

CARING FOR LITTLE SMILES OF ARMENIA

OHFAR

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



OHFAR

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Letter From Leadership

Dear Friends of OHFAR,

I want to begin with my deepest gratitude. Every healthy smile given to Armenian children is the result of trust, generosity, and shared belief.

OHFAR exists because people like you chose to care about children you may never meet, but whose futures you want to change.

The year 2025 marked a defining moment for our foundation. With the launch of Adamnabus, our first mobile dental clinic, we welcomed our first children and families.

None of this would have been possible without the unwavering dedication of our Board, sponsors, partners, and volunteers. Your time, expertise, and commitment transformed an idea into action. Together, we built a foundation rooted in professionalism, compassion, and respect for every child we serve.



As we look toward 2026, we do so with responsibility and hope. The needs are great, but so is our determination. With your continued support, we will expand our reach, deepen our impact, and ensure that even more Armenian children can grow with a healthy smile. Thank you for standing with us yesterday, today, and in the year ahead.

Dr. Harmik Minassian

Director

Oral Health Foundation for Children of Armenia



Oral Health in Armenia

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines oral health as the state of the mouth, teeth, and orofacial structures that enables individuals to perform essential functions such as eating, breathing, and speaking. Oral health is deeply connected to psychosocial well-being, self-confidence, and the ability to learn, socialize, and work without pain or discomfort. **Without access to preventive and curative oral healthcare, health equity and true Universal Health Coverage (UHC) cannot be realized.**

In Armenia, the situation is particularly concerning.

More than 90% of children suffer from untreated tooth decay in their temporary teeth, a condition that can lead to chronic pain, infection, difficulty eating, and long-term oral health complications. **Armenia also ranks among the highest of 51 countries studied for sweet consumption among children,** significantly increasing the risk of early childhood caries.

Systemic challenges further exacerbate the problem.

The density of dentists remains low, with a deep imbalance between urban and rural areas, leaving many communities without regular access to dental care. Armenia also currently lacks a comprehensive oral health policy, reliable national oral health data, and coordinated public awareness campaigns focused on prevention.

As a result, oral disease remains widespread and largely untreated, despite its profound impact on children's health, development, and quality of life. **Addressing these gaps is essential to protect future generations and to ensure that oral health is recognized as a pillar of public health in Armenia.**



Our Journey

Our work in oral health began in 1995 with the creation of the Armenian International Dentist Association (AIDA) in Boston, USA, uniting the Armenian dental community around a shared mission to serve vulnerable children.

By 1997–1998, this commitment led to the opening of the first free dental clinic in Artsakh, in Shushi. Between 2004 and 2005, the Hand in Hand NGO was established, expanding services through permanent clinics in Martuni and Hadrut.

In 2006, the launch of our first free mobile dental clinic enabled outreach to remote and underserved communities, marking a shift toward equitable access to care.

Our data revealed that 95.6% of children had untreated dental caries. Preventive programs such as Brush-a-mania and the Brushdrome were introduced, alongside WHO-standard school screenings and the distribution of oral hygiene kits.

By 2019, participating villages saw a 30% reduction in caries rates, fewer extractions and dental emergencies, and a measurable increase in oral health awareness.

In 2023, the invasion and occupation of Artsakh by Azerbaijan forced closure and the loss of all assets.

Despite this, the impact of nearly three decades of work endures:

- **160,000 children cared for**
- **4 land and 2 mobile clinics** operated in partnership with the MOH of the Republic of Artsakh.

In 2024, the Board of Hand in Hand NGO decided to restart activities in the Republic of Armenia in 2025.

Adamnabus Reveal

On 3 June 2025, we officially presented for the first time to the public our new mobile dental clinic Adamnabus during the 5th Armenia-France Decentralized Cooperation Conference held in Goris.

We had the honour to present Adamnabus to senior officials from both countries including the Ambassador of France to Armenia M. Decottignies, the president of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region M. Pannekoucke, the governor of Syunik region M. Ghukasyan, the Deputy Minister of Health M. Jumayan, and the Advisor to the Minister of Health Dr. Terzan.

We are also grateful for the support of UMAF Lyon Rhône-Alpes French NGO who was represented by its president Dr. Kayayan, and to news channel CivilNet and SyunikTV who shared this news with their audience.



OHFAR Launch

On 7 July 2025, OHFAR Foundation officially launched its activities during a public ceremony held in Yerevan, marking an important milestone in our journey. The event was honored by the presence of Dr. Nune Pashayan from the Ministry of Health, Dr. Siddharta Datta from WHO, and Mr. Decottignies, Ambassador of France.

We presented our history, vision, objectives, and upcoming activities to around 100 attendees. We extend our sincere gratitude to them and to our partners whose presence and support contributed to the success of this milestone event.



OHFAR Board

Our Board is a multidisciplinary team of experts from Armenia, France, USA, Canada and Brazil, dedicated to improve oral health of children in Armenia.



