



# NARRATIVE PROJECT REPORT

## ART THERAPY FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN IJEVAN



**Funding:** 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:** 6 May 2024 – 5 Aug 2024



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The second phase of the «Art therapy for vulnerable children in Ijevan» project started in SOS Children's Village Ijevan on February 5, 2024. The project goal is "Assist in social inclusion of vulnerable children through art therapy".

The Art Therapy project is implemented with the financial support of SOAR-Armenia for a period of 1 year /from 05.02.2024 till 31.01.2025/.

Children enjoy participating in workshops, which help them resolve issues, manage behaviors and feelings, reduce stress, and improve self-esteem and awareness. The project promotes calmness and emotional well-being, allowing children to express themselves creatively and safely. Additionally, it enhances social skills by providing a supportive environment where children learn to appreciate differences between people and accept each individual's perceptions.

The following courses are organized within the framework of the project:

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

## 2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

### 2.1. Project description

During the reporting quarter "Stained-glass" and "Art and Craft" classes were organized twice a week, each lasting one hour. According to the procedures established in SOS Children's Village Ijevan, the hobby groups or other courses organized for children do not operate during the children's summer vacation period /1 calendar month, July 2024/. The Art and Craft classes took place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the Stained-glass classes on Wednesdays and Fridays, considering children's involvement in other hobby groups and extracurricular activities.

The overall duration of the courses is 10 months, they will be completed at the end of December 2024. In January 2025 it is planned to organize an exhibition where the children will present their handiworks and master classes for 30 workshop participants and another 30 children invited from the community.

Art therapy workshops help children express their emotions, enhance self-awareness, and build coping skills. These classes also boost self-esteem and confidence as children create and take pride in their artwork. The workshops' specialists collaborate with psychologist on ongoing activities to support the emotional and psychological well-being of children. During the reporting period, in addition individual tasks, the children enthusiastically participated in group work.





During the Art and craft classes enthusiastically wove colorful bracelets and gave them as gifts to their friends, schoolmates. The children enjoyed assembling pictures with rhinestones and made small brooches. This quarter, a new activity was introduced: in addition to assembling ready-made Diamond Painting sets or mosaics, they applied double-sided tape to their chosen images and created small brooches, charms.

The children also continued to create fairy-tale characters from cardboard. During the reported period, they mainly focused on painting nature-themed scenes for their heroes.

During the event dedicated to June 1, the children in the group painted pigeons, wrote their wishes, and organized a flash mob. They enjoyed the collaborative process, which boosted their confidence and fostered lasting friendships.

During the 2 months of 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 /	5	1	6
	Small miniature letters on canvas	0	1	1
	Work with Quilling papers	3	0	3
	Diamond Painting sets or mosaics	2	1	3
	Small brooches, charms	60	5	65
	Gobelin picture of animal	1	2	3
	Color paintings on cardboard, canvas ( THE BOAT IN THE SEA, HORSE, SWANS, ANIMALS, CHURCHES, NATURE, SEASONS, CHURCH, CITY)	7	10	17
	Beaded bracelet	10	4	14
<b>Total</b>		<b>88</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>112</b>

During the Stained-Glass classes, the children showed great interest in creating larger paintings while working with their peers. They painted mandalas, churches, nature, animals, football players and many other artworks.

The workshop provided an opportunity for children to collaborate with their friends, sharing ideas and helping each other with challenging tasks. This interaction fostered a sense of community and improved their social skills.





During the 2 months of 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	2	3	5
	MANDALA	1	3	4
	ANIMALS, BIRDS	3	4	7
	FOOTBALL PLAYER	2	2	4
	LANDSCAPE, SEA, GIRL, MOON, FRUITS	2	3	5
	CHURCH, OBELISK, CROSS	1	2	3
	BUTTERFLIES	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>

## 2.2. Project beneficiaries

Throughout the reporting period, the workshop classes had 48 participants instead of the planned 30:

- 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 supports children from families in difficult life circumstances by providing multidisciplinary services. Their involvement in the classes plays an important role in the social integration of the children from the village. 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

Workshop	Number of classes	Number of beneficiaries	Age group
«Art and craft»	16 classes (16 hours total)	24 children (6 boys, 18 girls)	6-15 years
«Stained-glass»	16 classes (16 hours total)	24 children (10 boys, 14 girls)	10-17 years
<b>Total</b>	<b>32 classes (32 hours total)</b>	<b>48 children (16 boys, 32 girls)</b>	<b>6-17 years</b>

Some of the children from the village participate in both classes with great enthusiasm, they enjoy creative activities and spending time with their friends.





