

Bridges

FROM POVERTY AND DESPAIR
TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND HOPE

JINISHIAN MEMORIAL PROGRAM

annual gratitude report

RESTORING HEALTH AND
HAPPINESS IN A MORE
PEACEFUL SYRIA

YOUNG PEOPLE GAIN FREEDOM
TO WORK AND TO LEAD
WITHOUT FEAR IN ARMENIA

PERSONAL SUPPORT IN LEBANON
STRENGTHENS FAMILIES WITH
HOPE FOR A BETTER FUTURE

ARMENIA MISSION TOUR
INVITES YOU ON A JOURNEY OF
CULTURE AND OUTREACH





GENEROSITY IS A BRIDGE

...from poverty and despair to self-sufficiency and hope.

For those who see no way out, the Jinishian Memorial Program works to provide opportunities. We help people to flourish, to restore their dignity, and to find a way across the obstacles separating them from a full life.

Your gifts become a bridge for struggling Armenian communities to discover their own gifts and purpose.

As partners, we're getting at the roots of poverty, building up farms, businesses, health and faith. Local teams see this impact every day. We hope you'll share these stories with as much pride as we do.



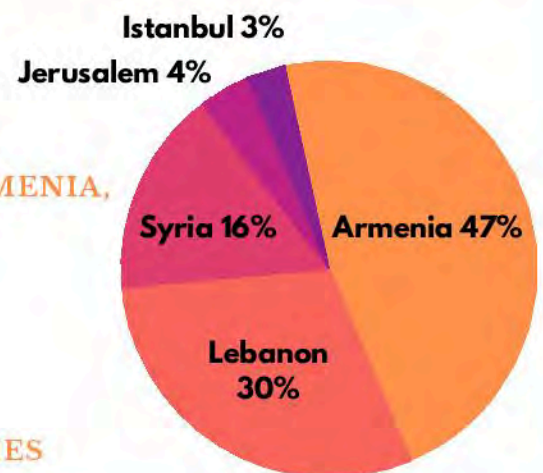
**"AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A GIFT,
USE IT TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER,
AS GOOD STEWARDS OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE."**

1 Peter 4:11

\$1.04 MILLION EMPOWERED LOCAL FAITH & COMMUNITY LEADERS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2018

70,000 PEOPLE WERE SERVED IN ARMENIA, ARTSAKH, GEORGIA, ISRAEL, LEBANON, SYRIA & TURKEY

100% LOCAL TEAMS FOUND CREATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE GREATEST NEEDS IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES



JMP INVITES YOU ON A

Mission Tour

OF ARMENIA



SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 6, 2019

Visit village families, farmers and student leaders. Explore ancient treasures and witness a modern revolution. Come alongside the diverse change-makers who are revitalizing their communities.

See faith in action through different church traditions. This journey of culture and outreach builds mutual trust and a sense that we are not alone in our struggles.

**Beautiful Armenia ...
brave new republic,
ancient Christian homeland,
a people of promise.**

"When you think of Armenia, what do you think of?"

asked Dr. Tamar Wasoian. She served on the JMP Board in Aleppo, Syria and as a 2016 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) International Peacemaker on the Syria-Lebanon Partnership Network and Middle East Task Force. She said most people think of the Kardashians, Cher and Noah's Ark.

"I'd like them to know more," Wasoian said. "We have so many firsts in our history. Well, obviously we had the first vineyard that Noah planted after the flood. We are the first people to accept Christianity as a state religion [301 AD]. Armenia was the first state to break away from the Soviet Union [Sept. 21, 1991].

"We also have a sad first in our history," she said. "We experienced the first genocide of the 20th century." Wasoian's grandparents escaped the Armenian genocide, a massacre of 1.5 million Armenians and displacement of one million more from 1915 until the 1920s.

"Just a few months ago, we lived our 'velvet revolution.' This was one of, if not the only, successful revolutions in the region," Wasoian said. "There is no place you can turn and not realize the connection we have with our history and heritage. The accomplishment of revolution in such positive terms adds to our pride and doubles our responsibilities in building our nation."

