Rural Development Program Funded by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Launched

On January 31, 2014 launched a rural development program funded by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) - the Advanced Rural Development Initiative (ARDI) program.

The Advanced Rural Development Initiative Program (ARDI) builds on the successful collaboration between Fuller Center for Housing Armenia and Heifer International Armenia and their broad knowledge of the target regions.

John Heffern, the United States Ambassador to Armenia noted that launch of the program is a serious input into the process of the development of rural communities in Armenia. Through this program small and medium entrepreneurship, infrastructures and system of governance will be developed in rural communities.

Vahe Sardaryan, the Chief of Party of the ARDI program said that the program will directly enhance the ability of more than 5,000 people from at least 48 rural communities of Armenia (in the regions of Lori, Vayots Dzor, and Syunik) to utilize the opportunities and advantages available for economic development. ARDI will build the capacity of at least 500 (potential) entrepreneurs, specifically youth and women regarding entrepreneurship related knowledge and skills.

During the lifetime of the program, approximately 125 startup businesses will be established, of which 100 will be youth and women driven. Furthermore, the program will support 15 existing businesses, including rural (farmer’s) cooperatives, which will help improve the economic base of their communities and create additional employment opportunities. Cumulatively, around 1200 short and long term rural employment opportunities will be created as a result of the ARDI program.

“Now we are speaking about possible predictions of the program hoping that five years later we will talk about tangible results” in his opening remarks shared Ashot Yeghiazaryan, the president of the Fuller Center for Housing Armenia.

“ARDI program is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of this publication are the responsibility of ARDI and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.”

Vahe Sardaryan
Chief of Party of the ARDI Program

www.fullercenterarmenia.org
When Life Changes its Grey Colours into Brighter Ones.  
A Story of a Young Mother!

“...can’t even compare the life we lived before with the one we live now. For a young family like us this change was vital. The life has changed its grey colours into brighter ones for our family. Maybe I wouldn’t have believed if someone else has told me that miracles like this happen. But we ourselves were the eyewitnesses of the bright changes in our life. 2013 was and will ever stay memorable in our lives. With the help of the Fuller Center for Housing Armenia and the generous supporters we finally have a home. I will never forget how my three years old son was trying to raise the buckets full of concrete at the construction site, as if he understood the vital change that was happening in our life and wanted to be a part of it. For a long time we have been living with my husband’s parents and brother - seven people in a very small house. For a young and growing family to have a home of its own is of vital importance, but we couldn’t finish the construction of our half-built house due to the financial difficulties and the needs of two small growing children. Now we will do our best to provide our children with sustainable future as we already have the basis for it. This winter was warmer and full of laughter in our new home. Would like to thank all the supporters. Let many other families enjoy the happiness of having their own homes.”

~ Lilit, 25 years old mother of two children (three and four years old) from Aragatsotn region the village of Kaka-vadzor, FCHA partner family

Three teams from Eastern and Western Dioceses of Armenian Apostolic Church did tremendous work on the construction of this family house - a team from St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church, led by Fr. Hrach Sargsyan, and a team from the Armenian Service Program, led by Fr. Abraham Malkhasyan, from Eastern Diocese and the Christian Youth Mission to Armenia team, led by Fr. Avedis Abovian from Western Diocese, for which the family expresses its deepest appreciation.

New Projects for 2014

Commemorating the 100th ANNIVERSARY of the Armenian Genocide by building and renovating homes for 100 NEEDY AND DESERVING FAMILIES.

FCHA and Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh) Join Forces to Help Low Income Families in Need of Safe and Decent Homes

To support our programs, please make online donation through our website:

www.fullercenterarmenia.org/get-involved/donate

Or send a check to: The Fuller Center for Housing, PO Box 523, Americus, GA, 31709, USA

Please add “Armenia” in the memo line

For “Honoring 100 years by saving 100 families” project please add “Armenia-100”

For Artsakh Project, please add “Armenia-Artskakh”

Donations are tax-deductible.

THANK YOU

www.fullercenterarmenia.org

2014 Schedule for Global Builders Open Teams

June 22 - July 6, team leader, Cynthia Erickson VANAZDOR
July 16 - July 28, team leader Leo Manuelian YEREVAN
August 16 - August 30, team leaders, Boots and Ramsay Walker YEREVAN

To join one of the GB teams, please send an e-mail to: volunteer@fullercenterarmenia.org