

96 Sarmen St., Yerevan 0019, Armenia

E-mail: fcarmenia@fcharmenia.org

Tel: (+374 10) 52 47 12

20

14

GRATITUDE

REPORT

to VivaCell-MTS



**Making Armenia
a Better Place to Live in**

25 December, 2014

Mr. Ralph Yirikian
General Manager
VivaCell-MTS

Dear Mr. Yirikian,

I am pleased to extend warm Season's Greetings and best wishes to you on behalf of the team at Fuller Center for Housing Armenia and all the families supported. From the bottom of my heart I would like to express my deepest appreciation for VivaCell-MTS generous investment in our mission. Thanks to that generous philanthropic support 25 families-119 persons from 5 communities of 2 borderland regions of Armenia will meet the New Year in their new decent homes.

Inevitably, within all this seasonal joy there follows the chance to pause and reflect on the year past and the year ahead so I am sending you this gratitude report with a brief picture of the work done in 2014.

Many times when visiting the families of borderland villages before being selected I asked the family members what was needed for them not to leave the village and all of them answered they needed a safe roof over their heads.

Thank you for making the dream of so many people come true, thank you for your generous contribution in eliminating poverty housing in Armenia and reducing migration.

With warmest regards,

Ashot Yeghiazaryan,
Fuller Center for Housing Armenia President



***The border is behind but now I know that
my children and grandchildren have a safe
roof over their heads and will never live our
village!***

~ Grandmother Zhenya, 76 years old



FAMILIES SUPPORTED

FAMILY	REGION	COMMUNITY	MEMBERS	EXPENSES (AMD)
Muradyan	Armavir	Yervandashat	6	3 500 000
Ghazaryan	Armavir	Yervandashat	4	3 500 000
Avetisyan	Armavir	Yervandashat	4	1 000 000
Sargsyan	Armavir	Yervandashat	5	1 000 000
Ayvazyan/Grigoryan	Armavir	Yervandashat	5	1 000 000
Melkonyan	Armavir	Yervandashat	4	1 000 000
Serobyan	Armavir	Yervandashat	5	1 000 000
Avoyan	Armavir	Yervandashat	7	1 000 000
Ivanyan	Armavir	Margara	4	3 500 000
Badiryan	Tavoush	Vazashen	5	3 500 000
Bakhchagulyan	Tavoush	Vazashen	6	3 635 000
Ayvazyan	Tavoush	Aygepar	4	1 000 000
Grigoryan/Arakelyan	Tavoush	Aygepar	4	1 000 000
Galstyan	Tavoush	Aygepar	4	1 670 000
Grigoryan	Tavoush	Aygepar	4	3 400 000
Grigoryan	Tavoush	Aygepar	4	2 795 000
Hovakimyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	4	3 200 000
Parsyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	5	1 000 000
Simonyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	4	1 000 000
Arakelyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	4	1 000 000
Ghahramanyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	5	3 500 000
Galstyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	8	1 000 000
Galstyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	6	1 000 000
Galstyan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	2	3 500 000
Adamyan/Abgaryan	Tavoush	N. Karmiraghbyur	6	1 300 000
25 Families	2 Regions	5 Communities	119 Members	50 000 000 AMD

ACHIEVEMENTS

25 FAMILIES - 119 PERSONS

IN 5 BORDERLAND COMMUNITIES

OF 2 REGIONS OF ARMENIA

**HAVE COMPLETED THE CONSTRUCTION
OF THEIR HOMES OWING TO THE GENEROUS SUPPORT
OF VIVACELL-MTS.**

**NOW THEY CAN RAISE THEIR CHILDREN
IN DECENT HOMES.**

THE PROJECT LAUNCH AT THE VILLAGE OF VAZASHEN, TAVOUSH REGION

April 2014



MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Building shoulder to shoulder with and for the families in need of decent housing.



Muradyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Grandmother	Servenik Muradyan	76 years old
Father	Hakob Muradyan	51 years old
Mother	Azatuhie Muradyan	41 years old
Daughter	Tigranuhie Muradyan	21 years old
Daughter	Servenik Muradyan	17 years old
Son	Tigran Muradyan	16 years old

It is already 64 years the Muradyans have been living in Yervandashat. The family father's, Hakob's parents have brought up their 5 children in a building that used to serve as a kindergarten and needed renovation. Later their 5 children, some of them already with their own families, have also had to live together under one roof.

