



# NARRATIVE PROJECT REPORT

## ART THERAPY FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN IJEVAN



**Donor:** SOCIETY FOR ORPHANED ARMENIAN RELIEF (SOAR) - ARMENIA

**Implementing partner:** SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ARMENIAN CHARITY FOUNDATION

**Project site:** SOS Children's Village Ijevan, Ijevan town

**Implementation period:** February 2024 - January 2025

**Reporting period:** 5, February 2024 – 5, May 2024



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

“SOS Children's Villages” Armenian Charity Foundation has been operating in Tavush region for 16 years. The foundation started its work with the Family Straightening Project. Two years later, in 2010, the SOS Children's Village Ijevan was opened to provide quality care to children and young people left without parental care. Currently, SOS Children's Village Ijevan Program provides Family Strengthening, Long-term and Short-term care, Foster Family and Day Care services to families and their children facing difficult life situations. At the Day Care center multidisciplinary services are also provided to children of displaced families from Artsakh.

Families in a difficult life situation face many problems in life, which negatively affect the socio-psychological stable development of their children. In SOS Children's Village Ijevan all conditions have been created for children to have a safe environment. Children have access to education and healthcare, reach their full potential through various activities.

Art therapy is a powerful tool that promotes children's development through self-expression and self-discovery, rooted in art and creative activity. Through art, they convey their feelings, fears, and hopes in a non-verbal way.

From February 2024 to January 2025, the second phase of the "Art Therapy for Vulnerable Children in Ijevan" project is being implemented in SOS Children's Village Ijevan. The project is already in its second year funded by SOAR-Armenia. The first phase was from November 1, 2022, to November 31, 2023.

The goal of the project is to assist in social inclusion of vulnerable children through art therapy.

In the scope of the project the following courses are organized and will last 10 months:

- Art and Craft workshop.
- Stained-glass workshop;

## 2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

### 2.1. Project description

During the reporting period of 5 February - 5 May 2024, classes were held twice a week, each lasting one hour. The Art and Craft classes took place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the Stained-glass classes on Wednesdays and Fridays, considering the participation of children in other hobby groups and extracurricular activities.

Some of the children have been involved in the project since last year. New children also joined the classes, depending on their ages. The children participated in the classes with great enthusiasm. The support from their more experienced peers was particularly valuable for newly admitted children. Their presence was elevating their confidence in their art work. At the beginning, children were mostly focused on creating their personal works and the development of their skills.

The psychologist and the workshop specialists collaborated on the ongoing activities. As a continuation of the Fairy tale therapy led by the psychologist, the children created fairy tale characters from cardboard during the Art and Craft classes. Children had chosen the heroes by themselves and had drawn and painted with their preferred colors. During the Book Festival event, they enjoyed a presentation of Hovhannes Tumanyan's fairy tale, featuring characters they had made themselves. This method will be used frequently during the Art Therapy project as the children seem to be quite interested and excited to show their works with a new format. On the



occasion of March 8, the children had made colorful cards and colored paper flowers for their caregivers, school teachers and friends.



During the reporting quarter, the children created many handicrafts and pictures, which are listed in Table 1:

Table 1. Children's works created during Art and Craft classes

Workshop	The name of the work	The quantity of works		Total
		Completed	Ongoing	
«Art and craft»	Fairy tale characters and illustrated scenes / from cardboard, with wooden sticks /	22	0	22
	Small miniature letters on canvas	5	0	5
	Work with Quilling papers	1	3	4
	Picture made using a knitting tool ROSE	1	0	1
	Cards (March 8, environmental, with stickers)	40	0	40
	Flowers, fishes from colored papers	45	0	45
	Color paintings on cardboard, canvas (NATURE, SEASONS, ANIMALS, BUTTERFLIES, CHURCH, CITY)	8	14	22
	Beaded bracelet	30	7	37
<b>Total</b>		<b>152</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>176</b>

During the Stained-Glass classes, the children enthusiastically created mandalas, flowers, trees, animals, churches, football players and many other pictures. They showed great interest in the art of painting on glass. New admitted children felt excited about the opportunity to learn a new art form and to express themselves creatively. The Stained-Glass paints have a unique smell, so it was decided to include children over 10 years old in the group, because younger children might find the smell unpleasant or be more sensitive to it. The younger children are looking forward turning 10 years old so that they can join the classes. Already experienced participants



strive to paint on larger sizes of glass, such as A3. Currently, they have started two A3 size works: a church and dolphins.



