

2 0 1 0 W I N T E R E D I T I O N

in the SMALL corners



FRIENDS OF WARM HEARTH, INC. NEWSLETTER

✧ Celebrations & Feasts ✧

Christmas & New Year's at Warm Hearth

PARTAKING OF YEREVAN TRADITIONS

Thanks to all of you & to four donors who specifically designated gifts for the season, we were able to provide our residents with what they once again deemed "the best Christmas of their lives." We are tempted to believe them as this year they partook of Yerevan Christmas & New Year's traditions like never before. They began the season making Christmas cards to sell to the public, which was a successful endeavor. Their handwork is becoming more & more beautiful all the time. They are proud to share their gifts with the community. Yerevan has many special holiday theaters during the season & our residents were able to

attend two theatrical productions. They also joined most of Yerevan in an evening trek to the city square which is draped in Christmas lights. I can just picture them in that sparkling winter air. Of course, they also had many guests to their home, & feasted with them on the traditional Armenian foods & sweets. As you can see, the integration that our residents are experiencing with the larger community of Yerevan continues to improve. This is due in part to the stability of our residents & also to the confidence of our staff. We are so proud of the ways that our staff and residents resist the societal obstacles & learn to rise above them.



Agappy

is another one of our newer residents, though it has now been over a year that she has been in our

home. Agappy is a creature of habit and enjoys her routines and doing what she has always loved to do, which is gardening and dancing. She is usually quite content, especially when doing any sort of physical work and when outdoors. This is harder to come by in the winter, so she particularly enjoys the physical education courses at the local university. During last spring and summer, she worked hard on our Warm Hearth garden and she enjoys bringing beauty to others. Agappy has a sweet smile, as you can see. She has had a hard life and experienced a lot of abuse in her past. We hope that as time passes at Warm Hearth that she will experience healing in the safety and consistency of our home.

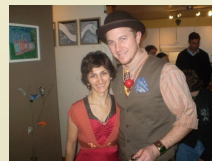


Another's Eyes

Maria & Charlie

Maria and Charlie are two friends of Warm Hearth from Colorado. Maria is Armenian and both of them have international experience with - and hearts for - people with disabilities. Charlie is also an artist and each year for their birthdays, they invite

friends over to auction his artwork. This year they also included the residents' pieces. The proceeds have benefited our residents for the last two years, for which we are so grateful. Maria wrote about the event recently and said, "I am so pleased with this year's Art Show. It was the best and most successful. We had 25



wonderful people in a cozy and fun atmosphere. Everyone was very happy and full of energy...The Warm Hearth DVD touched everyone's heart in the room and brought tears to some people's eyes. We sold everything the residents made and if possible, next year we would love to have more art from them!"



Protest That Endures

At the beginning of each year, we reflect on what lies ahead. We rejoice for all that has been given us, including each of you. We celebrate what has been done. We acknowledge what has been left undone. When you are steeped in human stories, with their intricacies & complications, the work is never really done. We opened four years ago this month. In that time we have added new residents & felt our hearts expand in the process. We have seen our residents grow & blossom. We have seen them fight unseen battles. We have tried to stay with them in their journeys toward wholeness & healing, remembering & relating their jour-

neys to our own. We have fought hard for further integration in the community & seen some of those battles won. I am struck by how far we have come & simultaneously how we continue the same work as the very first day. I think that means that there is a deep conviction among us all that this work is valuable & that we should continue on. Wendell Berry said, "Protest that endures is moved by a hope far more modest than that of public success; namely, the hope of preserving qualities in one's heart & spirit that would be destroyed by acquiescence." In our case, preserving those qualities in ourselves also serves and sustains our residents.

**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

(480) 921-1181

WWW.FRIENDSOFWARMHEARTH.ORG

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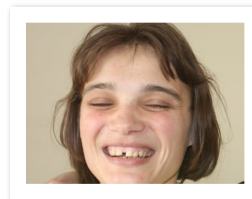
SARGIS

One of our newer residents, Sargis, is in need of a home in or near Yerevan or Parakyar, Armenia. He is able to live more independently than most of our residents and desires this change for himself. If you know of any organization or individual in Armenia that would be willing to consider providing a home to Sargis, please let us know. In addition, he is looking for work and is talented working with his hands. He also enjoys working with wood on a more artistic level. Thank you for considering Sargis.

NOTES & NECESSITIES

- A 2009 Annual Report was recently printed & can be ordered by writing, calling or emailing Friends of Warm Hearth. A color version can also be viewed online.

- Apologies to any of you who have had checks or correspondence returned to you due to our recent change of address. Our updated address is: **PO Box 4784; Sunnyside, NY 11104.**



- We are looking for contacts in Armenian communities in the Northeast. Please contact us if you have any ideas.

*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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