**excerpt from Tammy Warren, Presbyterian News Service*





FREEDOM IS A BRIDGE

...from poverty and despair to self-sufficiency and hope.

Armenia's "velvet revolution" made history when peaceful protests in Spring 2018 unseated decades of entrenched authoritarian rule and corruption. It's a season of freedom.

Freedom from fear

Anush Aslanyan is a pioneer in spirit, but she struggled with anxiety and a physical handicap.

Getting involved in Jinishian leadership and debate programs as a college student helped Anush to develop problem-solving skills and courage to overcome her challenges. Involvement in civic action projects also equipped her to start a non-profit organization.

Now Anush is growing her own small business with financing and an established entrepreneur-mentor through the Youth Business Development project.

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS ON ME,
BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PROCLAIM
GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR,
FREEDOM FOR THE PRISONERS AND
RECOVERY OF SIGHT FOR THE BLIND,
TO SET THE OPPRESSED FREE,
TO PROCLAIM THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOR."

Luke 4:18-19

Freedom to lead with justice

Twenty-year-old Manya Grigoryan was one of hundreds of thousands of citizens on the streets of Yerevan. She says she's come a long way from the shy 8th grader who joined Jinishian debate clubs and rose to leadership. "For many years I have been a carrier of democratic ideas, and after each debate I have promised myself never to ignore the issues." Manya explains. "And now, the time to stand up for all these problems had come."

Freedom to work with dignity

A weak economy drives many young people to emigrate out of Armenia for jobs. Arthur Papyan, at age 25, was ready to leave his hometown for Russia. But thanks to an intensive IT training course through Jinishian, he found a well-paying job nearby. Arthur is proud to work in his homeland and to volunteer with the IT students: "I hope my determination is a good example. I tell them not to give up."

LONG-TERM*Growing the next generation of responsible citizens*

- Student-led dialogue, and grants for community projects that train young leaders to positively impact the environment, human rights, and economic stability
- University debate clubs
- YES school debate programs

SUSTAINABLE*Generating employment and healthy economic growth*

- Microloans for farm, small business, and hostel owners
- Entrepreneur loans and coaching for young adults
- Engineering and IT training
- Quick Start digital marketing skills for youth

CHANGE*Equipping communities to see possibility in every problem*

- Village beekeeping projects
- Playground build projects
- Christmas performances for disadvantaged children
- Grants mobilized 24 rural communities for heating, water, parks & culture projects

310 YOUTH DEBATES & FORUMS
 TAUGHT INDEPENDENT
 THINKING FOR 5,000 YOUTH

60,000 BENEFICIARIES SERVED
 ACROSS THE COUNTRY

610 MOBILE & ONLINE MEDICAL VISITS
 SAVED LIVES, TIME AND MONEY
 FOR CRITICALLY-ILL VILLAGERS

**BODY AND SPIRIT**

Healthcare is difficult to access in rural Armenia. With donor support, Jinishian is pioneering telemedicine and mobile clinics with promising results. For one woman in deep poverty, the exams found a malignant tumor in her kidney. She was swiftly referred for surgery and gives thanks for her life. Health outreach also includes:

- Autism and cerebral palsy day care center (Artsakh)
- Children's wellness, school nurse training (Yerevan)
- Community-based early child development (Gavar, Gegharqunik)
- Services for women suffering from violence (Yerevan)

Communist influence has taken a toll on the first Christian nation. Programs to help young people claim and flourish in their Christian faith and Armenian traditions include:

- Summer camp and educational workshops in Georgia
- Church camp support for Armenian Apostolic, Evangelical & Catholic summer programs (2,500 kids nationwide)
- Armenian national dance workshop, publication by Ginosyan
- Spiritual education and experiences in villages (pastoral visits)

International partners fund 30% of the budget

European Union
 World Vision Armenia
 Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation
 Karagheusian Foundation
 CARD Microfinance Institution

Mission staff

Armen Hakobyan (Armenia country director)
 Liana Sargsyan, Aramayis Pashinyan, Ashot Aslikyan, Ruben Krikyan, Zaruhi Janibekyan, Gevorg Abovyan, Zaruhi Hambardzumyan, Anahit Galikyan, Sirvard Chakhchakhyan, Anush Bagratunyan, Hasmik Sevumyan, Ani Sargsyan, Harutyun Gharibjanyan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Gayane Aghayan

Armenia advisory board

Father Barouyr Avetisyan
 Rev. Albert Paytyan
 Sister Arousiag Sajonyan

FAMILY IS A BRIDGE

...from poverty and despair to self-sufficiency and hope.