In 1992 the political and economic situation in the country worsened, and their dream of having a home remained unaccomplished.

In 2005 they started the construction of a new house but were unable to finish it because of financial difficulties. Unfortunately in 2013 Hakob's father passed away of a heart attack not being able to see the completed house.



“At last my grandchildren have their own space to do their lessons, there are all the necessary living conditions for all of us. We will never live our village, we will stay here to protect our borders. May all families enjoy this happiness! God bless you and remember you always have home to stay in when in Yervandashat.”

~ Grandmother Servenik



Ghazaryan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Father	Artur Ghazaryan	48 years old
Mother	Gohar Ghazaryan	48 years old
Son	Zhora Ghazaryan	25 years old
Son	Gor Ghazaryan	21 years old

Many years the Ghazaryans have lived with Artur's parents and brother's family. In 1988 they started the construction of their own house. But very soon the blockade and the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict broke dreams of many people. The economic crisis followed it which in its turn brought a wave of unemployment and the Ghazaryans were among the unemployed ones. In such a condition it became almost impossible to finish the construction of their new house.

Since 1988 Arthur has been trying to build the house putting stone by stone but the small income coming from farming and cattle-breeding wasn't enough to raise up two sons and meantime to build the house. In 1997 the family moved into the unfinished house without any necessities – just bare walls built and the roofing done and living in such conditions almost more than 15 years.



“I can’t find words to explain what it means to wait for your dream of having basic housing conditions come true for a whole life... The only thing I dreamed was to see my sons with their families happy and healthy under a safe roof, in a warm home. Thank you for giving us that hope and chance of feeling the happiness of safety in this borderland village of Yervandashat...”

~Gohar Ghazaryan



Avetisyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Grandmother	Zhenya Stepanyan	82 years old
Father	Varuzhan Avetisyan	51 years old
Mother	Yelena Avetisyan	48 years old
Son	Andranik Avetisyan	24 years old

The Avetisyan family moved to Yervandashat from Talin in 1970. Varuzhan Avetisyan's parents, Sargis and Zhenya had 2 sons. For a very long time the two already married brothers have lived with their parents - 3 families, 11 persons in the same place. Soon Sargis, together with his two sons, built a house for the eldest son in the same village. Varuzhan and Yelena have brought up their children running their household as farmers. Their daughter is already married; their son Andranik is an IT specialist, but does not work in his field, he helps his father sustain the house; in the village the need for an IT specialist is not so high.

It is already several years that Varuzhan has been trying to improve the housing conditions. They have managed to build the kitchen, made some general rehabilitation works. However all the work was at risk of being destroyed as the roof of the house needed to be repaired, but they couldn't afford it with the small income coming from farming.





“We appreciate your support very much. Such programs help us become stronger in our belief and feel that we are not forgotten in our motherland and can stay at our homes near the border and keep it strong”

~Yelena Avetisyan



Sargsyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Father	Karen Sargsyan	50 years old
Mother	Tigranuhie Atoyan	42 years old
Daughter	Hasmik Sargsyan	22 years old
Daughter	Mariam Sargsyan	19 years old
Son	Mihran Sargsyan	14 years old

The Sargsyan family lives in the village of Yervandashat, Armavir region. Karen Sargsyan and his brother Armen Sargsyan were born and grown up in Yervandashat in an old house built by their father in 1965. The boys have gotten an education of motor mechanic and stockbreeder. Later on when the two brothers married they used to live together in the same house with their parents and their families for several years. Then Armen managed to build a home for his family and moved to live separately.

Karen and Tigranuhie have three daughters and a son; the eldest daughter is already married; the other two girls are now studying; they want to become beautician and a pedicurist respectively, and their son is a high school student.

Karen started the rehabilitation of the house, but due to financial difficulties couldn't finish it.





“The life with a feeling that anytime the wind can blow away your old deteriorated roof and your children will stay in the open air is so stressful. This program helped me create decent housing conditions necessary for the healthy life of my entire family.”

~Karen Sargsyan



Ayvazyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Grandmother	Zhenya Ayvazyan	81 years old
Mother	Tsovinar Grigoryan	44 years old
Daughter	Lusine Ayvazyan	21 years old
Daughter	Gohar Ayvazyan	19 years old
Son	Rafik Ayvazyan	17 years old

It is already several years Tsovinar has been taking care of her family as a single mother as her husband, Shahan, passed away. Tsovinar makes living as a primary school teacher in Yervandashat. At the same time she is doing gardening with the help of her children.

