

## MONTHLY UPDATE FOR OCTOBER 2010

### World Habitat Day Celebration in Spitak

On World Habitat Day, designated by the United Nations to draw attention to the world's tremendous housing need, Habitat Armenia joined a larger family of Habitat for Humanity around the world to fight poverty housing and homelessness through actions.

This year, Habitat for Humanity Armenia celebrated the day by plastering and painting walls in Sergo Ghazaryan's house in Spitak. City mayor of Spitak, representatives of the state urban ministry and partner organizations and students from the Armenian national lyceum of Anania Shirakatsi joined Habitat to volunteer at the event.

Habitat's Repairing Homes project in Spitak aims to provide affordable housing for the families who suffered in the 1988 earthquake. Habitat for Humanity Armenia, in partnership with "Nor Horizon" Universal Credit organization LLC, offers families affordable loans to improve their housing conditions in Spitak.

"Habitat Armenia started implementing the project in March, 2010. We have already supported 18 families and hope to increase this number up to 35 families by the middle of next year," says Luiza Vardanyan, acting executive director of Habitat Armenia.



## HELP US TURN HOPE INTO HOMES!

**Your contribution will help us raise funds for providing low income families in Armenia with a simple, decent and affordable home to live and thrive.  
THANK YOU!**



### Fundraising Jazz Dinner

#### Celebration of the 10-th Anniversary of Habitat's Operation in Armenia

Habitat for Humanity Armenia, dedicated to its mission to provide simple, comfortable and affordable housing to low income families, is currently implementing housing reconstruction projects in Tavush, Lori, Ararat, Armavir, Gegharkunk, Vayots Dzor and Syunik regions.

In the previous year Habitat for Humanity Armenia helped some 126 families, bringing the number of its beneficiary families to nearly 600.

In Armenia, different layers of society experience housing problems, and therefore Habitat for Humanity Armenia's pending goal is to expand the boundaries of its service and extend a helping hand to low income families in improving their housing conditions.

**For accomplishing this humanitarian goal Habitat for Humanity Armenia calls upon you and your friends to join us in this endeavour and have your own contribution in the Fundraising Jazz Dinner which is dedicated to the 10th Anniversary of Habitat's operation in Armenia.**

The event will feature jazz ensemble of Malkhas Jazz Club headed by maestro Levon Malkhasyan, who will perform their wonderful art.

The funds raised at the event will be used to improve housing conditions of low income families in Armenia.

# Housing Microfinance in Armenia

## How our Microfinance Programs are Designed?

Together with credit organizations HFHA develops a new product for a specific community based on the demand, housing conditions, need, paying capacity etc. This means that proposed housing microfinance programs are mostly designed to be affordable and favourable for the selected region. That is why the main terms of our housing microfinance programs differ from each other by loan amounts, terms and interest rates.

## Are our Housing Microfinance Programs Competitive?

Housing microfinance is a relatively new concept in Armenian financial sector. Up to now Financial Institutions are engaged either in microfinance or mortgage lending. Mortgage loans are affordable only for the middle and high income families living in the capital city Yerevan, and the microloans are mainly given for agricultural purposes or small rural businesses development.

HFHA offers a unique product – housing microfinance loans to improve housing conditions for low-income economically active families.

For the first time people from rural areas are also offered loans for housing improvement purposes. The terms of the loans are affordable for low-income families and the product is targeted at those families, for whom traditional banking services are unaffordable.

## GET INVOLVED!

The Global Village Program offers you to travel to Armenia and bring change into the lives of the families in need of decent homes

To join a Global Village trip, contact:

Habitat for Humanity International

Europe and Central Asia

The Global Village Program

[gv.europe@habitat.org](mailto:gv.europe@habitat.org)

[www.habitat-europe.org](http://www.habitat-europe.org)



## A CALL TO ACTION

To be able to continue Habitat's global mission, HFH Armenia is seeking help among its friends and partners. We believe that together we can achieve that thanks to your support through donations, tithes and your volunteers' efforts. We welcome any size of contribution which will immediately used towards serving families.

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## TITHE!

Send your checks to:  
Habitat for Humanity International  
Attn: Affiliate tithe  
121 Habitat Street  
Americus GA 31709-3498, USA  
Please include 815100, Armenia  
in the memo section of the checks.  
Thank you!

## DONATE!

Donate online through [www.habitat-europe.org](http://www.habitat-europe.org) following the steps below:

- Donate to Habitat
- Enter your address
- Designate your gift and pick Armenia from the national office drop down list
- Enter your credit card information and submit your donation.

THANK YOU!



The region of Tavush  
Ofelya Petrosyan's home



10-year-old Hayk from  
the city of Spitak

**Befriend us on  
Facebook  
Our group name is  
Habitat Armenia**