Family is a bridge across the divisions of borders, war and history. This bond leads many JMP donors to remember generations before, to honor genocide survivors, and to support Armenian brothers and sisters in Lebanon today.

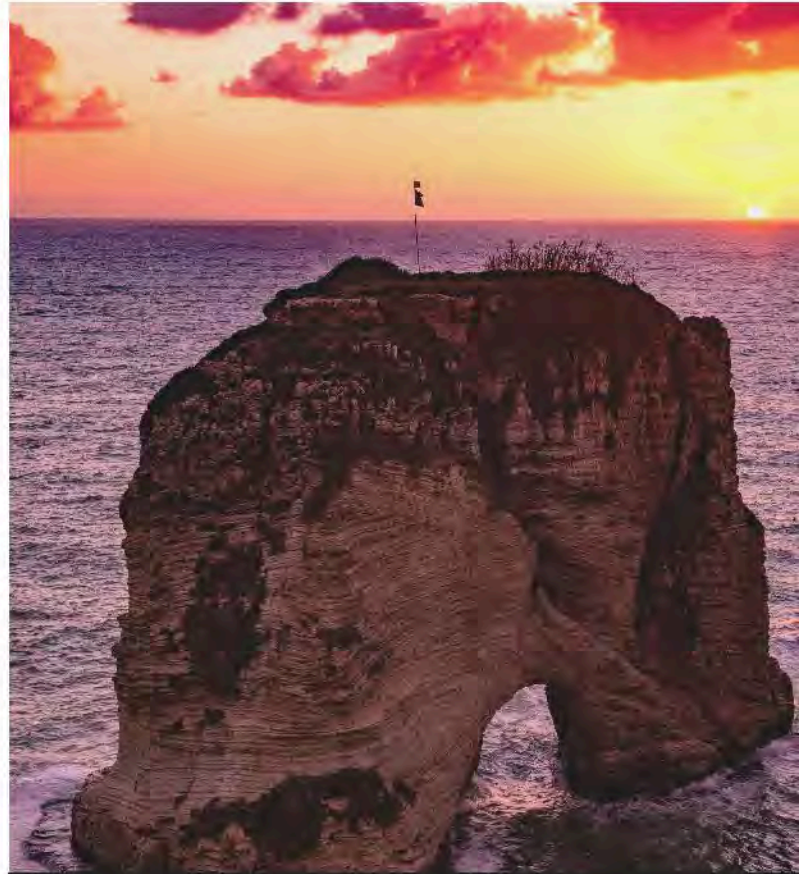
As a young teen, Lori fled Syria with her mother, brother and sister, leaving her father behind to work. Her family stretched across impossible barriers. Relatives seeking refuge crowded their Beirut apartment. It was difficult to keep afloat in Lebanon's worsening economy, let alone pay for Lori's school.

She was adrift and losing any vision she once had for her young life.

Lori's mother sought financial help from Jinishian. Beyond that, JMP counseling gave her the encouragement she needed to press on and find direction for herself and her daughter. The social worker's faithful follow-up inspired Lori to make her own commitment for a better future.

Lori joined the **Teen Self-Development program** in which JMP provides *full tuition* for technical school and a *community of trust*. The young women gather to learn life skills in JMP's Kurkjian Center.

Blessings have followed each step of faith that the family has taken into a life beyond poverty.



"IF YOU SPEND YOURSELVES IN BEHALF OF THE HUNGRY AND SATISFY THE NEEDS OF THE OPPRESSED, THEN YOUR LIGHT WILL RISE IN THE DARKNESS, AND YOUR NIGHT WILL BECOME LIKE THE NOONDAY."