Their house was built by Shahan's father in 1965. In 2013 Tsovinar with his son and brother-in-law managed to renovate the rooms of the house but it was at risk to be damaged as the roof was in a very bad condition. With the income coming from the salary of a teacher and also from gardening it was almost impossible to conduct those construction works and to pay for the education of her children.



“Shahen, my son, dreamed to renovate our house, where he and his siblings were brought up, he wanted to provide his children with simple living conditions, but the early death left his dream unrealized. Now I am so happy that my son’s dream is realized. Thank you so much and God bless you for all the good work you do!”

~ Grandmother Zhenya



Melkonyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Father	Arshak Melkonyan	41 years old
Mother	Qristine Stepanyan	34 years old
Daughter	Sona Melkonyan	17 years old
Son	Vazgen Melkonyan	14 years old

The Melkonyan family house was built in 1964. Arshak, a father of two children and a teacher in the neighboring village, undertook to conduct some rehabilitation works. He managed to construct sewage system for the house, kitchen, replaced some of the windows, but couldn't go on due to financial difficulties. It seemed to be senseless, as without the roof rehabilitation all the other works were at risk to be damaged.

Arshak earned for living as a teacher. Now he has changed his work-concluded military contract to protect the borders of his country. The family is also engaged in farming, but that was not enough to care the family needs and to renovate the house at the same time.



“In rainy or snowy weather it seemed we were living in the open air. Now my family lives in a dry healthy home with a happy family atmosphere... I’ve signed military contract to protect my family and the country borders and now when being far from my family I will know that they have a safe roof over their heads...”

~Arshak Melkonyan



Serobyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Father	Yeghishe Serobyan	50 years old
Mother	Margarit Serobyan	46 years old
Aunt	Teresa Serobyan	55 years old
Son	Karapet Serobyan	22 years old
Daughter	Nune Serobyan	15 years old

The family father, Yeghishe, was born in Yervandashat in a large family. He was the only son and a brother of 4 sisters. The family used to live in an old house built by his father in 1967. In 1985 Yeghishe got married. Now he is a father of four children - three daughters and a son. The two elder daughters are already married. The youngest daughter is a student of high school.

Yeghishe is a farmer, but after the collapse of the Soviet Union and Armenia-Azerbaijani conflict the villagers didn't have easy access to the nearest market; that was possible only in case of having a car. So it was very difficult to earn a living and create decent housing conditions. They lived in a space without safe windows and a roof. Owing to the generous support of VivaCell-MTS now the family has decent housing conditions.





“This looks like a light in the long dark tunnel that after many years of hardships lightened our life and now my family has a decent place to live in. Many thanks to VivaCell-MTS and Fuller Center Armenia for the support.”

~Yeghishe Serobyan



Avoyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Grandmother	Shushanik Avoyan	81 years old
Father	Samvel Avoyan	50 years old
Mother	Rouzanna Arakelyan	47 years old
Daughter	Marianna Avoyan	22 years old
Daughter	Margarit Avoyan	19 years old
Son	Karapet Avoyan	17 years old
Son	Khachatur Avoyan	15 years old

The Ghazaryan family used to live in a house which was built by Samvel's father back in 1965. They lived with Samvel's brother family and the other members of Avoyans. Later in 1990 Samvel's father managed to build a house for his eldest son and his family. Because of the economic crisis of those years they couldn't even think of the house rehabilitation. The only income of the family came from farming, but at those times they didn't have access to the market and couldn't sell their produce, which made the life in the borderline villages much more difficult. **"If somebody could help us financially, I would do all the construction of our roof myself," said Marianna, the eldest daughter.**

In 1999 Samvel's father passed away. Last year Samvel got brucellosis and had to recover almost a year, which made the possibility of the house construction even more difficult.



“It is so exciting to realize that people who are not your relatives or friends take care of you and are willing to make you happy. Thank you all for your efforts and care.”

~Rouzanna Arakelyan

“We love our village, the place we were born and grown up and now having a decent home, we will never leave it”

~Marianna Avoyan



Ivanyan Family

Armavir Region, Yervandashat Village

Father	Ivanyan Ashot	35 years old
Mother	Vardanyan Flora	35 years old
Daughter	Ivanyan Natalie	5 years old
Son	Ivanyan Nshan	7 years old

The Ivanyan family of four is living in Margara town in the Armavir Province of Armenia (the closest border crossing to Turkey from Yerevan which has a road bridge across the Araks River to Turkey).

