

TFA Year-in-Review: 2024 Events and Activities

Administrative Updates:

- **Board of Trustees**
 - V. Armineh Babikian: President
 - Melina Allahverdian: Vice President
 - Lusine Karapetyan: Treasurer
 - Kristine Movsisian: Secretary
 - Corinne Hayotsyan: Board member (on maternity leave)
- **Number of paid members** (as of December 2024): 20 paid members
 - 9 OT, 6 SLP, 4 PT
 - 17 Clinicians; 3 Students
 - 8 States
 - 2 Countries
- **TFA Membership Criteria & Structure Updated**
 - **Base Member (Tier 1) - 6 members**
 - Expectations: Pay annual membership fee (tax deductible), attend at least 1 event/year
 - Benefits: Access to member only events, certificate of membership
 - **Active Member (Tier 2) - 14 members**
 - Expectations: Pay annual membership fee (tax deductible), attend 50% of general meetings (tracking on spreadsheet), attend 50% of events (webinars, social events, CoLAB, etc), create 1 social media/newsletter post per year
 - Benefits: Access to member only events, featured on social media & website (our volunteers), certificate of membership, attend Armenia trip, letter of recommendation upon request, [free access to resource library when converts to paid structure]
 - Committee Coordinators get spotlight on website (our leadership), priority accommodations for Armenia planning
 - Membership dues (\$25/year) are for Sept 2024-June 2025 period
- **Committee Structure Updated (October 2024)**
 - Education (previously professional development) and Outreach (previously social & networking) merged
 - 4 participants
 - Fundraising and Marketing merged

- 7 participants

- **TFA Celebrates 5 Year Anniversary (November 2024)**

- Over the past 5 years TFA has led several humanitarian efforts, including sending volunteers to support wounded soldiers during the 2020 Artsakh War, creating the first resource library for rehabilitation providers in Armenia, donating therapeutic equipment to the National Burn Center to support patients from the 2023 Artsakh gas-station explosion, and co-founding the first Armenian post-professional program focused on post-conflict and adult rehabilitation. This past summer, we reached another milestone- hosting our first service and learning trip to Armenia with 5 volunteers from the US. Most recently, we have also become a [Project ECHO](#) partner, bringing their evidence-based virtual model for training and mentorship to Armenia for the first time.
- Check out this [video](#) for a short glimpse into our work!

Projects and Collaborations

- **EU grant: Assistive Technology (AT) use to support transition to Armenia for Artsakh Armenians with disabilities** with Disability Rights Agenda [DRA]

- Project name: Independence and Dignity in Daily Living through Assistive Devices
- January 2024-October 2024
- Camille, her OT students from Texan Woman's University, Jen, and Armineh helped to create educational guides for feeding & dressing AT
- [Feeding Guide](#) and [Dressing Guide](#)
- TFA supported with developing Occupational Therapy [Assessment](#) which was used to assess 30+ disabled Artsakhtsis to provide individualized AT for daily activities

- **Armenian Research project:** Experiences of Armenian Rehab Professionals using the ICF Disability Assessment (Ongoing)

- Continuation of Capstone project from 2022-2023 IRF (Interdisciplinary Rehabilitation Fellowship) we co-founded
- 2 IRF Graduates (OTs) + Armineh + Mark Kovic (Midwestern University) leading a qualitative study
- Presented at the European Conference of Occupational Therapy (October 2024, Poland) & Publication submitted to Armenian Journal of Special Education

- **Azad 3D: 3D printed Assistive Technology made in Armenia** (with DRA, Armionics, Louse Foundation)
 - Grant awarded [Armenia 2041 Galvanizing Diaspora Grant](#)
 - To support development and creation of 3D printed AT in Armenia to be purchased from an online store
 - Social enterprise employing people with disabilities
 - TFA will oversee project, create online store on our website, create information guides on how to use AT products, and find partnerships with diaspora communities
 - Project timeline: January 2025 - April 2026
- **American Association for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Annual Congress (November 9, San Diego)**
 - Armineh was invited to be a speaker on a panel about “Humanitarian Rehabilitation in Conflict Zones: Lessons Learned and Future Strategies” to discuss our TFA initiatives during the 2020 War and 2023 blockade & forced displacement

Education and Outreach

- **January 2024**
 - **Alzheimer’s Care Armenia** - January 28
 - **Webinar & CoLAB Case discussion** Role of rehab in supporting dementia
 - 45 attendees
 - Poll results comparing pre-webinar with post-webinar:
 - Understanding: 2.94/5 (pre), 4.11/5 (post)
 - Supporting: 2.86/5 (pre), 4.27/5 (post)
 - Utilize Resources: 2.93/5 (pre), 4.09/5 (post)
 - ~ 30% increase as a result of the event
 - Summary: The event was extremely impactful and educational based on the attendees pre and post event poll responses. When comparing the statistics for how attendees felt their understanding of dementia care, ability to provide support, and using resources was, the average responses went from being a little/moderately confident before the event, to being very/extremely confident after the event. These statistics were a strong indicator of the value and effectiveness of this educational event.
 - **TFA Member and IRF Graduates Organize Armenia’s First Dysphagia Conference** - January 22

- TFA member, Nathalie Halajian led a demonstration about cognitive evaluations and hospital bedside manners at the first ever Dysphagia Conference in Armenia organized by the Armenian Speech Therapy Association.
- Our IRF (Interdisciplinary Rehabilitation Fellowship) Medical Director, Dr Laura Movisyan, and IRF graduates Tatev Sargsyan, Anahit Mayiliyan, and Anush Babayan presented as well.
- Anush Babayan, Chairwoman of Armenian Speech Therapists' Association, stated, "Thanks to IRF, I have a fantastic team. Tatev, Anahit, and Nathalie have become invaluable assets."

