



## Actions Speak Louder Than Words!

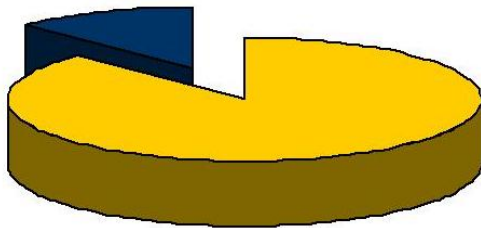
The results of the sociological survey conducted by the students of Yerevan State University within the framework of standard practices of the Chair of Social Work and Social Technologies.

*The purpose of the sociological survey was to study how the programs of the Fuller Center for Housing Armenia (FCHA) contribute to reducing and/or overcoming the condition of poverty of Armenian families. A total of 100 families were surveyed, which, at the time, represented 20% of the organization's beneficiaries.*

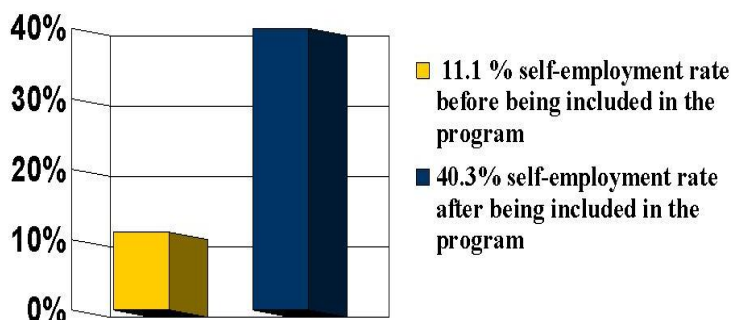
*Based on the survey, the following was reported:*

- Among the beneficiary families surveyed, 87.5% were homeless and 12.5% needed critical housing renovation to preserve the structure of their existing homes.

- 87.5% Homeless
- 12.5% Needing critical housing renovation



- As a result of the FCHA program, housing conditions of the beneficiary families improved considerably. In addition, the self-employment rate more than tripled, increasing from 11.1% to 40.3%, further proving the effectiveness of the program in reducing poverty.



- Thanks to this program, not only did housing conditions improve, but there was also an increase in the self-reliance among the family members. **Owning a home allowed them to become more independent and confident** in their abilities to support their families.
- **Beneficiary families actively participated in the construction of their homes.** The majority of the families surveyed consisted of five or more members. This corresponds to FCHA's main objective to provide assistance to larger families.
- FCHA works with as much transparency as possible with its beneficiary families - **80.5% of the beneficiaries said they were informed about the program from friends, community officials, or the mass media.**
- 90.3% of the beneficiaries were satisfied with the terms of the loans offered by FCHA, proving that the loan amount was accurately and fairly calculated. **Because FCHA's staff remained in close contact with its families, 97.2% of loan payments were made on time.**
- After participating in the FCHA program, **the financial stability of the beneficiary families increased by nearly 27%.** Furthermore, 98% of the beneficiaries testified that the program brought positive changes to their lives.

The survey justifies the necessity and efficiency of the FCHA program in Armenia. FCHA's housing program stabilizes the social condition of vulnerable families by giving them an effective solution to reducing and overcoming poverty.

Presented by Yerevan State University Social Work and Social Technologies Chair Lecturer, Yuliana Melkoumyan

## Last Year a Home - Today a Source of Income: FCHA Together With Heifer Armenia, is Working to Make a Difference in the Lives of Armenian Families.

What is needed for a family's happiness? Love, respect, mutual understanding... Now happiness and peace reign in Gharibyan's home. A year ago Vardges Gharibyan, from the Dasht village, said "I'm very grateful to Fuller Center for Housing Armenia who made our dream come true helping us to build our house. That's the most important thing for my family to have a simple and decent place to live." Now the miracle is doubled for the family. This year the family received a cow as a result of the partnership between FCHA & Heifer Armenia. "Now my family will have the daily milk, cheese, matsoun (Armenian yogurt) and other dairy products. We will do our best to make another family feel this happiness. Thank you for lifting people out of poverty," stated Anahit, the grandmother.



## "His Holiness Karekin II Building on Faith Work Project" 34 Families are Becoming Homeowners.



Just as humans need oxygen, food and water, they also need a shelter, something vital for everyone, something that people should have in order to survive in their homeland. Recognizing the basic problem of homelessness, the need for personal shelter, Fuller Center for Housing Armenia and Armenian Apostolic Church signed an agreement of partnership in 2009 to eliminate poverty housing in Armenia.

Thanks to this project already 29 families have new homes and the construction of 5 more homes soon will be completed. "Becoming a homeowner was the greatest accomplishment for my family. It has given us the sense of security. It's the greatest feeling that we could have ever felt. Every morning I wake up and feel so blessed to be in

my own house," shares Vardges Tunyan from the village of Lejan in the Lori region. His house was built with the support from "His Holiness Karekin II Building on Faith Work Project."

## Global Builders' Volunteer Teams With Space Available for Summer 2012

### Vanadzor area

June 3—17, team leader Patricia Zerounian  
June 14—29, team leader Cynthia Erickson

### Yerevan area

July 12—23, team leader Leo Manuelian  
August 11—25, team leader Larissa Printzian

To learn more, please visit: [www.fullercenterarmenia.org/get-involved/international-volunteers](http://www.fullercenterarmenia.org/get-involved/international-volunteers)

To support our programs, please make an  
online donation through our website:

[www.fullercenterarmenia.org/get-involved/donate](http://www.fullercenterarmenia.org/get-involved/donate)

Or send a check to:

The Fuller Center for Housing,  
PO Box 523, Americus, GA 31709, USA

Please add "Armenia" in the memo line.

Donations are tax-deductible. **THANK YOU!**