The Ivanyans have been living in one of the villager's house for 5 years, but soon had to give back the keys to the house to its homeowners. Then two years the family have been living in Ashot's, the family father's cousin's house in very poor conditions- moldy walls, no sanitary conditions, no bathroom – just a broken outhouse and a small place for washing up.

The family has been living with the fear that sooner or later they should leave that house as well.

The Ivanyans are hardworking people; they have no stable work, but try their best to earn their living and bring up their children. The main income of the family comes from agriculture; they grow vegetables, also do seasonal work, like haying for other villagers, and then get paid for it...



“There is nothing worse than to always live with the fear that one day your children will have no roof over their head... We moved from one temporary shelter to another always struggling with the hardships of life and always worrying for the future of our children. Now we have a new home, which is ours, not someone else’s but ours. This is a kind of miracle. Words are not enough to express my gratitude for the immeasurable support... my children are no longer homeless!”

~Flora, a young mother of two.



Badiryan Family

Tavoush Region, Vazashen Village

Grandmother	Laura Badiryan	70 years old
Father	Arayik Badiryan	50 years old
Mother	Svetlana Aroyan	45 years old
Son	Manuk Badiryan	18 years old
Son	Hakob Badiryan	16 years old

The Badiryans were one of those farmer families who struggled for their land and home in the borderland village of Vazashen.

Hakob Badiryan, a farmer, and Laura Badiryan, a teacher at a primary school, had two sons, Arayik and Manuk. In April 1992 the younger son, Manuk, was shot in a battle and died in the arms of his father. For two months their house was bombarded as all the other houses in the village. Badiryan Hakob, Laura and their already only son, Arayik, had to seek refuge in different places for almost a year. Later they returned to the village and tried to start their life. Little by little they tried to rebuild their home but during those years it was very difficult to earn the living and to build/reconstruct a home at the same time. Hakob Badiryan could never accept his son's, Manuk's, death. Years later he died of a heart attack.

Arayik got married and has two sons. The eldest was named after his uncle Manuk. He is now studying medicine at the institute. The youngest son, Hakob, is named after his grandfather. He is a high school student.



“This support is invaluable; now we have a home with all the necessities, now my children and grandchildren live under a safe roof and don’t even think of leaving the village.”

~Grandmother Laura



Bakhchagulyan Family

Tavoush Region, Vazashen Village

Father	Albert Bakhchagulyan	42 years old
Mother	Alita Ohanyan	39 years old
Grandmother	Zhenya Arakelyan	76 years old
Son	Arthur Bakhchagulyan	16 years old
Son	Tatul Bakhchagulyan	14 years old
Son	Arman Bakhchagulyan	12 years old

The Bakhchagulyan family grandmother, Zhenya, had to bring up her five children - three sons and two daughters alone as her husband, Rasmik, was killed in 1992. Both her husband and her sons were among the fighters protecting their village, their home country. But on that very day her husband was at home when the bombardment started and was killed right in front of the house when giving fodder to the animals.

The house was ruined partly. During the post-war years plastic bags served as glasses for the windows for generations – for grandma Zhenya, her children and later for the grandchildren. Her son, Albert, has managed to rebuild only a small part of the house during the last four years, but couldn't go on with the construction as it was too difficult to earn living and rebuild the house, as the only family income came from farming and cattle breeding.



“You helped me to be the eyewitness of my grandchildren's happiness. Having their own home will help them believe in their roots and future and stay in the village to protect our country borders.”

~Grandmother Zhenya.



Ayvazyan Family

Tavoush Region, Aygepar Village

Grandfather	Hamlet Ayvazyan	61 years old
Father	Arman Ayvazyan	26 years old
Mother	Astghik Ayvazyan	22 years old
Son	Hamlet Ayvazyan	2 years old

