



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 Nov 2024 – 31 Jan 2025



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1. INTRODUCTION

Group art therapy is especially important for children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it, as it provides emotional support, social connection, and a safe space for self-expression. Through creative activities, they can process difficult emotions, reduce stress, and develop confidence. Creating artworks with their friends also helps them build communication skills, teamwork, and a sense of belonging, which are essential for their emotional and social development.

Thanks to the financial support of SOAR-Armenia, the «Art Therapy for Vulnerable Children in Ijevan» project was implemented at SOS Children's Village Ijevan from February 2024 to January 2025. This is the second year that the project has been carried out at the village. The first phase was from November 1, 2022, to November 30, 2023.

The project goal is «Assist in social inclusion of vulnerable children through art therapy».

In the scope of the project, the following courses have been organized and lasted for 10 months.

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

2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

2.1. Project description

During the first two months of the reporting quarter (November 6, 2024 – January 31, 2025), the workshop classes continued to be held twice a week. In the final month, the children made some adjustments to their artworks to give them a more presentable look and presented them at an exhibition organized at the end of the month.

The Art and Craft classes took place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the Stained-glass classes on Wednesday and Thursday. During the sessions, a psychologist is also involved, guiding the children in various creative activities based on their individual characteristics. Throughout the project, the children also engaged in mandala art, which helped them explore their inner strengths.

During the reporting quarter, the children in the Art and Craft workshop were engaged in painting, making gypsum figures and tapestry weaving. In the final month, they mainly focused on creating New Year and Christmas decorations and designing greeting cards. They created two large wooden 3D oval paintings, which they proudly sent to be presented at the international festival called Christmas Dream.





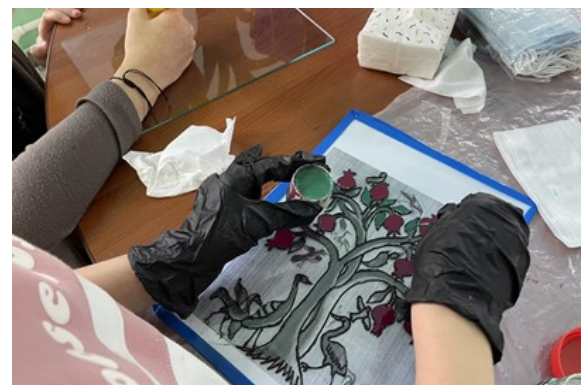
During the two months of the reporting quarter, the children completed numerous handicrafts and artworks, which are listed in Table 1:

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

Workshop	The name of the work	The quantity of works
«Art and craft»	Fairy tale characters and illustrated scenes / from cardboard, with wooden sticks /	3
	Diamond Painting sets or mosaics	3
	Small brooches, charms beaded bracelet	22
	Gobelin pictures	2
	Color paintings on cardboard, canvas (ANIMALS, CHURCHES, NATURE)	8
	Gypsum 3D figures (fish, man, rabbit)	10
	Embroidery painting	2
	Plasticine 3D pictures	22
	Posters (Daily routines, aquarium)	2
	Christmas wooden decorations	10
	Christmas cards	55
Total		139

During the Stained-Glass workshop the children have continued painting Armenian ornaments on glass throughout November and December, using vibrant colors and incorporating Artsakh-inspired themes to give their artwork deeper cultural significance.

They also enthusiastically learned the glass contouring technique, using it to create New Year decorations from small glass pieces. They were especially excited to decorate the Christmas tree with the beautiful glass ornaments they had made. While working in a group, they also refined their previous artworks, including pieces on the theme “Artsakh in My Eyes”, as well as depictions of churches, nature scenes, Tiffany-style toys and souvenirs, flowers, trees, animals, mandalas, and football players. During group activities, the children supported one another, offering guidance on color selection and assisting in refining the details.





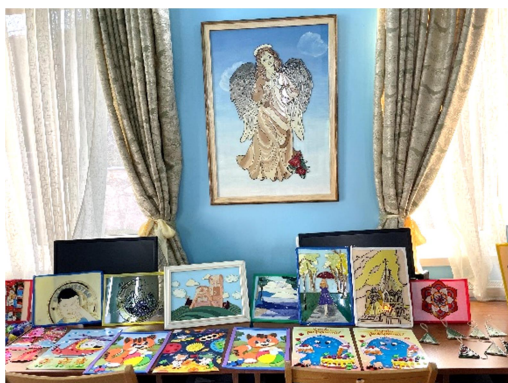
During the two months of the reporting quarter, the children completed several glass paintings and souvenirs, which are listed in Table 2:

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

Workshop	The name of the work	The quantity of works
«Stained-glass»	Pictures on glass (without frames)	
	Pictures on the theme of “Artsakh in My Eyes”, churches	3
	Armenian ornaments	4
	Nature scenes	6
	Tiffany-style toys and souvenirs	3
	Flowers, trees, animals	4
	Mandala	2
	Football player	3
Total		25

In January, the children actively prepared for the exhibition of their works and master classes, which took place on the 29th.

