The biggest individual donor, Jacqueline Ekgren

We always wrote about our volunteers, teams, family members, corporations and partners. Now we are proud to introduce Mrs. Jacqueline Ekgren, an individual, who made the biggest, one time donation to Fuller Center Armenia by supporting 4 families (2 half builds and 2 renovations) this year. However our friendship with Mrs. Ekgren has 6 years of history, starting when she came to Armenia to volunteer, then contributing towards an air-conditioned van for volunteer groups, and now sponsoring 4 families to have their own home first time ever in their life.

“A singer by profession (folksongs in many languages to own guitar accompaniment, church music, opera, musicals, pop, etc.) Mrs. Ekgren is the head of Ekgren Musikinstitutt in Oslo; musicologist and researcher of “stev”, an old Norwegian type of folksong.

“Would you like to join my Women’s Build Team in Armenia in 2004,” wrote to me Milana McLead. My three adult children’s reactions? “Mommmmm! you know nothing about the language, the culture, or how to build houses….We think you should go”. That decided it. I went. That summer’s experience of working side by side with you to build a house has changed my life. I have taken you and your country into my heart, and it is a joy to give something back to you” tells Jacqueline Ekgren.

Armenia Marriott Hotel, Yerevan, “Spirit to Serve”

It is the second year of our continuing partnership with Armenia Marriott hotel, Yerevan! It became an annual event to join forces and build with a family in housing need. The employees look forward to the event as it is a team-building activity too, interaction within employees of different departments outside of the work environment.

This time the group of 20 employees from the hotel including GM Ami Miron, executive management and employees from different departments visited Ashnak village, Aragatsotn region to build with Davtyans family.

“Every year we look forward to this cherishing activity as we are sure that with joint efforts and involvement we can help a family to start a better and more convenient life. This is one of the many initiatives that we become part of in the scope of our Spirit to Serve our communities actions as we pledge that every community will be a better place to live and work because we are there. This is a core value that Marriott International and our hotel proudly act upon and we want to set example for community involvement that our business partners, guests and other stakeholders will want to emulate”, said Ami Miron, the General Manager of Armenia Marriott Hotel.
PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) Armenia
a viewpoint by FCHA volunteer & PwC employee

"PwC is one of the world's largest providers of assurance, tax, and business consulting services. Serving clients in Armenia since 1996, it opened an office in Yerevan in 2007. Lilit Matevosyan, Tax Consultant, was one of the PwC staff members who volunteered in Ashnak village in October. Here she is sharing her impressions:

"I have been a volunteer at Fuller Center (previous Habitat for Humanity team) for more than six years as a member of HabiArm, Yerevan community youth group. Its mission and primary objectives that are to help families to have decent and simple houses have always been close to my heart. For achieving these goals it requires close collaboration between the staff, families, volunteers and donors beginning from the family selection stage, through the building process, completion and to the long-term relationship stage. For me volunteering at Fuller Center has not been just all about the inputs, such as ideas, time, efforts or money, but I have also gained my best friends, valuable experience, practical skills and great excitement after each time when we achieved the primary goal – having one more family living in its own comfortable house. Though I have participated in many building and various projects organized by Fuller Center, however, the building event in Ashnak village was even more special for me since I represented PricewaterhouseCoopers Armenia where I currently work. Once again it was a great opportunity and excitement for me to help the family in need. It was really great to see how my colleagues, the beneficiary family members and villagers were working side by side for the common goal and turning the dream into reality. I hope very much that our collaboration will continue in future and other local businesses will also join and contribute the projects of Fuller Center."

By Lilit Matevosyan

KPMG Armenia, Corporate Social Responsibility

"KPMG is a global network of professional firms providing Audit, Tax and Advisory services, that has 140,000 outstanding professionals working together to deliver value in 146 countries worldwide. KPMG Armenia CJSC is a company incorporated under the Laws of the Republic of Armenia. KPMG Armenia CJSC has been working together with FCHA 3 consecutive years already. It was one of the first companies in Armenia who participated in the initiatives of the Fuller Center for Housing Armenia (FCHA). In 2011 the company's employees will join to build with the FCHA partner families. KPMG Armenia CJSC supports the FCHA initiatives through contributing funds and involving volunteers.

Employees of KPMG Armenia CJSC try to create sustainable, long-term economic growth, not just for the member firm and clients but for the broader society, too. They seek to be a good corporate citizen making a real difference to the communities in which they operate."

To support our programs:
Make an online donation through our website:
www.fullercenterarmenia.org/get-involved/donate
Or send a check to:
The Fuller Center for Housing, PO Box 523, Americus, GA 31709
Please add "Armenia" in the memo line.
Donations are tax-deductible.
THANK YOU!