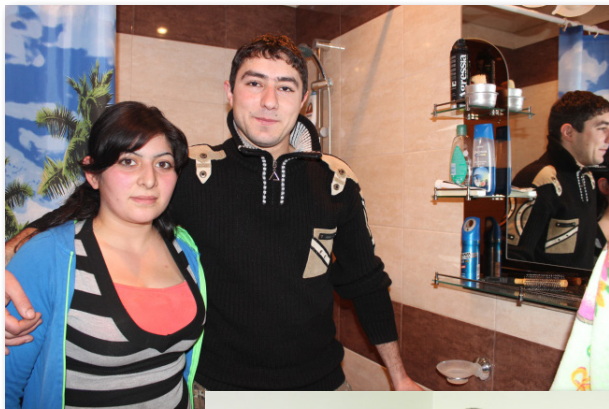
The Ayvazyan family have lived in the village of Aygepar for many years. They had a two room apartment. The grandfather of the family, Hamlet Ayvazyan, remembers how happy they lived in their small but comfortable apartment. Everything changed in 1992. Their apartment was destroyed by enemy's bombardments. Fortunately nobody was at home. The family moved to live in a building that served as a laboratory. It was a small room without any comfort, which served as a kitchen, as a bathroom and a bedroom at the same time. After war the family tried to rebuild their apartment, but could renovate only the walls due to financial difficulties.

The time passed by, the children grew up; now they are all married. Hamlet's daughter and the elder son with their families live separately. Hamlet lives with his junior son, Arman, his wife Astghik and their son, the junior Hamlet.



“This is our home, this is our village and we should stay here to protect our families. Thank you for being next people living on the border, thank you for being a helping hand! It helps us be stronger and work harder to ensure happy and safe childhood for our children.”

~ Arman Ayvazyan



Grigoryan/Arakelyan Family

Tavoush Region, Aygepar Village

Father	Albert Grigoryan	75 years old
Mother	Zoya Arakelyan	65 years old
Aunt	Maria Hayrapetovna	90 years old
Son	Artem Grigoryan	24 years old

The extended family of Grigoryans has started building their house since 1978. Albert Grigoryan, the family grandfather, has 7 children, all of them are now married and live separately. Now Albert Grigoryan and his wife, Zoya, live with their youngest son, Artem.

In 1990s the Grigoryan family's house, particularly the roof, has been damaged of enemy's shootings. The family has been trying to renovate the house, but couldn't due to financial difficulties.

Now Zoya and Albert are pensioners. The only breadwinner of the family is Artem, who takes care of his parents and of his mother's aunt.



“I thought I was all alone with the difficulties of life, but now I know there are people who are concerned about people living in borderland areas. Now when our home is renovated I can concentrate on taking care of my parents and my mom’s aunt. Thank you so much!”

~ Artem Grigoryan



Galstyan Family

Tavoush Region, Aygepar Village

Father	Edvard Galstyan	31 years old
Mather	Hermine Smbatyan	27 years old
Daughter	Izabella Galstyan	5 years old
Daughter	Varduhi Galstyan	3 years old
Sun	Raffi Galstyan	1 year old

The Galstyan family of five lived in the village of Nerkin Karmiraghbyur with Edvard Galstyan's parents and brother in a two room house without basic housing conditions.

The father of the family is mercenary, and the mother is a housewife; she takes care of their three little children.

Two years ago they bought a house in the neighboring village of Aygepar. It was an old house without basic housing conditions, with a broken deteriorated roof and damp walls caused by leaking.



"Now we don't have to put pots when it is raining, now it's dry at home."

~ Izabella, 5 years old.



Grigoryan Family

Tavoush Region, Aygepar Village

Father	Arayik Grigoryan	37 years old
Mother	Agnessa Ohanyan	33 years old
Daughter	Arevik Grigoryan	7 years old
Daughter	Astghik Grigoryan	2 years old

Arayik Galstyan was born and grown up in the borderland village of Moves. He used to live with his parents and brother's family of five -11 people in a small 3 room house.

In 2008 Arayik with his family moved to live in the nearby village of Nerkin Karmiraghbyur and rented an apartment. Arayik is a mercenary. His wife, Agnessa, doesn't work; she takes care of their children; the younger one, Astghik, is only two years old and Arevik is a second grade schoolchild.

With the growing needs of the family Arayik couldn't even think of buying a house for his family.

Now thanks to the generous support of VivaCell-MTS an apartment was purchased for the family and they will meet the New Year in their decent homes.



"I couldn't even imagine that one day I'll have my own home where my children will grow up. Thank you! This is the greatest gift of my life, the greatest gift for the New Year!"

~Arayik Grigoryan



Grigoryan Family

Tavoush Region, Aygepar Village

Father	Anatoly Grigoryan	35 years old
Mather	Tehmine Arakelyan	32 years old
Son	Edvard Grigoryan	12 years old
Son	Tigran Grigoryan	8 years old

For a very long time the Grigoryans have been living with the family father's, Anatoly's parents and two brothers in a small house.

