



**DIRECT AID
ASSOCIATION**
Public Charity Organisation



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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2025 is over. What have we achieved and what are the expectations? Within the past years DAA with its main programs that are hospital school, psychosocial service to children and their families, and the patient family house, became an integral part of the hospital service in Arabkir MC&ICAH and pediatric department of the Hematology hospital. Our main partner stays Arabkir MC&ICAH with Ara Babloyan, Arman Babloyan, Manoushak Yeritsyan and Nina Arikyants, and of course all the medical staff. At the same time through the Special Educators' Club DAA built professional net among children's institutions dealing with the children with special educational needs in Armenia. Speaking about the international connections we have created both links to individual professionals and to different state and non-state organizations, such as children's hospitals in different European countries, HOPE (Hospital Organization of Pedagogues of Europe), European Solidarity Corps, etc.

All of this was done step by step with the most valuable support of such professionals as Ernst and Christina Leumanns, Christine Walser,

As usual, we will present some success stories to illustrate the achievements as well as daily work of DAA staff.

To start with, we'd like to emphasize an interesting collaboration of the Hospital School launched in 2025 with the Clinical Rehabilitation Department on a fairly large scale. DAA has previously cooperated with the department

Prof. Judith Hollenweger Haskell, Claude and Marianne Ruedins, Kinderhilfswerk Himalaja with its Board members and many others (I am sorry not to name everyone personally). All these people helped to build up a structure which is sustainable and functional in the realities of Armenia. Today of course we have to struggle through the search for finances, but we have a professional base which needs ongoing development, however at the same time is on the level where it can practically help to cover the needs in education, social and psychological fields for the children having different health issues.

At the end of the year the hospital school started moving to the new facilities which will serve better to the needs of our beneficiaries. And of course, we are very thankful to all our professional supporters and sponsors who have been helping us to move forward.

Let 2026 bring peace and happiness to the people all over the world. Let the wars stop and the sky become blue again for everybody.

Hasmik Tadevosyan,
DAA President

of the clinical rehabilitation on other project, mainly of social nature but this one has educational purposes. Simultaneously 4 hospital school teachers: Ruzanna Iskandaryan, Lena Tadevosyan, Ani Hovhannisyan and Kristine Andreasyan have worked and will continue working in 2026 with the children who are undergoing clinical rehabilitation. Once a

month, the head of the department, Dr. Liana Aghajanyan, and the specialists working with the children, i.e. the psychologist, ergotherapist, physiotherapists, and speech therapist have a working discussion. DAA hospital school teachers also participate in the discussions presenting the work done with the patients being discussed. They also present the complications they faced during the work, as well as they share their observations as teachers.

1. The Head of the Clinical Rehabilitation Department contacted the hospital school regarding a 15-year-old adolescent of Armenian nationality who resides in the Russian Federation. The student sustained a severe spinal cord injury as a result of a trampoline accident, which left him unable to walk or move his arms and legs. Despite these significant physical limitations, the adolescent demonstrated strong academic motivation and expressed a clear desire to continue his studies in Russian language and literature as well as mathematics, with the goal of successfully passing the end-of-year state examinations in these subjects. Given these circumstances, DAA hospital school teachers established contact with the director of a Russian school in Yerevan. As this institution follows the state curriculum and educational program of the Russian Federation, the hospital school teachers requested assistance in obtaining the appropriate grade-level textbooks in Russian language and literature and mathematics corresponding to the student's 9th-grade studies. In addition, they requested to provide the hospital school with the official state curriculum and educational programs for these subjects, as they differ from those used within the Armenian educational

system. The school director kindly provided all the requested materials. Using the supplied resources, the hospital school teachers began working with the young man while maintaining the hospital school's individualized educational approach, which was adapted to the student's specific needs and included the use of specially designed educational materials, such as age- and level-appropriate mathematical games and developed worksheets aligned with the concepts being taught. Due to the student's rapid fatigue, each instructional session is limited to approximately 15 minutes; however, these sessions proved to be highly focused and productive. All instruction is conducted verbally, as the student remains unable to use his hands for written or physical tasks.

