

# ARMENIA

With the independence of Armenia, donors and major benefactors have funded and endowed a number of long-term AGBU educational, cultural, humanitarian and religious programs. Spanning all age and income groups, AGBU donor-funded special projects over the past ten years have served hundreds of thousands in Armenia and annually employ some 1000 plus individuals.



## AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

AUA continues to offer extraordinary opportunities in higher education with its Master's degree programs in Business Management, Engineering, Law, Public Health, Political Science and Conservation and Environmental Science. In 2001, a new degree program in Computer and Information Science was added. The University now boasts an alumni of over 850, many of whom are quickly succeeding in their chosen careers. American University of Armenia graduates, with their computer and English skills, their Western training and field work experience are today breaking new ground in a wide variety of fields. Annually some 350 students are enrolled in the two-year program.



## ST. NERSESS HOSPITAL

In 2001 AGBU purchased the 120 bed Proctology Hospital which has for several years housed the AGBU sponsored Reconstructive Surgery Center. In late 2001 AGBU passed the hospital to Holy Etchmiadzin to promote the Church's humanitarian mission. AGBU will fund the renovation of the newly named St. Nersess Hospital which includes departments of proctology, orthopedics, ENT, general and reconstructive surgery.

## NORK, ARAPKIR AND MALATYA CHILDREN'S CENTERS

AGBU and the Holy See of Etchmiadzin joined forces in February 1993 to administer three Children's Centers in Yerevan. With overcrowded schools and shortened class hours, the Centers provide history, language, art, music, dance, crafts and gymnastic programs each day from two in the afternoon to seven in the evening. All three centers include a chapel, weekly church services and Bible studies. The combined Centers have an enrollment of 3500 students, ages five to sixteen, and employ an administrative staff of three hundred. Over the past two years each center has undergone an extensive renovation to update classrooms. Three of AGBU's Soup Kitchens are presently located at the Arapkir, Malatya and Nork Centers.



## ULTRASOUND CENTER

In association with the Jefferson Ultrasound Research and Education Institute, AGBU under the direction of Dr. Levon Nazarian, Associate Professor of Radiology at Jefferson University Hospital has established an Ultrasound department at Erebuni Hospital. In 2000, AGBU and Jefferson opened a new Ultrasound training center at the Yerevan State Medical Institute for students and doctors. Ultrasound, a safe and relatively inexpensive method for imaging the body, is used as a diagnostic clinical tool for a wide variety of conditions. Medical personnel receive instruction and hands-on training at the Center in all applications of ultrasound, including interventional, abdominal, obstetrics and gynecology.



## ARMENIAN PHILHARMONIC

Recognizing the importance of the performing arts in Armenia, AGBU has since 1992 subsidized the one hundred-member Armenia Philharmonic. Annual grants are allocated for weekly concerts, new instruments, administration, salary supplements, international guest artists and special festivals. The Philharmonic has successfully toured Austria, France, Greece, England, Lebanon and Iran and produced over a dozen CD recordings.

## HUMANITARIAN AID

AGBU continues to serve some 1200 pensioners and orphans a daily meal at six soup kitchens in Yerevan, Sevan, Etchmiadzin and Hrazdan. Many of our recipients often take the ample portions home to share with their friends and families. For those who are ill or handicapped, special volunteers deliver the meals to their homes. In 2000, AGBU renovated facilities at the Children's Centers to house the three Yerevan soup kitchens.

