

# NOUVEL HAY MAGAZINE

*SANS FRONTIÈRES*

## Paros



**BORDER COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM EXPANDED, RENOVATED KINDERGARTENS**



Children in the Tavush border communities of Achajur and Varagavan now benefit from newly renovated and expanded kindergartens. These important projects were implemented through The Paros Foundation's Prosperity on the Border initiative over the course of the last 18 months.

**VARAGAVAN, ARMENIA**



In the village of Varagavan, only one small portion of the building that housed the village kindergarten was able to be used for a partial day program for 19 children in the village. A total of more than 40 children are of kindergarten and preschool age, but some of the children in this community were able to fully benefit from a full day early education program. This large, two story building needed a complete rebuild including roof, water, electrical, sewer and gas systems. New windows, doors, stairs, flooring and kitchens and bathrooms were installed as part of The Paros Foundation's Prosperity on the Border initiative. Work on the kindergarten at Varagavan was made possible through donations received primarily from the "Cocktails on the Terrace" fundraiser generously sponsored by Gregory and Kelley Badishkian at their home.

**ACHAJUR, ARMENIA**

**BEFORE**



In the village of Achajur, an overcrowded kindergarten meant that almost 100 children that were of kindergarten age were unable to attend and receive the benefits of early education. To address this need, The Paros Foundation agreed to completely reconfigure and reconstruct the second floor of the large building that houses the kindergarten. A new dining room and three large classrooms to accommodate the addition of these new children we successfully added. The rebuild included a more powerful heating system for the entire kindergarten, new bathrooms, new windows, and work to the exterior of the building. Work on the kindergarten at Achajur was made possible through the generous support of benefactors Ara and Valarie Cherkian.

**AFTER**



*"The effects of the July attacks, Covid 19 and the Artsakh War have weighed heavily on the children in these communities. Returning to beautifully renovated, safe and inviting kindergartens will dramatically improve these communities return to in-person education and significantly benefit these important villages and their residents in the long-run."*  
-Peter Abajian, Executive Director

### Making An Impact

The Paros Foundation was launched in 2006 and has implemented more than \$9 million worth of projects in Armenia through its unique model of philanthropy and community partnership. These projects are located throughout the country with the majority of work focused in Gyumri and in the Tavush Region, along the border with Azerbaijan. Thanks to the generous support of the Strauch Kulhanjian Family, all administrative expenses are underwritten, allowing 100% of donor contributions to be allocated in their entirety to the projects.

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*We strive to bring Armenia and the Armenian community worldwide closer through our unique model of philanthropy, volunteerism, and service.*



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