2. A 16-year-old female adolescent was hospitalized following a car accident and is currently receiving medical and rehabilitation treatment. DAA hospital school teachers have been working with her for a period of four months, with a primary focus on her physical and mental well-being, as well as her sense of safety and security. Initially, a comprehensive evaluation of her health condition was conducted by the medical team and based on the doctors' recommendations and the psychologist's observations hospital school teachers were able to determine the appropriate level and intensity of educational sessions. The educational process began with creative activities, including painting on T-shirts and bags using the batik technique. The adolescent showed increasing interest in drawing and painting and proudly displayed her artwork on the walls of her hospital room. In addition, age-appropriate educational and motivational games were introduced to

help identify and show her strengths and promote positive thinking, self-confidence, and emotional resilience. These sessions also supported her in recognizing her own values and abilities across different situations. All activities and sessions were conducted with the involvement of her mother. Furthermore,

the hospital school teacher regularly shared her observations with the psychologist, and through effective teamwork, a safe and supportive environment was created. This collaborative approach enabled the young lady to gradually reduce stress, rebuild confidence, and make steady emotional progress during her recovery.

HOSPITAL SCHOOL

• Basic Schooling and Extracurricular Activities

DAA Hospital School ensures the continuity of education for hospitalized children while they undergo treatment away from their homes and regular schools. Children of pre-school and school age participate in group sessions, one-to-one instruction, and a wide range of extracurricular activities. Working both collaboratively and individually, hospital school teachers guarantee a personalized approach tailored to each child's educational needs. The educational process, aligned with the state curriculum, is based on a diverse range of activities, tasks, thematic units, and educational-developmental games. In addition to core school subjects, the hospital school program includes handicraft workshops, IT lessons, the celebration of national holidays, educational festivals revision tools, excursions and outings cultural programs, museum visits, and much with the psychosocial team, the DAA Hospital in overcoming fears and difficulties related to illness, hospitalization, and being away from their familiar environment.



used as
to parks and local sights,
more. In close cooperation

School staff support children

In 2025, 890 pre-school and school-age pupils attended the hospital school in the urology and nephrology departments, while 120 pupils attended classes in the general pediatrics department of Arabkir MC&ICAH. The number of pupils served in the general pediatrics department was lower compared to the previous year due to the change in country of residence of the visiting hospital school teacher in June 2025. As of the new school year beginning in September 2025, no visiting teacher has been available within the hospital school. Currently, the hospital school teachers have included the department of general pediatrics into their daily workload as much as possible. In the dialysis department, the hospital school teacher worked with both school-age children and younger students. In the pediatric department of the Haematology Hospital, 185 pupils with various haematological conditions attended the hospital school. Attendance varied in duration and frequency throughout the year, depending on each child's inpatient treatment schedule.

Hospital school teachers continued developing and compiling educational materials and actively discussing topics related to the improvement of the educational process. The DAA teaching staff also participated in professional development trainings whenever possible, both in person and online. In addition to their core responsibilities, hospital school teachers supported children from displaced and refugee families who had specific educational needs.

• **New Year and Christmas Celebrations**

DAA hospital school has the tradition of celebrating the New Year and Christmas and 2025 was not an exception. Dzmer Papik (the Armenian Santa) visited the children at the hospital school. During the celebration the hospital school pupils performed, sang New Year songs, danced and recited poems relating to winter and the New Year holidays which they had learnt within the hospital school program. The day was filled with joy and laughter, and we are happy our pupils had the opportunity to celebrate and to be distracted from the hospital routine for the day. All the participants received presents to appreciate their good behaviour and educational progress in 2025.





• Summer Camp

In 2025 the patients' summer camp was again the most important event within the summer program. The summer leisure and educational activities were organized for 125 children in four sessions of 2 weeks. As per agreement between Arabkir MC and DAA, Kristine Andreasyan was the head teacher responsible for the educational and leisure program of the camp. DAA hospital school teachers following the summer program routine organized outings and day excursions for the patients who were the summer camp due to health conditions. also organized one-day visit to the camp with the

unable to join
Each hospital school teacher
program of games and special activities. Hospital school pupils profited from the summer program
and had a chance to participate in outdoor activities.

• Foreign Language and Computer Courses for Children and Adults

DAA organizes computer operating and language courses for the school age children and certain groups of adults. These courses are an important part of DAA educational program and both the computer operating and language courses are of high demand and interest for the target groups. The language courses in English, French and German for the medical staff of Arabkir MC&ICAH and ArBeS, students as well as children are organized mainly in the class, however online options are also available. Alongside with teaching a language and computer competences, the courses also serve as a platform for raising awareness about DAA projects. For the medical staff they serve two main purposes: learning a foreign language at the same



time exchanging information about the institutions where they work, discussing different issues and searching for possible solutions within the group. The language courses are organized from Elementary to Advanced levels and develop skills in reading, writing, listening and communication.

