



JOB & EDUCATION FOR FORCIBLY DISPLACED WOMEN FROM ARTSAKH

Beyond Survival: Reclaiming the Dignity of a Future

"We did not leave our homes by choice; our homes were taken away from us. Being uprooted is a difficult phenomenon, but this support gives us strength so we don't lose hope. Knowing people stand by us gives us the courage to learn and get back on our feet." - Margarita Grigoryan, project participant

The Weight of Being Uprooted

For thousands of women forcibly displaced from Artsakh, the transition to a new life in Armenia has meant starting from absolute zero. They haven't just lost their homes; they have lost their stability, their communities, and the professional foundations they spent years building.

Many of these women are now the sole providers for their families. While they possess deep intellectual and professional capacity, the immediate reality of displacement often leaves them without the specific certifications or physical tools required to work in an unfamiliar economy. Without a bridge between their past and their new reality, families remain in a state of economic uncertainty.

What We Have Achieved Together

"For Equal Rights" (FER) Educational Center NGO and **"Article 3" Human Rights Club** have been on the front lines since the first day of the 44-day war, providing humanitarian aid to over **11,000 individuals**. But we knew that for long-term healing, we had to move beyond emergency relief toward professional empowerment.

Because of our donors, more than 250 women have already reclaimed their professional lives.

Our foundation for this success was a specialized **Integration Pathway** designed to restore confidence and practical skills:

- **A Foundation of Business Literacy:** We have already provided hundreds of participants with intensive training in financial security, credit risk assessment, and financial literacy.
- **Cultivating Entrepreneurship:** Beneficiaries learned how to turn a professional idea into a sustainable business and how to navigate the Armenian labor market.
- **Digital Presence:** By mastering communication and **SMM (Social Media Marketing)**, these individuals have gained the ability to make their new services visible to a wide audience.

The Journey Continues: Our Ongoing Commitment

While we celebrate those who are now working, our mission is **far from over**. Many others are still waiting for their turn to learn and acquire a new profession.

We are continuing our vocational training in high-demand fields to ensure that every participant on our waitlist has a path to independence. Our focus remains on sectors that offer reliable opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship:

- **Beauty & Aesthetics:** Cosmetology, hairdressing, and professional makeup artistry.
- **Specialized Professional Services:** Tailoring and seamstress work, floristry, and accounting.
- **Culinary Arts:** Professional pastry chef training, including design and production.

Why Your Support Matters Now

We believe that displaced women from Artsakh deserve a future worth looking forward to.

- **From Aid to Agency:** Unlike one-time donations, your contribution creates a permanent foundation for household stability.
- **The Jumpstart Toolkit:** Graduation is only the beginning. We provide each graduate with the **specific professional tools** they need to start working with confidence, whether it is a sewing machine, a baking oven, or hairdressing equipment.
- **A Lifelong Ecosystem:** Our support doesn't end at graduation. We provide access to our "**Women's Club**" for peer mentoring and the "**Buy from Artsakh**" platform, which connects these new entrepreneurs to over **4,300 potential customers**.

Go through the [link](#) for a closer look at our program.

Your donation is the crucial means to recover families who have lost the most.

STORIES BEHIND NAMES

Over the last years, your support has enabled more than **250 women** from Artsakh to learn new skills and find professional paths after trauma. We invite you to have a closer look at the stories we have nurtured into reality together.

When [Meri Hambardzumyan](#) was forcibly displaced from Artsakh, she was left with the weight of an uprooted life and the heavy silence of everything she had lost. But instead of letting that silence define her, she channeled her resilience into a new craft: pastry-making. After completing our vocational program, Meri's dedication took her all the way to the world stage, where she earned a gold medal at an international competition, proving that the spirit of a woman who refuses to give up remains inextinguishable.

[Lusine Mangasaryan's](#) life was once defined by her service in the ranks of the Defense Army in Artsakh, but the 44-day war stripped away her home, her job, and years of hard-earned work. After finding refuge in Ararat, she refused to wait for an opportunity that might never come, as the need to support her family was immediate. Instead, she chose to master cosmetology through the capacity-building program, acquiring the tools and skills needed to become the master of her own fate. She is now rebuilding a home filled with the warmth that war could never take away.

For [Margarita Grigoryan](#), who was forced to flee her home in Hadrut, the path to recovery was paved with flowers. With the support of the program's donors, she trained as a florist, finding a way to soothe the pain of her losses through the beauty of creation. Shortly after completing her courses, she opened the "**Lia**" flower shop in Lusakert, transforming a new skill into a small family business that provides both a stable income and a sense of peace for her family in their new reality.

[Anush Stepanyan](#) arrived in Yerevan from the village of Togh. While pursuing her Master's degree at the Yerevan State Conservatory, she sought out additional ways to empower herself and realized a long-held dream of becoming a makeup artist. Supported by the "**For Equal Rights**" NGO and "**Article 3**" Club, she completed her professional training and received the materials necessary to launch her own career, embodying her own powerful message to her fellow countrywomen: "**Let's try to be strong together**".

For [Angela Yeritsyan](#) and her sister, the 44-day war left a scar that time could not easily heal: the loss of their nephew, Sergey. For months, the weight of this tragedy forced them into a deep isolation, cutting them off from a world that felt too painful to face. It took years for Angela to find a way to breathe through the grief, eventually deciding to channel her pain into the rhythmic work of tailoring. Recognizing her need for a sewing machine to begin this journey, the **For Equal Rights** NGO and its donors provided the essential tools. Through the needle and thread, Angela is slowly stitching her life back together, finding the strength to engage with the world once more.

For fourteen years, [Marine Petrosyan](#) served her community at the Ministry of Social Security in Stepanakert, dedicated to the welfare of others. When the forced displacement of 2023 uprooted her life and brought her family to Yerevan, that long-standing career vanished. Despite her deep professional experience, months passed without a single job offer in her field. Faced with the necessity of a new path to secure a stable income, Marine chose to rebuild from the ground up, completing a three-month course in nail artistry. Equipped with the professional tools provided by our donors, she is now standing ready to re-enter the workforce, transforming over a decade of public service into a new, resilient profession.

[Inara Poghosyan](#), a dedicated pedagogue by profession, saw her life change forever when her family was forcibly displaced from Artsakh in September 2023. In Yerevan, the doors to her previous career as a teacher remained closed, but Inara's commitment to providing for her family remained unshakable. She turned to the professional skills development program to bridge the gap between her loss and her future, recently completing a three-month intensive course in nail artistry. With the professional-grade tools provided through the generosity of our donors, Inara is no longer just waiting for a chance, she is creating one, ready to start her new professional journey with dignity.

These stories are proof that when we stand together, we can help women reclaim their lives and dignity.

You can help more women like Meri, Lusine, Margarita, and Anush by contributing to the fundraiser.

Donate Now - Reclaim a Future