Dr. Berdj Kiladjian
Boston - USA



Dr. Arnold Weiss
Boston - USA



Dr. Harmik Minassian
Lyon - France



Dr. Alex Bejian
MA - USA



Dr. George Vosgerichian
Boston - USA



Dr. Denise Klatchoian
São Paulo - Brazil



Dr. Aram Sirakian
Boston - USA



Dr. Raffi Chalian
Los Angeles - USA



Dr. Raffy Chouljian
Toronto - Canada



Dr. Suren Shirbakyan
Yerevan - Armenia

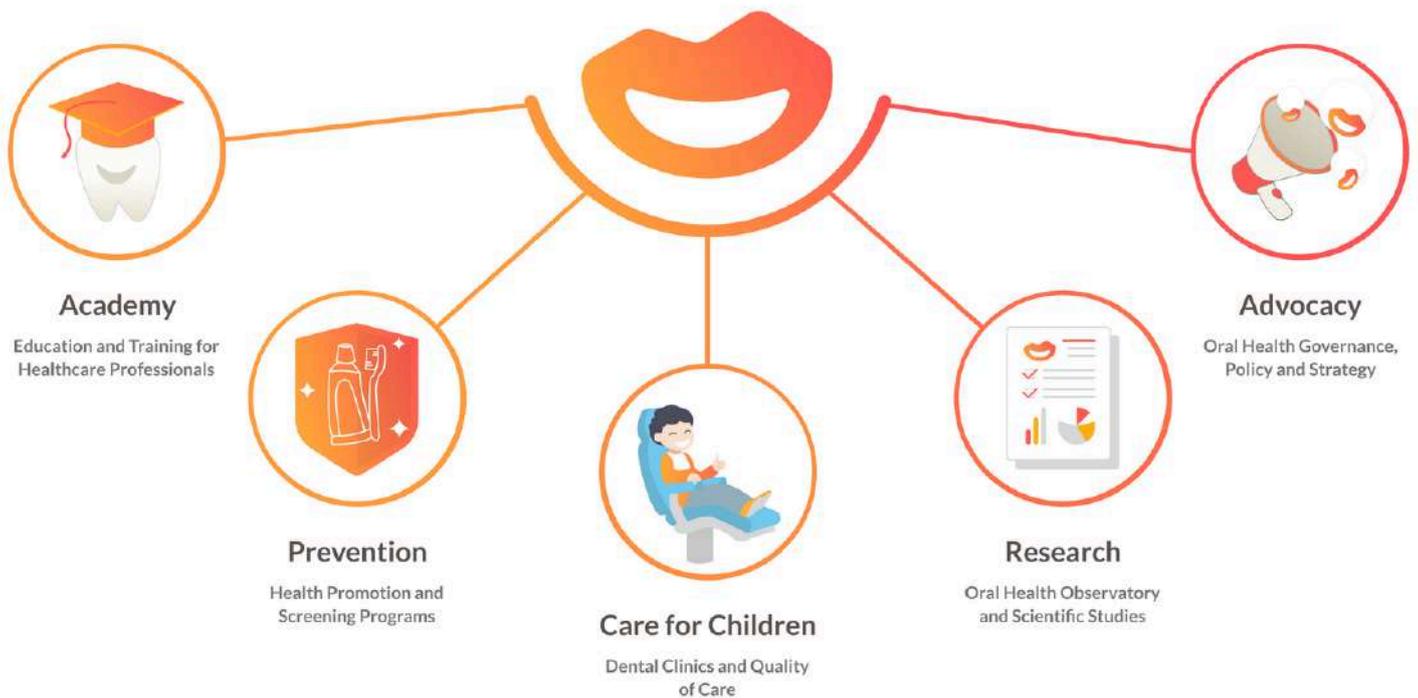


Dr. Vicken Ohannessian
Yerevan - Armenia

Our Programs

Our main goal is to reach 0 children in Armenia aged 15 years old with untreated tooth decay by 2030.

To reach our goal, we will conduct five programs presented below and in the following pages.



Academy

In 2025, we initiated OHFAR Academy with 3 post-graduate training sessions conducted by Dr Arnie Weiss for dentists and doctors.

**30+
trained
doctors**



July : Faculty of Dentistry, YSMU

Dr Weiss conducted a seminar for pediatric dentist residents related to behavioral guidance for managing children's oral healthcare.



September : Health for Armenia

Dr Weiss conducted a webinar targeted to general practitioners currently working in regions of Armenia aimed at giving basic knowledge on pediatric dentistry to rural primary care providers.

Pediatric Dentistry for the Pediatric Practitioner



Oral Health Foundation
for Children of Armenia

Arnold I Weiss, DDS, MScD, FACD

Private Practice of Pediatric Dentistry, Brookline, Mass. USA
Associate Clinical Professor, Pediatric Dentistry, Tufts U. School
of Dental Medicine
President, OHFAR, Oral Health Foundation for the Children of
Armenia



24 September 2025 - Yerevan, Armenia

November : PReP

Dr Weiss conducted an educational session targeted to pediatric medical residents currently enrolled in the pilot innovative PReP residency program certified by the NIH and the MOH of the Armenia.



Prevention

In 2025, we conducted 2 screening campaigns for children in Yerevan during major local events with the help of a team of volunteer dentists lead by our dentist Dr Hripsime Khachyan.