The children were incredibly excited to share their skills with the children invited from the community, seeing it as a wonderful opportunity. A total of 64 children participated in the master classes, 34 of whom were regular participants of the workshops, while the remaining 30 were children facing difficult life situations, invited from the community. During the master classes, the workshop participants eagerly shared their knowledge with the invited children and they created beautiful handmade crafts together. Everyone was enthusiastic about the creative process, and at the end, they proudly presented their works at the exhibition.



2.2. Project beneficiaries

During the reporting period, the number of children participating in the courses remained unchanged, with a total of 48 participants, exceeding the planned number of 30:

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



Children from the community attend the Day Care Centre at SOS Children's Village Ijevan, which offers various support services to children from families experiencing difficult life situations. Their involvement in these classes plays a crucial role in promoting social integration. Due to the growing number of participants, SOS Children's Village Ijevan continues to cover the additional material costs for the workshops.

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
Total	32 classes (32 hours total)	48 children (16 boys, 32 girls)	6-17 years

Some children from the village were impressed by their participation in both the workshops and creative activities, enjoying the chance to express themselves through art and spend time with their friends. Their involvement helps create a supportive environment where they can develop their creativity and build strong social connections.

2.3. Success story

(The name of the child has been changed)

Monika is one of the children who lost parental care at a very young age and faced a difficult journey in life. In the SOS Children's Village, she was given the opportunity to overcome the traumas she had experienced. Participating in Art therapy classes was one of those steps. Through art therapy, she learned to overcome her fears and worries.

Monika was registered in the Stained-glass group, but she never missed a chance to join the Art and craft classes as well. She enthusiastically participated in both Art therapy workshops, enjoying the process of painting and creating artworks. She loved drawing and often imagined pictures of Angels. One day, she said, "I want to draw an Angel on glass, but a very big one, to protect all the children."

It took several months to complete her work, but she never gave up. Together with her friends, they decided to hang the Angel in the village hall so that it could as they said "protect everyone". She believed that the Angel in her picture would bring safety and peace not just to her, but to all the children living in the village.



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 05.11.24	Expenses (AMD)			Total Expenses 6 Nov 2024 - 31 Jan 2025		Balance at 31.01.25
							Cost (AMD)	6-31 Nov 2024	December 2024	January 2025	Cost	%	Cost (AMD)
1	Administration	Project Coordinator	Month	11	109,545	1,204,995	339,068	109,545	109,545	109,545	328,635	99%	10,433*
2	Stained-glass workshop	Workshop specialist	Month	10	120,000	1,200,000	240,000	120,000	120,000	-	240,000	100%	-
		Materials	lumpsum	1	300,000	300,000	78,657	-	78,654	-	78,654	100%	3
3	Art and craft workshop	Workshop specialist	Month	10	120,000	1,200,000	240,000	120,000	120,000	-	360,000	100%	-
		Materials	lumpsum	1	200,000	200,000	45,450	-	45,450	-	45,450	100%	-
4	Organization of exhibition and master classes			1	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	17,400	82,607	100,007	100%	-7
	Materials for workshops*			-	-	-	-	-	10,430	-	10,430*	-	-10430*
Total						4,204,995	1,043,175	349,545	501,479	192,152	1,043,176		-1

* Remained amount 10,433 AMD (Approved by SOAR Armenia on 22.12.2024: to buy materials for workshops.

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
26.11.2024	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - November 2024	109,545
26.11.2024	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 29.11.2024	120,000
26.11.2024	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustaman/	Act - 29.11.2024	120,000
TOTAL EXPENSES /November 2024/			349,545
19.12.2024	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B2973716196	45,750
19.12.2024	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B9988471001	20,000
19.12.2024	Materials for Organization of exhibition	invoice N B8421395498	4,500
20.12.2024	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B8681555411	2,000
23.12.2024	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N A3519292794	2,394
23.12.2024	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - December 2024	109,545
23.12.2024	Contract salary - Art and craft workshop specialist /Marine Markosyan/	Act - 30.12.2024	120,000
23.12.2024	Contract salary - Stained-glass workshop specialist /Zaruhi Arustaman/	Act - 30.12.2024	120,000
25.12.2024	Materials for Organization of exhibition	invoice N A5309156947	1,800
25.12.2024	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B8101806804	22,450
27.12.2024	Materials for Art and craft workshop	invoice N B4576053066	3,000
27.12.2024	Remained amount 10,433 AMD. Approved by SOAR on 22.12.2024	invoice N B4046757183	10,430
27.12.2024	Materials for Organization of exhibition	invoice N B3369239852	11,100
27.12.2024	Materials for Stained-glass workshop	invoice N B3671390846	28,510
TOTAL EXPENSES December 2024/			501,479
27.01.2025	Salary - Art therapy project coordinator /Ashkhen Khachatryan/	Additional Salary - January 2025	109,545
27.01.2025	Materials for Organization of exhibition	invoice N A6459712640	2,902
29.01.2025	Materials for Organization of exhibition	invoice N B5585246883	3,055
29.01.2025	Materials for Organization of exhibition	invoice N B4388254476	76,650
TOTAL EXPENSES /January 2025/			192,152
TOTAL EXPENSES /November 2024 - January 2025/			1,043,176

Director  G. Tadevosyan
31 January 2025