Isaiah 58:10

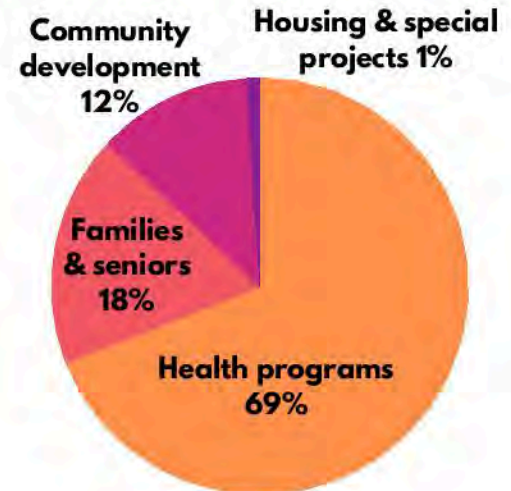
Mom took on a second job to support her children who are now pursuing their education in Armenia. Inspired by Lori's tenacity, her brother and sister enrolled in university there. Lori is nearing completion of high school in Lebanon and looks forward to her future.

Thank you for being part of the Jinishian family of support that empowers girls like Lori to bridge any distance with hope.

2,700 BENEFICIARIES RECEIVED
CRITICAL, HOLISTIC CARE

13,000 CLIENT VISITS IN 2018
AVERAGED 50 EACH DAY

143 SYRIAN REFUGEES WITHOUT
MEDICAL COVERAGE RECEIVED
ASSISTANCE FOR DIAGNOSTIC TESTS



EMPOWERMENT

Everyone deserves dignity. JMP empowers families to strive to find jobs, improve their relationships and stay together. JMP programs prevent school dropouts and child labor by supporting vocational education. Social workers address threats of domestic violence, human trafficking, drug addiction, legal and health issues. Local mission staff offer hope, give comfort, and encourage perseverance and trust in God when adversity strikes.

- affordable housing and path to home ownership
- interest-free home loans (Habitat for Humanity)
- Christmas events for children and seniors
- microloans for economic development
- Teen Self-development Program
- employment placement office
- senior assistance, home visits and activities

HEALTH

JMP medical services make sure people get the help they need. Stress from government and economic instability makes people more vulnerable to illness, homelessness, broken relationships and broken spirits. Adding an endocrinologist to our medical team in 2018 helped save one man with diabetes from losing his toe to a foot ulcer. Community health programs and services include:

- medication for chronic illness
- medical counseling
- preventative health education
- hospital and medical expense assistance
- psychiatric residential care
- women's wellness workshops with free glucose and lipid panel testing

Donors and partners

Armenian Fund for Health Insurance in Lebanon, ARCL "Araxi Boulghourjian" Socio-Medical Center, Habitat for Humanity Lebanon, Howard Karagheusian Foundation, Marash Compatriotic Association, Ministry of Health through YMCA, Municipality of Anjar, Municipality of Bourj Hammoud, St. Marc Medical and Diagnostic Center, Ten Ten Shoes, Air Armenia Company, Bishop Georges Assadourian, Minister Avedis Guidanian, MP Hagop Pakradouni, Ashjian Family in memory of Armenag Ashjian, Velma Hermez in memory of Seta Pamboukian, Nar Khatchadourian Hagop Loshkhajian, Hagop Lousararian, Georgig Karamanougian, Peggy Lee Manoogian in memory of Ellen Sagherian, Hreir Sagherian, Lucy S. Missirian, Diran Bahadourian Family, Hovannes Sarkissian Family, Mardiros Baroutjian Family, V. B. Tavlian Family, Zareh G. Astourian Family, Hanessian Family, Marie Harmandayan, Sylvia S. Belikian and others

