

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

in the SMALL corners



FRIENDS OF WARM HEARTH, INC. NEWSLETTER

✧ Ground is Broken ✧

Life-Changing Ideas for Backyard Space

THE GARDEN HOUSE

In September, we reported our newly-laid plans to build a garden house. The garden house will be a small and simple building in our backyard (design pictured here). In the beginning, it will provide a structure and a safe place to care for our residents with more intense needs. Anna and Sassoon, two of our residents who have been in clinics, are the inspiration for this garden house. Though there have been delays, construction is now underway and we hope to be ready to welcome Anna and Sassoon home in March of 2012. Our vision is that the home be a transitional space for any residents with special needs whether that be Anna and Sassoon in their

transition from the clinic, a resident who is looking to increase his or her independent living skills, or a volunteer who would benefit the residents by staying onsite. We are so grateful for this opportunity and the possibilities it holds for our residents. In the meantime, we are also finishing our basement and making it a therapeutic and welcoming place where any resident can take some time away from the larger group to rest, relax, or be calmed. We are hopeful that these changes, along with behavior planning, and a new staffing structure will be the keys to a successful transition home for Anna and Sassoon.



Agappy

has lived at Warm Hearth since 2008. Every time I call Warm Hearth, I can hear the smile on her face

beaming through

her voice. She always excitedly practices a few English words and phrases that she has been studying at Yerevan State Humanity College. But English is not her favorite subject. She enjoys the gardening classes most and misses them when school is not in session. She also has many friends at the college. Friendships are very important to her and a central part of her life. She loves to dance and often dances as a counterpart to other residents' songs. Agappy's needs are a bit more camouflaged than the other residents but our staff now know her strengths, which are many, and her needs. They care for her with tenderness and there is trust between them. We are so grateful that she is a part of our home.



West Coast

Awareness-Raising Trip

In October I traveled to California to see many of you, our supporters. I came to share the ongoing story of Warm Hearth. I came that we might draw strength from your care and concern. And we did. I am grateful to all that extended their hands

and hearts. Thanks to Vartuhi Vartanyan and her family for hosting a dinner circle in their home (pictured here). It was a beautiful night to gather around a table in honor of our residents. Whether at St. Vartan's bazaar, Hovsepian School, the office of Archbishop Derderian, or the living rooms of my hosts and friends, I

was struck by how our residents are held and sustained by so many gentle hands. I saw that, in turn, we are also held by the residents and the hopefulness of their stories, the way that they begin again and again, and the way that together they walk the long road toward fullness despite the many obstacles.





In Another's Eyes - by Juliet Setian

Being a part of the Warm Hearth family has been a tremendous gift to me. I have learned much from the residents and have been changed by them in many ways. For instance, I admire their patience--with their own lives, with God, with the world and with others (one could even say their faithfulness--to their lives, to the world, to God and to others). In the face of so much sadness, patiently they continue to celebrate each others' birthdays, to create

beautiful things with their hands, to plant and harvest in their garden. So Warm Hearth, for me, is a place of hope and renewal. And I can't wait to meet all of them one day. *[Juliet grew up in Armenia but has lived much of her life in the United States. She is a supporter of Warm Hearth on many levels -- as a donor, a volunteer, a translator, a host of dinners and events and as a representative of Warm Hearth in her community. She lives in Irvine, California with her husband and two children.]*

**SUSTAINABILITY
IS ANOTHER
WORD FOR
JUSTICE.**

*Providing a home for
Armenian Orphans
with Disabilities*

**Your kindness
makes all the
difference.**

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NOTES & NEEDS

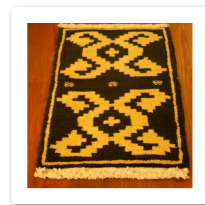
- Year-end receipts will be mailed with the 2011 Annual Report by the 1st of February. If you need yours earlier, please contact us.

- Thanks to Rafi & Tamar for advocating that the proceeds from the 7th Thanksgiving Eve Armenian Fair in NYC go to our residents.



- We are still in need of a few volunteers to help translate a dense document from English to Eastern Armenian.

- Our residents created an exhibit of their traditional carpet-making (pictured below). The Prime Minister of Armenia attended the exhibit as well as other Ministers.



- Our residents and staff hosted an open-house for government officials, nonprofit managers, neighbors and friends. Our home was full and many new people learned about our work.

- It has been brought to our attention that some of our website content has been stolen. Please donate online through our official website only: www.friendsofwarmphearth.org. Thank you.

*Everyone can do
something
to bring some
portion of misery
to an end.*

**OUR DEEPEST
GRATITUDE
TO THOSE OF YOU
WHO MAKE
WARM HEARTH
POSSIBLE.**

FINANCIAL DETAILS
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UPON REQUEST.

*Our 2011 Goals
sustainable & loving care
for our residents,
and a solution for
Anna & Sassoon*

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