### 2.3. Success story

In the village hall an Arts and crafts class was underway, and from outside, Armen's (the name of the child has been changed) loud voice could be heard as he argued with a friend. Armen is a member of the workshop group, but due to his behavioral issues, he doesn't always join the classes on time. Sometimes, it requires the intervention of a psychologist, the workshop specialist, or a close family member to ensure his participation. However, once he is settled at the table, he enthusiastically engages in the group activities.

"Let me see if I can persuade my brother to join us," said Armen's sister, who was making a keychain at that moment. She went to calm her brother and involve him in the activity. She took a small keychain with her and showed it to Armen.

"I made this for you. Do you like it? Will you help me with threading the string for the keychain?" she asked his brother. Armen liked it and joined the session with his sister. Attending the classes helps Armen overcome his behavioral issues, interact with other children, and create together different beautiful things. That day Armen not only made keychain, but also beautiful bracelet from colorful, sparkling stones and managed to gift them to his classmate.



### 3. BUDGET

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

Table 4. Project expenses

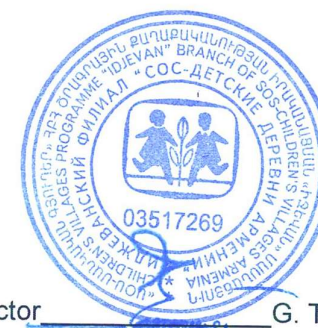
N	Main Budget Item		Unit	N of Units	Cost per units (AMD)	Total (AMD)	Balance at 05.05.24	Expenses (AMD)			Total Expenses 6 May- 5 Aug 2024		Balance at 05.08.24
							Cost (AMD)	6-31 May 2024	June 2024	July 2024*- 5 Aug 2024	Cost	%	Cost (AMD)
1	Administration	Project Coordinator	Month	11	109,545	1,204,995	886,793	109,545	109,545	-	219,090	18%	667,703
2	Stained-glass workshop	Workshop specialist	Month	10	120,000	1,200,000	840,000	120,000	120,000	-	240,000	20%	600,000
		Materials	lumpsum	1	300,000	300,000	243,730	29,280	14,640	-	43,920	15%	199,810
3	Art and craft workshop	Workshop specialist	Month	10	120,000	1,200,000	840,000	120,000	120,000	-	240,000	20%	600,000
		Materials	lumpsum	1	200,000	200,000	145,050	20,100	20,150	-	40,250	20%	104,800
4	Organization of exhibition and master classes			1	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	100,000
<b>Total</b>						<b>4,204,995</b>	<b>3,055,573</b>	<b>398,925</b>	<b>384,335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>783,260</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>2,272,313</b>

\* According to the procedures established in SOS Children's Village Ijevan, the hobby groups or other courses organized for children do not operate during the children's summer vacation period /1 calendar month/

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
<b>May 2024</b>			
28/05/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N A5694913652	2,780
29/05/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B3359777142	26,500
29/05/24	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B8481189104	20,100
31/05/24	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - May 2024	109,545
31/05/24	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 31.05.2024	120,000
31/05/24	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustaman/	Act - 31.05.2024	120,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /May 2024/</b>			<b>398,925.0</b>
<b>June 2024</b>			
06/06/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N A1779161312	2,140.0
25/06/24	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B9031894560	12,500.0
25/06/24	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B8712017996	20,150.0
28/06/24	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - June 2024	109,545
28/06/24	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 28.06.2024	120,000
28/06/24	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustaman/	Act - 28.06.2024	120,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /June 2024/</b>			<b>384,335</b>
<b>July 2024 - 5 August 2024</b>			<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /July – 5 Aug 2024/</b>
			<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES /6 May – 5 Aug 2024/</b>			<b>783,260</b>



Director G. Tadevosyan

5 Aug 2024