Mission staff

Pauline Sagherian (Lebanon country director) Lena Nazigian, Zepure Sdepanian, Parantsem Fakrajian Demirjian, Lucie Khachadourian, Ani Aznavourian, Sevan Ishkhan, Nanor Tashjian, Jessica Torossian, Simoneh Khatchadourian, Hameddouhie Keshishian, Dr. Ara Boladian, Dr. Raffi Elmajian, Dr. Mireille Der Yeghiayan, Rita Seropian, Maral Zadirian, Sarkis Varjabedian, Rita Vartanian

Beirut advisory committee

Rafi Habibian (chair), Maggy Libaridian Kouyoumjian, Talar Atèchian, PhD, Anie Boudjikianian, Karineh Sahakian Cholakian, Aline Shitilian Deyirmenjian, Paolo Kazazian, MD, Alexander Mouradian, Joseph Zoulikian

PEACE IS A BRIDGE

...from poverty and despair to self-sufficiency and hope.

"According to many experts, the coming period may not be one of complete peace in Syria," says JMP Syria country director, Talin Topalakian, "but it may be the end of this brutal conflict and will likely be marked by reconciliation deals, reconstruction, and partial economic recovery." **Jinishian is focused on alleviating the greatest needs of the most vulnerable in Syria's Armenian communities with humanitarian aid.**

In the more stable areas, commerce and festivities resumed, but many suburbs and cities are still dangerous. Some Armenians who took refuge in Armenia and elsewhere are returning to their properties. "Everybody is looking forward to the rehabilitation, but the cost of restoration is estimated to be very high," Topalakian explains. "The country is likely to experience prolonged economic stagnation."

Jinishian's strong network with other non-profits and churches combines resources to meet the most critical and costly needs.

LOWER RIGHT: After eight years of war, we finally enjoyed a time to celebrate in our shared Aleppo courtyard and outreach building with longtime partners (HKCC and Christ Church) to give thanks for our selfless workers. All present asked the Lord for peace in this land and a bright future serving the Armenian community.



ABOVE: Hagop and Kevork are among 59 kids and moms who left the daily violence they witness in Damascus for a picnic day-trip in the country to play games and receive trauma counseling.

We're always looking for ways to bring kids happiness—Easter gifts, birthday parties, back-to-school shopping.



**"FINALLY, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, REJOICE!
STRIVE FOR FULL RESTORATION, ENCOURAGE ONE
ANOTHER, BE OF ONE MIND, LIVE IN PEACE.
AND THE GOD OF LOVE AND PEACE BE WITH YOU."**

2 Corinthians 13:11





Beyond emergency help, JMP empowers communities. When children of those receiving aid were struggling academically (as often happens in poverty and trauma), we matched them with college tutors needing funds, too. The students finished strong, and the young teachers earned an honorarium. Win-win!

4,736 BENEFICIARIES SERVED IN THREE CITIES: ALEPPO, DAMASCUS AND KAMISHLY

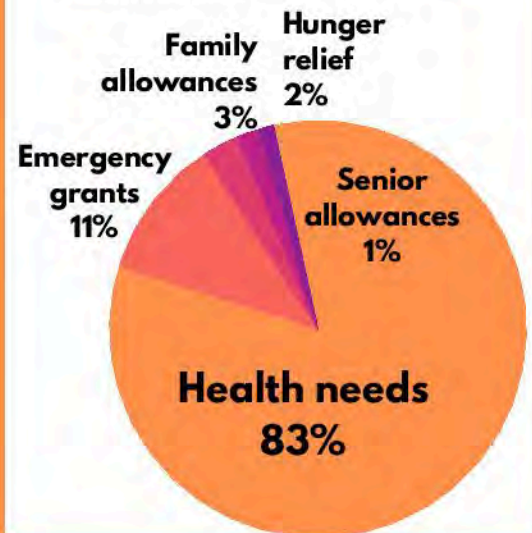
365 DAYS OF UNINTERRUPTED HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE

687 CHILDREN AND 108 ADULTS FOUND JOY OVER FEAR AT HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

Health outreach in wartime

Extreme inflation of medication costs is among the biggest challenges Syrians face, and hundreds more applied for assistance last year.

But prescriptions are only one piece of the puzzle. We offer many medical assistances, grace-filled guidance, awareness about wellness, personal follow-up and home visits, professional referrals, and preventive and curative care.