They have tried to buy or built a house and move to live separately as year by year it was getting harder and harder to live with 7 people in a small house.

Anatoly works in a store (a small metal container that serves as a store), Tehmine does not work, she is a housewife and takes care of their sons.

In 2013 on Christmas Eve the eight-year-old Tigran kept two dreams - the first one was a home for his family, and the second one was to become the president of the Republic of Armenia.

His first dream is already a reality. Owing to the generous support of VivaCell-MTS an apartment was purchased for the family in the same village.



“My first dream is now a reality - we have a home. Now I will do good at school to make my second dream come true. Thank you!”

~ Tigran, 8 years old



Hovakimyan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Father	Andranik Hovakimyan	51 years old
Mother	Alvard Meliqyan	51 years old
Son	Armen Hovakimyan	24 years old
Daughter	Alina Hovakimyan	16 years old

In 1994 the last shot of the tank destroyed the Hovakimyans' apartment. At that time Andranik, the family father, was protecting his motherland in the neighboring village of Chinar.

Fortunately at the time of bombardments Andranik's wife, Alvard and her five and six years old children could shelter in the basement of the building.

The apartment could not be reconstructed any more. Andranik's family moved to live in the nearby building, previously served as an army headquarters. The third child was born and grew up in this building. Time passed, the Hovakimyans' eldest daughter got married, son graduated from Yerevan State University and now works in Yerevan. Andranik says his son is ready to come back to his village in case there is a possibility of finding a job. The youngest daughter has graduated from school.

For 20 years the Hovakimyans have been dreaming that one day they will have a decent place to live in.



“We have dreamed of this day for 20 years. Now when we have our dream home we will never leave our village. Our life has changed - there is a happy family atmosphere in this new home. Words cannot express my gratitude for your kindness and generosity...”

~Andranik Hovakimyan



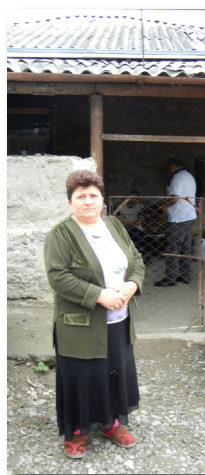
Parsyan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Father	Marsel Parsyan	54 years old
Mother	Larisa Esayan	49 years old
Son	Gor Parsyan	27 years old
Daughter-in-law	Aida Qosakyan	22 years old
Grandson	Marsel Parsyan	1 years old

The Parsyan family moved to the village of Nerkin Karmiraghbyur, Tavoush Region in 1990, from Ashtarak city. Marsel and Larisa started their house construction on the skirts of the village and managed to raise the walls and roofed it... It supposed to be a small, cozy house but the war broke their dreams. In 1995 Marsel got wounded in his leg, arm and ribs by a blow up of a bomb and it needed long time to fully recover so the Paryans couldn't go on with the construction of their house.

Many years passed by, Marsel is already a grandpa. His son, Gor, works for the military police, he is married and has a son. The second generation is growing up in this house. Marsel and his family could only rehabilitate the house from inside, providing with simple housing conditions for living but its roof needed to be completely renovated as it was deteriorated and was leaking during rainy weather.



“We would like to express our gratitude for helping us finish the construction of our house. It will make our home a healthier place to live in and raise our grandchildren, and we won’t worry that our children and grandchildren will get ill from the mold caused by leaking.”

~Marsel Parsyan



Simonyan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Father	Navasard Simonyan	49 years old
Mother	Viktoria Simonyan	49 years old
Son	Gor Simonyan	26 years old
Son	Aramayis Simonyan	24 years old

The Simonyan family of four has gone through many difficulties in life. The two sons of Navasard and Viktoria Simonyan, Aramayis and Gor, were small children, two and four years old respectively, when their house was ruined by enemy's bombardments. This has left painful traces in the memory of the family that they don't even want to remember. After this bombardment the nuclear family of Simonyans, the spouses and their two sons, had to live in a metal container (domik) for more than ten years. In 2003 they managed to buy a house with poor conditions; the roof of the house was leaking as it had a lot of slots and the half of it was burned during the war.

Every year the father of the family, Navasard, together with his sons kept renovating the roof but no use of it - in winters and rainy seasons the rooms always got damp caused by leaking. Navasard could not afford repairing it fundamentally as he could hardly care the needs of the growing family.

Today Gor works at military police and Aramayis works at police. More than ten years the Simonyans, with three hard working men, has been unable to renovate the roof.