100+ children screened

Health Expo, 27-30 Nov.

Big Christmas Market, 17-21 Dec.



Care with Adamnabus

In 2025, our objective was to launch our first mobile dental clinic called Adamnabus in the Syunik region. We had to complete multiple legal requirements to receive our license, planned for early 2026.



A mobile dental clinic ready for inspection by local authorities

We have now the best mobile dental clinic in Armenia with a dental chair, a panoramic X-ray, a mobile X-ray, an autoclave sterilizer, multiple small equipments and our own innovative electronic dental record (EDR) software.



A clinical team lead by a licensed pediatric dentist

In November, we recruited Dr Hripsime Khachyan, a licensed pediatric dentist, originally from Goris with 7 years of work experience in Yerevan. She is dedicated to return to Syunik to serve her community and improve the lives of children living in villages of the region.



A license issued by the Ministry of Health to legally operate as a dental clinic

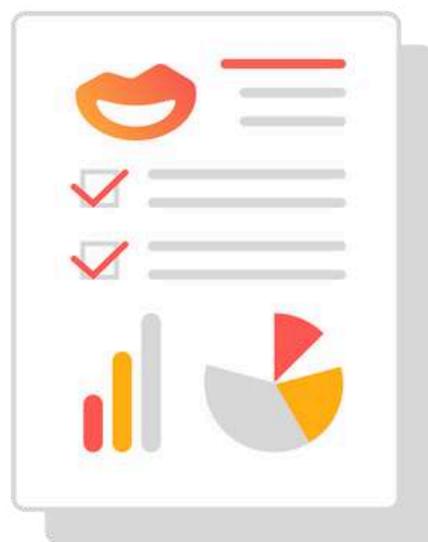
Mobile clinics can not have standalone licenses so we needed to get a license through a physical medical center. In December, we signed an agreement with Kapan Medical Center and we applied to receive the license from the Ministry of Health. We should receive it early February.

Research

Our two main achievements of 2025 are defining the OHFAR research strategy and the development of our own electronic dental record software, which allows us to collect structured data from our activities.

Strategic Objectives

- Generate high-quality scientific evidence on the oral health status and determinants in Armenia.
- Support innovation in oral disease prevention, diagnosis, and care delivery.
- Build research capacity through training, partnerships, and knowledge transfer.
- Influence health policy and clinical practice using research outcomes.
- Develop Armenia's presence in international scientific networks and conferences.



OHFAR Software

- State-of-the-art innovative electronic dental record.
- Capacity to record dental screening based on WHO guidelines.
- Digital dental charting and treatment plan generation, easy to use for tablets and laptops.
- Medical history, online prescriptions, and referrals.
- Advance analytics and reporting capacity.
- Automated report generation and emailing to parents.



Advocacy



The objective of advocacy is to promote our national objective by building strong cooperation and alignment with local, national and international stakeholders.

With the Ministry of Health

We met with the Minister of Health Ms Anahit Avanesyan in July to present OHFAR Foundation's vision, objectives and upcoming activities for 2025/2026. A representative of the MOH, Dr Nune Pashayan also delivered a keynote speech during our official launch event.



With the WHO

We invited WHO Country Office Director in Armenia Dr. Datta to our launch event as keynote speaker, and also presented OHFAR to a regional WHO EURO event dedicated to oral health held in Uzbekistan on 17 November.



With Professional Associations

We participated to a roundtable on oral health strategy in the Armenian Medical World Congress (AMWC) held in Madrid in July 2025 and organized by AMIC (Armenian Medical International Committee). We also signed an MOU with the Armenian Periodontists Association (ArmPerio) in November.



Our Supporters

We are grateful to our major institutional supporters including:



DerKazarian Foundation



La Région
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes



Our Partners



PReP
Pediatric Residency Program of Armenia



Financial Overview

Grants and Donations received in 2024 and 2025



Sources of funding

France 60%

USA 40%

Expenses in 2024 and 2025



Adamnabus Program

Equipment and software

85% - \$187,000

Management and Team

10% - \$22,000

PR and Marketing

5% - \$11,000



Looking Ahead in 2026

Full-scale operations of Adamnabus in Syunik

In 2026, Adamnabus will start its full scale operations in the villages of Syunik providing preventive and restorative services to children and schools of the region starting within Goris community.

Celebration of Oral Health Day in Armenia

We will promote the creation of a national oral health day to increase awareness to preventive oral health and dental hygiene across Armenia.

Organization of OHFAR Day Conference in Yerevan

In September 2026, we will launch OHFAR Day Annual Conference to gather the community and share our impact.

Education and Training in Schools and Communities

Alongside clinical services, Adamnabus will also provide educational activities within the schools and communities to the children, parents, and teachers to improve oral health prevention.

Creation of a National Oral Health Council and Strategy

We will work with national stakeholders to create an oral health council representative of public and private sectors with the aim of defining a strategy.

Fundraising Events to Support our Mission and Impact in Armenia

We will also organize fundraising events aiming at mobilizing new funds for daily operations and growth of OHFAR.

**Giving healthy
smiles to children
of Armenia**

Website ohfar.am

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for Children of Armenia**