• **Specialized Handicraft Workshops**

The handicraft workshops are an important part of the hospital school program. While attending the sessions alongside with gaining skills in drawing, ceramic work, beading quilling, macrame, knitting and embroidery our students have the opportunity to socialize with healthy peers, engage in common handicraft activities, temporarily being away from the hospital routine. The groups are organized according to the age (5-18), the skill levels and the interests of the participants. During 2025: 171 in- and outpatients attended the handicraft atelier for different duration. Some of the participants attended more than one workshop. An essential outcome of attending the workshops is that that the participants can use the learnt skills and knowledge in the daily life.



SPECIAL EDUCATORS' CLUB

Following the experience of previous years in 2025 the Club meetings again organized in outreach sessions as well as online small group consultations. The outreach sessions worked very well, and the participants joined the meetings organized closer to them, within their region. The outreach sessions were organized by DAA special projects' leader K. Andreasyan accompanied by the hospital school teachers with their respective topics.

The online consultations/meetings were organized upon need: to discuss certain matters or topics as well as particular cases. DAA hospital school teachers maintain close connections with the Club members both in Yerevan and in regions also due to the fact that hospital school is attended by the pupils from all over the country. Thus, the communication with the general school teachers is key in setting the individualised approach and the educational goals for the child while he/she is on treatment.

It also helps to accompany the child into the reintegration to the general school after the treatment is finished.

L. Sanamyan continued working in close cooperation with DAA staff and the Club participants.

DAA VOLUNTEERS

In the recent years DAA hospital school cooperates with the European Solidary Corps volunteers. We appreciate the daily work our volunteers do and would like to extend our gratitude to all of them, namely to Salem

Nedelec (France) and Mathis Evain (France). Volunteering is a two-way road: our volunteers gain experience while working side by side with DAA hospital school teachers and at the same time they contribute to the daily activities.

MOTHER AND CHILD PROGRAM



The “Mother and Child” program is a long-standing and vital initiative that has been implemented by DAA staff for decades. Its continued success has been made possible through the generous and sustained support of the SAAT Foundation and DAA friends and supporters Marianne and Claude Ruedins. The program serves as a bridge among DAA’s three core institutions and is designed for parents most often mothers who are coping with the challenges of caring for a sick child. Beneficiaries are given a unique opportunity to receive psychological support and emotional relief, step away from the hospital routine, and engage in meaningful activities with their children. Through numerous sessions, participants also acquire practical skills that can be applied in their daily lives.

DAA staff work in close coordination to ensure the effective delivery of services and the smooth scheduling of sessions, allowing beneficiaries to move seamlessly from one workshop to another.

The chart below illustrates the number of participants in the workshops throughout 2025. The consistently high level of interest, positive participant feedback, staff reports,

and documented success stories all highlight the significant importance of the “Mother and Child” program. All participants benefited greatly from their involvement.

N	SERVICES / WORKSHOPS	TOTAL I-XII MONTH
1.	Psychosocial Support Group Arabkir Hospital	34 | 33 | 197
2.	Computer Courses	56 | 3 | 252
3.	Knitting Haematology hospital	64 | 0 | 274
4.	Knitting Arabkir hospital	70 | 0 | 308
5.	Sewing Haematology hospital	64 | 0 | 268
6.	Sewing Arabkir hospital	70 | 0 | 294
7.	Educational Games Arabkir hospital, nephrology department (sch. age)	432 | 1 | 468
8.	Educational Games Arabkir hospital, nephrology department (psch. age)	463 | 3 | 466
9.	Educational Games Arabkir hospital, urology department	429 | 4 | 436
10.	Educational Games Arabkir hospital, general pediatric department	135 | 0 | 135
11.	Educational games, Haematology hospital	449 | 11 | 462

Legend: number of participants, number of returning participants, number of workshops

DAA dedicated staff, who organized and led the workshops, worked diligently to accommodate the needs of participants and to involve all interested beneficiaries during their hospital stay.

We would like to express our sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the SAAT Foundation in Switzerland for its continuous support of this exceptionally important program.

PATIENT FAMILY HOUSE (PFH)

The families from all the regions of Armenia having a child on treatment at Arabkir and no other accommodation possibilities or means to rent a place in Yerevan got lodging in the PFH. In 2025 the accommodation was provided for different length depending on the request from the treating doctor and verified by Dr. N. Arikyants, the medical director of Arabkir. The PFH is still in the temporary location having only two rooms for the provision of the accommodation. When the hospital is completely full the provisional rooms are also used for hospital medical needs. The situation will improve when DAA moves to the new building. Despite the difficult situation due to scarce lodging possibilities, the services were provided to a great number of families in the hospital entitled to PFH services: schooling, psychological and social support, food and basic clothing when needed and other essentials while on treatment.