- **February 2024**

- **Guest speaker from Hye Hopes** - February 13
 - [Hye Hopes](#) mission is to provide synchronous academic instruction and social-emotional learning for children by equipping the schools in regions of need with innovative technologies, essential educational resources and staff development
- **Project ECHO Partner Launch**
 - Training completed in February 2024
 - Mock ECHO completed November 2024 and approved as a partner site (first ECHO Partner in Armenia)
 - TFA ECHO launch in 2025
 - Project ECHO is a platform that enhances our ability to deliver evidence-based training and mentorship to rehabilitation specialists in Armenia. Through this partnership, we can now offer more efficient, targeted support to clinicians and families by providing specialized feedback and training on a case-by-case basis.

- **April 2024**

- **Disability Rights Agenda (DRA) Webinar: Adaptive Equipment to Support Independence in Feeding and Dressing** - April 18
 - The webinar focused on how assistive devices can support persons with disabilities in achieving independence in daily activities like dressing and eating.
 - 57 participants
 - Participant survey results
 - Before the Webinar: The average confidence level was 2.91, indicating moderate confidence.
 - After the Webinar: The average confidence level increased to 4.28, indicating a significant boost in confidence.

- **CoLAB event for inclusive education (Autism & Assistive Tech)- April 21**
 - Kristine presented on Autism and Assistive Technology to Support Inclusive Education
 - Case consultation: Maral (SLP); Tatya and Kirsti (OT); Tamara Norton (PT); Anna Flemming (educational specialist/consultant)
 - Knowledge before event 3.6, knowledge after 4.6
 - 100% said they would use this information in their practice
 - 40 people attended from 5 regions of Armenia
- **Presentation on Sustainable Rehabilitation Development Approaches Within Global Health - April 9**
 - Lily R. (Student intern from Carleton University) between September 2023 and April 2024 presented her final assignment to TFA members
- **May 2024**
 - **Guest speaker Armen Hovannisian - May 14**
 - Creator of [Invision](#) platform- a comprehensive digital assessment combining validated tests used in clinical practice in three domains of mental health: psychological well-being, personality, and cognition
 - **Donation of Physical Therapy Textbooks to the Armenian State Institute for Physical Culture and Sports - May 1**
 - Lusine Karapetyan helped facilitate the donation of 19 physical therapy textbooks to ASIPCS
 - The textbooks are from the Physical Therapy Assistant program at Concorde Career College in North Hollywood, CA
- **July 2024**
 - **Armenia Trip - July 2-10**
 - 5 participants total: Armineh, Tatya, Angela L, Emilia, Nathalie
 - Sites visited (Yerevan, Armavir, Shirak, Lori):
 - Children of Armenia Fund, Kosh Rehabilitation Center, National Burn Center, Emili Aregak Center, National Autism Foundation/My Way Educational & Rehabilitation Center, Alzheimer's Care Armenia, Vanadzor Rehabilitation Center, Equal Rights Equal Opportunity
 - Workshops attended by 110 participants working in rehab and the disability sector
 - Workshop topics:

- Cardiopulmonary rehab
 - Sexual education for autistic youth
 - Communication and behavior strategies for autistic children
 - Sensory interventions for behavior management
 - Donated over \$6000 worth of therapeutic equipment (Over 1000 items total)
 - TFA members had the honor of meeting with the High Commissioner of Diaspora Affairs of Armenia, Zareh Sinanyan
- **October 2024**
 - **TFA Presents in Poland at the 1st Occupational Therapy Europe Congress 2024** - October 20
 - Armineh Babikian, and IRF fellow, Tatev Ghazaryan presented at the 1st Occupational Therapy Europe Congress 2024 in Krakow, Poland. This congress brought together all European organizations dealing with occupational therapy. This was the only presentation about occupational therapy in Armenia.
 - Babikian and Ghazaryan's presentation titled "Experiences of Armenian Rehabilitation Therapists in Implementing the ICF for Disability Determination" discussed the preliminary results of an ongoing research project looking the involvement of occupational therapists in the new disability determination process launched in Armenia in 2023. This research stemmed from Ghazaryan and colleague's capstone project while participating in the NIH Armenia Interdisciplinary Rehabilitation Fellowship (IRF), co-founded by TFA in 2022.
- **November 2024**
 - **Mock ECHO with ECHO coordinator** - November 18
 - Mock ECHO event to finalize TFA's ECHO certification
 - **Armineh Babikian Participates as a Panelist at American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Annual Assembly** - November 9
 - Armineh Babikian, was an invited panelist at the American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (AAPM&R) Annual Assembly in San Diego, CA to present at the session titled "Humanitarian Rehabilitation in Conflict Zones: Lessons Learned and Future Strategies." She was joined by fellow speakers who were engaged in humanitarian efforts in Ukraine and Haiti. She presented on the development of Armenian rehabilitation services,

the Artsakh conflict from 2020- present, and the humanitarian and developments that were led and supported by Therapists for Armenia.