During the reporting quarter, the children created many pictures on glass, which are listed in Table 2:

Table 2. Children's works created during Stained-glass classes

Workshop	The name of the work	The quantity of works		Total
		Completed	Ongoing	
«Stained-glass»	Pictures on glass (without frames)			
	FLOWERS, TREES	5	2	7
	MANDALA	5	2	7
	ANIMALS, BIRDS	2	7	9
	FOOTBALL PLAYER	2	3	5
	LANDSCAPE	2	5	7
	CHURCH, OBELISK, CROSS	1	4	5
	BUTTERFLIES	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>42</b>

## 2.2. Project beneficiaries

During the reporting period, there were 48 participants in the workshops' classes:

- 34 children from the village;
- 14 children from the community.

The children from the community attend a Day Care Centre of Children's Village Ijevan, which provides services to children from families in difficult life circumstances. The inclusion of children from the community in the Art Therapy workshops emphasizes the socialization of children, which has a positive impact on the development of their social skills.

SOS Armenia continues to cover additional material costs for the workshops, caused by increase in the number of participant children.

Below please find the number and age group of children in each workshop.



Table 3. Project beneficiaries

<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Number of classes</b>	<b>Number of beneficiaries</b>	<b>Age group</b>
«Art and craft»	26 classes (26 hours total)	24 children (6 boys, 18 girls)	6-14 years
«Stained-glass»	26 classes (26 hours total)	24 children (10 boys, 14 girls)	10-17 years
<b>Total</b>	<b>52 classes (52 hours total)</b>	<b>48 children (16 boys, 32 girls)</b>	<b>6-17 years</b>

Some of the children enthusiastically participate in both classes, especially during the preparation of the fairy tale characters and cards.

### **2.3. Success story**

Hobby groups are usually organized in the village hall. Ani (the name of the child has been changed) did not hurry home after the end of the computer literacy classes; instead, she waited for the start of the Stained-glass class to watch the children create beautiful works. She was really impressed by their artwork and followed the process with great interest and happiness.

One day, she ran up to the coordinator and said: “You know, today is MY BIRTHDAY! I'm already 10 years old. Can I also take part in the classes?”

Since Ani had been eagerly awaiting this day for a long time, despite the group already being larger than planned, she was included. As the youngest participant in the group, she quickly learned the skills of painting on glass.

Currently, she is enthusiastically participating in classes and has her first work, a colorful mandala on glass.



### 3. BUDGET

The total expenses done during the reporting period are shown in the table 4.

Table 4. Project expenses

N	Main Budget Item		Unit	N of Units	Cost per units (AMD)	Total (AMD)	Expenses (AMD)				Total Expenses		Balance at 05.05.24 Cost (AMD)
							5 February 2024	March 2024	April 2024	5 May 2024	Cost	%	
1	Administration	Project Coordinator	Month	11	109,545	1,204,995	99,112	109,545	109,545	-	318,202	26%	886,793
2	Stained-glass workshop	Workshop specialist	Month	10	120,000	1,200,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	-	360,000	30%	840,000
		Materials	lumpsum	1	300,000	300,000	17,950	12,000	26,320	-	56,270	19%	243,730
3	Art and craft workshop	Workshop specialist	Month	10	120,000	1,200,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	-	360,000	30%	840,000
		Materials	lumpsum	1	200,000	200,000	15,000	18,750	21,200	-	54,950	27%	145,050
4	Organization of exhibition and master classes			1	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000
<b>Total</b>						<b>4,204,995</b>	<b>372,062</b>	<b>380,295</b>	<b>397,065</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,149,422</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>3,055,573</b>

The detailed information about monthly expenses done during the reporting period are shown in the table 5.

Table 5. Project expenses by months

Date	Description	Document	Total
21/02/24	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B3287359161	15,000
21/02/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B5505053458	14,000
21/02/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B9788316145	3,950
29/02/24	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - February 2024	99,112
29/02/24	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 29.02.2024	120,000
29/02/24	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustamyan/	Act - 29.02.2024	120,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /February 2024/</b>			<b>372,062</b>
25/03/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B3825018538	750
25/03/24	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B9733649633	1,400
29/03/24	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B2464560335	17,350
29/03/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B4766122431	11,250
29/03/24	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - March 2024	109,545
29/03/24	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 29.03.2024	120,000
29/03/24	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustamyan/	Act - 29.03.2024	120,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /March 2024/</b>			<b>380,295</b>
26/04/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N A4147342646	1,570
30/04/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B6298088938	24,750
30/04/24	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B4325996420	21,200
0/04/24	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - April 2024	109,545
30/04/24	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 30.04.2024	120,000
30/04/24	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustamyan/	Act - 30.04.2024	120,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /April 2024/</b>			<b>397,065</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /5 May 2024/</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /5 February – 5 May2024/</b>			<b>1,149,422</b>



Director G Tadevosyan

6 May 2024