"I know, maybe it will sound funny that someone can dream of a new roof, but when one does not have means to renovate it then it becomes a dream... Now we live in a dry and a healthy house! God bless you in all your good works! Thank you!"

~Viktoria Simonyan

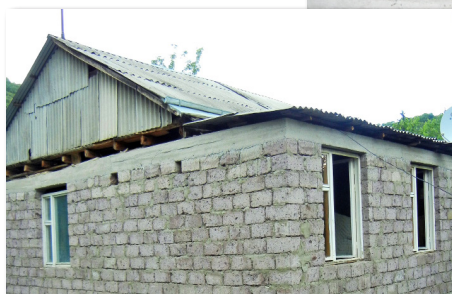


Arakelyan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Father	Samvel Arakelyan	55 years old
Mother	Svetlana Manucharyan	57 years old
Son	Armen Arakelyan	25 years old
Grandmother	Tsovik Arakelyan	75 years old

The Arakelyan family have lived in Nerkin Karmiraghbyur village of Tavoush region for 50 years. Samvel's father started building their house in 1964. It was a little, one-floor house, with three damp, dark and small rooms, without any necessities. He has built the walls but couldn't roof it. In 2007 he did some renovation works on the roof, as well as on the bathroom but couldn't finish it due to financial difficulties. The father of the family is engaged in farming. The mother of family Svetlana works in the kindergarten. Their daughter, Astghik, is married and lives in the same village. Their son, Armen, was born with health problems. He has congenital vertebral problems. The parents have done their best to treat him but nothing helped.



“My husband and I have tried to build a cozy home all our life, but the time passed by and no single day we lived in a house with simple necessities. My husband passed away. I am 75 years old. My only wish was to see our house completely finished at least for my grandson Armen because he will never able to do that due to health problems. Now it is has become a reality. We are more than grateful...”

~Grandmother Tsovik



Ghahramanyan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Father	Samvel Ghahramanyan	40 years old
Mother	Astghik Arakelyan	30 years old
Son	Albert Ghahramanyan	10 years old
Son	Tigran Ghahramanyan	6 years old
Son	Hayk Ghahramanyan	6 years old

The Ghahramanyans have been living in Nerkin Karmiraghbyur since the foundation of it.

Before buying an unfinished building, Samvel Ghahramanyan, his wife and their three sons used to live at Samvel's parents' home, where he had grown up with his brothers and sisters.

Samvel and Astghik could not even imagine their life in another village, as both of them were born and grown up there and passed the war time there. In 2009 they bought an unfinished house believing that they would be able to construct it and provide their children with safe housing conditions.

The house was damaged during the 1993 war. Since 2009 Samvel has been trying to rebuild it, but the years passed by, and they couldn't afford completing the house and meantime care the family needs.

Samvel works as a mercenary and Astghik is a mentor in the kindergarten. Their three sons are school children. The parents work hard to care the family needs and meantime do some construction work on their house but they couldn't complete it with the growing needs of three children.



"This is my home and no war can make us leave it. If not us then who should defend our country, our children. We are grateful for the great support, for the realization of our dream, that is to live with dignity"

~Samvel Ghahramanyan



Galstyan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Father	Edik Galstyan	61 years old
Mother	Rima Sharyan	64 years old
Son	Artak Galstyan	29 years old
Son	Albert Galstyan	33 years old
Daughter-in-law	Nune Melikyan	29 years old
Grandson	Hrach Galstyan	8 years old
Grandson	Viktor Galstyan	5 years old
Grandson	Ruslan Galstyan	1 year old

The Galstyans' house was built in 1975. It was a big, barite, beautiful house. The Galstyans have lived there happily many years and they would live the same way if not the war. The second floor was destroyed when a bomb fell on the roof in 1992. The family father was defending the village on the border. The family mother, Rima, sent their two sons, Artak and Albert to Georgia, to the grandmother's house, to protect them.

Ten long years the family has lived in the ruined house. Now the boys have grown up. In 2003 they renovated the ruined part of their house, but didn't finish it due to financial difficulties. The roof of the house needed to be renovated.

The Galstyans' elder son, Artak, works in the shop, and the junior son, Albert, is a border keeper. In 2005 he married and now has three sons.



“Every time when it was raining or snowing the ceiling of our house became darker of moss. I’m already a man and I helped my father, my grandfather and my uncle to renovate our roof. I love our house. After renovating it is the best house in the world’.

