cannot yet say whether this is a "lost cause", we take some solace in these words. *If we take the widest and wisest view of a Cause, there is no such thing as a Lost Cause, because there is no such thing as a Gained Cause. We fight for lost causes because we know that our defeat and dismay may be the preface to our successors' victory, though that victory itself will be temporary; we fight rather to keep something alive than in the expectation that it will triumph.* (T. S. Eliot). For Anna's sake, for all of our residents' sakes, and in honor of the dignity and humanity of all who suffer from mental illness, we continue to fight to keep Anna out of institutions. We continue to try to keep this dream alive. Please join us in whatever way you can.

