

NARA MELKONYAN
COUNTRY DIRECTOR

WAYS TO HELP

Humanitarian
Goods Collection:
April 24-28

Priority Items

- Children's Clothing (ages from 0 to 17)
- New Shoes for all ages
- Food
- Hygiene Supplies
- School Supplies
- Blankets and Bedding
- Medical Supplies
- Mattresses
- Chairs, Tables

Contact your Church mission chair for more information

FELLOWSHIP OF 1000

Name:

Address:

E-mails:

Contribution:

Date:

Mail to:

Project AGAPE

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THE HAND OF GOD WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS

In October I received an e-mail from Allan Van Meter with attached pictures (1,2,3) and a question: "...do you know who the young girl in the pictures I am attaching is, Nara? I have been thinking about the fact that in 2011 she wore these same pants for 3 or 4 days straight and they were too small. She is the one in the brown pants. Could you find out who she is and how her family is doing and maybe a little history about them?..."

Frankly speaking I was so busy with the distribution of humanitarian aid, with completion of furnishing and minor works at the Karegah clinic, the computer classes at the Christian Education Center and the follow-up action on the pass-on of Cattle project, that couldn't find the girl. The people whom I showed the pictures, didn't recognize her, maybe because her face was not clearly visible on the three pictures or they just didn't know her.

Then I went again to Berdzor at the beginning of December to prepare everything needed for the Christmas event, to deliver sewing supplies to the Art and Sport school of Berdzor and to provide the Preschool with sewing machine and sewing supplies. Besides, as it happens every time during the distribution, I have made a wish list of the things, that some people wanted during the distribution and we were not able to find at that time. But we found some of those things later and set aside to call those people and ask them to come and get those. Almost all the people came and got their things, except two pairs of jeans trousers, which weren't kept for special purpose, but just reserved, in a case someone needed those.

All the goods from the last shipment were delivered, the warehouse was arranged and ready for the next shipment and we were busy with the Cattle project pass-on. I receive a call from mother of one of the Cattle project original families, Alvard Grigoryan. She received a pregnant cow in 2006 and passed on the heifer in 2009. She begs of me to



1



2



3



Mariam and her daughter Anna

meet her, as she has a special request. I arrange a time with her to meet. She comes and seems very anxious. Immediately starts to tell about her daughter Mariam, who is divorced, has two daughters, has been diagnosed with breast cancer and is unemployed. She asks to give her a heifer, as this will be a life-saver for her and her two daughters.

Alvard says, that she will help her daughter and her granddaughters will also help their mother to keep the cow. It would be inhuman, to say the least, to refuse her request after hearing the story of the family. I arranged time for next day to meet her daughter, copy her passport and sign the necessary documentation for delivering a cow to her. Next day Alvard comes with Mariam and Mariam's daughter, Anna. I look at her and do not believe my eyes. Isn't she the girl on Allan's pic-

tures?! I take her to my laptop, open the pictures, show to her and ask: "Is this you on the picture?" She says: "Yes, I am." Then, I don't know why, look at her pants, they are not the ones on the picture: "You have nice pants", I say. "Those are not hers," says her mother, "I temporary borrowed those from my neighbor, who got those during the distribution from AGAPE." Oh, my God... I ran to the warehouse, come back with the two pairs of the jeans trousers and give those to Mariam. The trousers are just the size of Anna. The grandma and Mariam were so excited, perhaps more excited from getting the trousers than from the fact, that they just got a heifer from the Project ...

Message from the AGAPE Board

Project AGAPE is making a difference in the lives of thousands of people in Armenia and Karabagh. We are the only organized group serving in this Karabagh region. United Methodists from across North Carolina continue to support our brothers and sisters helping to meet needs of food, medi-

cal care, clothing and Christian education. The economy continues to struggle with 60% unemployment where folks just try to exist from day to day. YOU provide hope in this day to day struggle.

Please continue your support and share this need in your church. Your

financial contributions are vital to Project AGAPE's ministry. If you are not a member of the Fellowship of 1000, please join today. It only takes a gift of \$100.00 per year to be part of making people like Mariam and Anna, who are less fortunate, happier.