All the PFH services mentioned above were provided to the full extent possible and free of charge to the paediatric patient and one care provider. The PFH staff pays close attention to ensure that the services are provided in line with the set standards.

The feedback of the PFH beneficiaries (guest book) is always very positive and appreciating.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICE

For In- And Outpatients And Their Families

The psychosocial service is one of the DAA institutions and while being a department in the hospital continues to be an important part of DAA. The service is supported by DAA both financially and professionally. In 2025 the psychosocial team provided services to 206 patients and families aged 4-50 through individual and group consultations and therapies.

The psychosocial team actively participates in professional trainings, workshops and meetings, e.g. “The cognitive behavior techniques”, etc. The service also cooperates with other psychological support centers, e.g. Armenian psychiatric association, “Recovery” college, Anahit



Arzumany's psychological center just to name a few as well as local NGOs, healthcare institutions, professional associations, and state agencies such as the regional centers of social service, district council of Arabkir, medical and social expertise commission.

The implementation of the special social program was again possible in 2025 with the ongoing support of Ernst Leumann and the Foundation of the Children with Congenital Diseases. The program is carried out by DAA for paediatric patients on treatment and follow-up in Arabkir MC&ICAH. In the framework of this program DAA administration works closely with Arabkir MC&ICAH medical director Dr. N. Arikyants and the chiefs of the corresponding departments.

With the support of Marianne Ruedin DAA continued the implementation of the special social support for the patients on treatment and follow-up in Arabkir MC&ICAH from the displaced families from Artsakh. Within the program families in extreme need received support in basic essentials: food, hygiene produces, clothing, household items, wood for heating, etc.

2025 was filled with accomplishments, achievements as well as challenges for DAA staff. At the end of the year we are happy to share that DAA team as always carried out all their tasks with great responsibility and professionalism. Once again, our team was ready to accommodate the arising needs and make modifications covering a wider spectrum of services for our compatriots in need. We fulfilled our duties and realized our projects successfully thanks to the full dedication of our staff and the very close cooperation among DAA members while providing services to the beneficiaries. We must emphasize that this successful year with all the achievements and fulfilled plans and programs was possible also thanks to the kind will and generosity of our friends and supporters.



a more detailed report on separate projects and sections is available at DAA office and can be provided upon need. Please, contact DAA office by e-mail: daa.office@gmail.com or visit our website: www.daa.am

DAA Board Members

Varuzhan Avanesyan	.....	DAA Board President
Nina Arikhyants	.....	Arabkir Medical Director
Manoush Yeritsyan	.....	ArBeS Centre
Maria Khakhmalyan	.....	Poqrik Ishkhan, director
Mariam Mkhitaryan	.....	DAA

Administration

Hasmik Tadevosyan	.....	DAA President
Liana Sanamyan	.....	Consultant
Mariam Mkhitaryan	.....	Admin. Assistant
Liana Martirosyan	.....	PFH Administrator
Liza Abgaryan	.....	PFH Administrator
Voskehat Ghalayan	.....	Book-Keeper
Armen Sanamyan	.....	Cashier

Hospital School

HS - Hospital School Arabkir
HHS - Haematology Hospital

Kristine Andreyan	.....	Special Projects' Leader
Ani Hovhanissyan	.....	HHS Teacher
Ruzanna Iskandaryan	.....	HS Teacher
Karina Tadevosyan	.....	Pre-School Teacher
Yelena Tadevosyan	.....	HS Teacher
Mary Abrahamyan	.....	HS Visiting Teacher (left as of June 2025)
Gayane Haroutunyan	.....	Cooking, Baking and Sewing

Language / Computer Courses

Donara Aghasyan	.....	•	Coord. / German Teacher
Hasmik Lalayan	.....	•	English Teacher
Svetlana Hayrapetyan	.....	•	French Teacher
Hayk Sanamyan	.....	•	Computer Teacher, Technical Support

Psychosocial Team

Varvara Avakimyan	.....	•	Psychologist
Hasmik Amiryan	.....	•	Psychologist

House Service

Liza Abgaryan	•	Guard
Lusine	•	Cleaning Woman

Volunteers | Gayane Davtyan

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Public Charity Organisation

 **HOSPITAL SCHOOL**

 **PSYCHO-SOCIAL SERVICE**

 **PATIENT'S FAMILY HOUSE**

