

# WARM HEARTH

## In the Small Corners

### Unfolding

As the year comes to a close, we look back with gratitude at all that has unfolded in the past few months. Our residents are participating in a theater production for the first time. It has been such a joyful endeavor for them.

Some of our neighbors have begun trusting the residents enough to allow them to help watch their children. This is a deep honor and joy for our residents.



We were awarded government funding for 2018 and while it seems like this will come to pass, we are still holding our breath. On a different note, thankfully, our five-year legal battle over our land and home has finally come to a close. Our property is safe and we have a new title in hand!

We also look forward with hope and joy. We plan to open a second home in 2018 for more orphans with disabilities from Kapan. That journey will allow all of us to experience, once again, the healing power of home, stability and love. In 2018, Lousine Stepanian (of the Armenian Mindfulness Project) and Bridget Brown (one of our founding board members) plan to visit Armenia in April.

Finally, we are blessed by so many friends and partners who are passionate about this next season of our work and have offered to walk with us in the formation, establishment and long-term sustenance of a second home. Our cup runs over. May you and yours be blessed with peace and joy this Christmas and holiday season. Thank you for keeping our home close to your heart. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our residents. Thank you for sharing in our stories and songs.

Sincerely Yours,

*Natalie Bryant-Rizzieri*

Founder & Executive Director



**WARM HEARTH**  
& JERMIK ANKYUN FOUNDATION





## Sassoon

Sassoon lives in our garden house with Roman. He needs one-to-one support and appreciates the calm of the garden house. He has been at Warm Hearth since 2012, after spending five years in an institution. He loves to sing and dance. He loves cooking shows and making clay handicrafts. He likes to care for and tend the garden and water the trees. He is very loving toward the staff who care for him. One day when our staff member, Sirush, was sick, Sassoon brought her a blanket and said, "Sleep. Have a rest."

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**Our 2017 Goals:** sustainable and loving care for our residents and a home that is increasingly independent.

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## Your kindness sustains our residents, our hearts and our home.

A special thanks **Gretchen Hampshire** for processing donations, **Gary Kilmer** for your support in development, **Adrienne Witol** for support in resident safety and Selective Mutism, **Lousine Stepanian** for behavior and psychological support and **Jessica Simpson** for support in Strategic Planning.

The opportunities to support Warm Hearth broaden as we move into this next season of **expansion**. *We are looking for a second home. If you know of any empty homes that are available, please let us know.* Additionally, please consider giving:

- 1) To sustain the current operations of the original home.
- 2) To assist us in opening a second home (purchase of land, home, renovation costs, furniture costs, etc.)
- 3) To ensure that our residents are secure throughout their lives by giving to our Forever Fund, which will allow us to have operating reserves, in case of an emergency.