LET US PRAY

- ~ For people to return to work and to provide for their families
- ~ For those who need emotional and physical healing. Pray with Nellie who gives thanks for Jinishian's help with a difficult surgery and seeks comfort for others like her.
- ~ For the precious gift of life and the journey of suffering for those injured by the war violence in Syria
- ~ For families displaced from their homes because of financial and personal crises
- ~ For freedom from anxiety and protection for the epidemic of men dealing with heart disease
- ~ For children in Syria to grow up with hope

Mission staff

Talin Topalakian (Syria country director)
Aleppo: Verjin Demirjian, Maria Boshgezenian (social worker), Arpy Gevoghlianian, Rita Yaghljian, Mgrdich Spenjian
Damascus: Maggie Kahkejian (site director), Sarkis Karageuzian, Viken Simonia (school health project physician), Nazareth Boyadjian (school health project dentist), Shant Keshishian
Kamishly: Ani Deukmejian (site director), Sevan Hovsepian, Aghavnie Sarkissian, Mounira Bahho

Advisory committee members

Aleppo: Zepur Ajemian (chair), Marine Darakjian, George Boynarian, Suzan Apartian
Damascus: Sarkis Bourounsouzian (chair), Sarkis Keshishian, Sarkis Kulukian, Antranig Marashlian
Kamishly: Loucine Avedissian (chair), Manoug Tanielian

Istanbul and Jerusalem

\$65,000

FAITH IS A BRIDGE

*...from poverty and despair
to self-sufficiency and hope.*

1,200

OF THE MOST
VULNERABLE CHRISTIAN
MINORITIES SERVED

2%

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS
THANKS TO VOLUNTEER-
RUN OUTREACH

For minorities in the slums of Istanbul (pictured), devoted JMP volunteers brought aid to more than 150 neglected households struggling to meet basic needs.

True to our mission to offer dignified pathways to self-sufficiency, JMP sponsored 30 small business loans thanks to U.S. congregation funding. Proud workers grew their businesses including skilled crafts, online distribution, auto repair and carpentry. Vocational grants for computer and language skill-building spurred employment opportunities.

In Jerusalem's Armenian Quarter, the Jinishian Memorial Program health clinic serves an average of 100 patients, including many clergy, each week.

For young families in poverty, especially those living outside of the city in Bethlehem, small allowances are a lifeline. Some members of the small Armenian community here are emigrating out of their homes in Israel because local conditions are not favorable, especially for children. Support from U.S. donors has helped sustain this volunteer-driven outreach.





U. S. Advisory Committee

Victoria Chopourian Gehrt, chair
Sona Haratunian
Mark Momjian
Lacey Gilliam
Rev. Philip Woods

In each country, JMP is advised by Apostolic, Catholic and Evangelical board members. Together, we have served millions of those in greatest need with the love of God since 1966.

According to the inspiring legacy of Vartan Jinishian, who responded to the need of his people with all that he had to give in honor of his parents, JMP endures as a trust administered by the Presbyterian Church (USA).

In-country administrative costs averaged 16 percent last year. Audited financial statements are available online or by request.



Rev. Haroutune and Catherine Jinishian

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Mr. and Mrs. Zareh G. Astourian
Mr. and Mrs. Diran Bahadourian
Ms. Jeanie Bakker
Mr. and Mrs. Mardiros Baroutjian
Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Beach
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Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth E. Whitehead
Rev. John V. Worthington
Kingston Presbyterian Church
State Street Presbyterian Church
Woodside Presbyterian Church

HOW CAN I *get involved?*

Invite JMP to speak to your church or civic organization about this life-changing work.

Visit Armenia with us! Experience the warm hospitality of this beautiful, ancient Christian homeland and see transformative projects in action.



Monthly gifts start at only \$10! Click the yellow "Give" button at pcusa.org/donate/E051792, enter your desired amount, and check "I'd like to make a recurring donation."

Return the envelope included. To fund specific areas, please attach a memo or make a note in the comments when you give.

Contact us to learn more

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