- Babikian reflects, “I was a bit nervous honestly. I was the only one in the group who was not a medical doctor and not presenting on Ukraine. But I spoke my truth and my passion. Many people expressed learning about the conflict for the first time and wanted to support. I’m grateful for the opportunity to advocate and share perspectives from allied health and Armenian rehabilitation.”

- **TFA Social Event - November 3rd**
 - Los Angeles

- **December 2024**

- **TFA Social Event - December 15**
 - New York

Fundraising & Marketing

- **March 2024**

- **Coloring books sold at Armenian coffee store in Toronto**
 - \$200 CAD

- **April 2024**

- **Go Fund Me page created for Armenia Service Learning Trip**
 - \$565 raised
- **Jirair S. & Elizabeth Hovnanian Family Foundation Donation**
 - June 2024
 - \$10,000

- **September 2024**

- **New fundraising items for website**
 - Children’s coloring books
 - TFA Neurodiversity socks
 - Handmade Armenian doll & tea bags from EREO
 - Handmade wooden jewelry from EREO

- **October 2024**

- **St. Leon’s Bazaar (New Jersey)**
 - October 19th and 20th
 - \$600 profit

- **November 2024**

- **Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection (Connecticut)**
 - November 23rd
 - \$200 profit

- **December 2024**

- **St. Illuminators Market (New York)**
 - Sunday December 8th
 - \$250 profit
- **Holy Trinity Armenian Church (Pennsylvania)**
 - December 29th
 - \$1,731.35 profit

News and Publications:

- **[Celebrating more than two decades of the Peterborough K.M. Hunter Foundation's support for graduate students](#)**
 - Since 2003, the Peterborough K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation has supported more than 200 graduate students in their work advancing vital new health science research.
 - Armineh Babikian is highlighted in this article for receiving the K.M. Hunter Graduate Award
 - Award year: 2022
- **[Recipients of Galvanizing Diaspora Program Announced](#)**
 - Armenia 2041 Foundation announced the ten winning initiatives of the Galvanizing Diaspora program.
 - Each recipient received a \$10,000 grant to support projects aimed at preserving the Armenian heritage and strengthening Armenian communities.
 - TFA was awarded this grant for the: Azad 3D: 3D Printed Devices for Independent Living

Management Report

Therapists for Armenia Inc.

For the period ended December 31, 2024

Profit and Loss

January - December 2024

	Total
REVENUE	
Contributed income	
Corporate & foundation grants	24,110.10
Donations directed by individuals	2,506.44
Total Contributed income	26,616.54
Membership Fees	150.00
PayPal Sales	792.29
Sales	5,073.83
Z Sales	1,053.00
Total Revenue	33,685.66
GROSS PROFIT	33,685.66
EXPENDITURES	
Advertising & marketing	1,977.45
Awards & grants to others	700.00
Contract & professional fees	
Fundraising fees	4.37
Legal fees	113.01
Total Contract & professional fees	117.38
Occupancy	
Utilities	12.95
Total Occupancy	12.95
Office expenses	
Bank fees & service charges	249.21
Internet & TV services	11.73
Memberships & subscriptions	16.25
Merchant account fees	184.46
Office supplies	1,077.12
Printing & photocopying	36.11
Shipping & postage	162.18
Software & apps	620.12
Total Office expenses	2,357.18
PayPal Fees	52.85
Purchases	1,133.64
Supplies	5,929.77
Z Fees	13.24
Total Expenditures	12,294.46
NET OPERATING REVENUE	21,391.20
OTHER EXPENDITURES	
Vehicle expenses	1,227.02
Parking & tolls	626.22
Vehicle gas & fuel	77.52
Total Vehicle expenses	1,930.76
Total Other Expenditures	1,930.76

	Total
NET OTHER REVENUE	-1,930.76
NET REVENUE	\$19,460.44

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
BUS COMPLETE CHK (5779) - 1	31,651.51
PayPal Bank	-418.42
Z Card	869.43
Z Cash	537.00
Total Bank Accounts	32,639.52
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	5.00
Total Accounts Receivable	5.00
Total Current Assets	32,644.52
TOTAL ASSETS	\$32,644.52
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
V. BABIKIAN (9435) - 1	-6,890.59
Total Credit Cards	-6,890.59
Total Current Liabilities	-6,890.59
Total Liabilities	-6,890.59
Equity	
Opening balance equity	5,272.23
Retained Earnings	14,802.44
Net Revenue	19,460.44
Total Equity	39,535.11
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$32,644.52