~Hrach, 8 years old



Galstayn Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Father	Nver Galstyan	42 years old
Mother	Vera Adamyan	38 years old
Son	Hovhannes Galstyan	18 years old
Son	Narek Galstyan	16 years old
Grandmother	Frida Galstyan	70 years old
Aunt	Tsovik Galstyan	87 years old

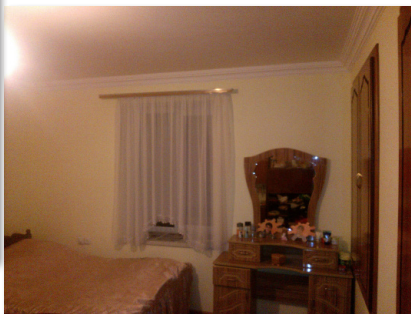
The Galstyans' house was built at the start of the past century. Nver Galstyans' father and grandfather renovated the house in 1972. The Galstyans have lived in this house for many years. Over the time the old roof deteriorated and the house was damaged of leaking. The family tried to renovate the house. They did the renovation of the kitchen and the bathroom and started renovating one room with the fear that all their efforts will go in vain once the heavy rains start. But they couldn't even think of renovating the roof with the small income they had.

Their elder son, Hovhannes, is now in the army. The junior, Narek, is a schoolchild. Nver has a garden where he grows ornamental trees with his wife and that is the only income of the family.



"I was born in this house and I love it. Many years my father have tried to create good housing conditions for us. The war and the economic situation of the country didn't allow us complete the construction of our house. Now the construction is completed and I can celebrate my birthday in my renovated home. I don't want any present for my birthday; I do already have the biggest one - a decent place for me and my family. Thank you!"

~Nver Galstyan



Galstyan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Mother	Arusyak Melikbekyan	58 years old
Son	Artak Galstyan	26 years old

Artak Galstyan was born and grown up in the village of Nerkin Karmiraghbyur. He lived with her mother, brother and his growing family in a small house. Year by year it was getting more difficult for the young man to live in that small house not even having a room of his own.

He has a fiancée, but they couldn't marry as they didn't have a place to live. He dreamed that one day he would build the house where would be many rooms for children, a small garden for his wife and a small room for an office.

Artak is a hard working young man. He is engaged in farming and works in Nerkin Karmiraghbyur village municipality.

In 2014 he bought a half built house with only the walls built and the roofing done, but the small income was not enough for the young man to go on with the house construction.



“Finally my son Artak has a home of his own and now he can marry and have his own family. This is a real blessing for us! Thank you for being next to young people, and not only. The stronger are the families, the stronger is the society; thank you for giving us a reliable basis for successful future.”

~Arusyak, Melikbekyan



Adamyan/Abgaryan Family

Tavoush Region, Nerkin Karmiraghbyur Village

Mother	Alvard Simonyan	67 years old
Son	Grisha Adamyan	50 years old
Daughter-in-law	Arevhat Abgaryan	42 years old
Grandson	Edmond Adamyan	17 years old
Grandson	Souren Adamyan	7 years old

The Adamyan family house has a hundred-year history with three generations having lived.

Alvard Simonyan has gone through many difficulties in her life; her husband, Suren, was injured in the war in 1992. Their house was burned by enemy's bombardments in 1993. It was dangerous to stay there. Most of the villagers had to leave their houses, but the Adamyan family decided to stay and protect the village struggling for their place under the sun, struggling for their home, for their country. The roof of the house was fired twice. And each time the family kept renovating it. The time passed by Suren's health got poorer. In 2007 he passed away. Alvard stayed alone with her son's family. For many years they had to live in their tumbledown house, without simple housing conditions, with a leaking roof. Alvard's son, Grisha, and her daughter-in-law, Arevhat, are working hard, but it's difficult to earn living and to renovate the house at the same time.



"Sometimes it seemed that people living in the borderland areas are forgotten... I am so happy that there are people who still think of us. This project gives me hope and faith. All I want is peace for everyone. I want to see my children and grandchildren living a better life.

Now we have a safe and comfortable house. Our home is our castle and we are strong when the walls of that castle are solid. Thank you so much for the support that can't be measured..."

~Alvard Simonyan





**WE HAVE A HOME NOW.
THANK YOU!**



**ON BEHALF
OF THE 25 FAMILIES
THANK YOU**

***for making a real difference
in their lives and contributing to
the reduction of migration!***