



AHABA

Newsletter

Armenian Healthcare Association of the Bay Area



FUNDING FOR AUA PUBLIC HEALTH LIBRARY

Over the last 5 years AHABA has supported AUA Public health library named after Dr. Krikor Soghikian, by funding annual subscription to Research4Life, former HINARI (Health Inter-Network Access to Research Initiative) which brings world top educational resources to Armenia.

Research4Life is the collective name for five programs: HINARY, AGORA, OARE, ARDI and GOALI – which provide lower income countries with free or low cost access to academic and professional peer-reviewed publications online. Research4Life is a public-private partnership of the World Health Organization (WHO) and up to 175 international scientific publishers. The goal of Research4Life is to reduce the knowledge gap between higher income countries and lower income countries by providing affordable access to critical scientific and professional research.

SUMMER CAMP FOR CHILDREN WITH DIABETES

For the past 6 years AHABA has been working with Yeraz charitable fund of Armenia, AAMS (Armenian American Medical Society of Southern California), and the Muracan Children's Hospital of Yerevan, to improve the care of children with type 1 diabetes. There are about 400 children ages 1-18 years old diagnosed with T1DM in Armenia. Armenian-Armenian diaspora has shown continuous support to children with diabetes in Armenia by supplying insulin, Glucometers, strips, an A1C machine and cartridges. Every summer AHABA sponsored and helped to organize diabetes camps for 30-35 children from different regions of Armenia. During the camps, children are offered education on insulin injections, carbohydrate counting, recognition and treatment of hypoglycemia, oral care and other important issues related to life with diabetes. Cultural and sports programs are also part of the diabetes camp.

On November 17, 2018 AHABA held a benefit concert featuring Jampa Jazz band with vocalist Lori Panossian MD (AHABA board member), her husband Jordan Brisk and 2 other musicians. Proceeds from this concert will be used to purchase continuous glucose monitors for camp children.





GRANT TO COALITION TO STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AHABA's grant to Coalition covered comprehensive quality healthcare for three women who have been subjected to gender based violence. Human rights foundations and donor circles do not finance healthcare associated service costs while, in fact, this is a key barrier for women GBV survivors, to their recovery, well-being and empowerment.

The first woman was a transgender sex worker who was beaten up and whose apartment was burned down by a transphobic client who intended to kill her. She escaped the place and stayed alive by chance. Half of her operation and healthcare costs were covered by the state while the other half was covered by the Coalition.

The second survivor was a woman from a rural area who was being periodically subjected to violence by her ex-husband. Years of violence have led to deterioration of her health. Soon after the last time when the ex-husband had beaten her, she needed an operation the cost of which was partially covered by the Coalition.

The third survivor was a woman who was being subjected to violence by her father-in-law who used to beat and mistreat her for many years after the death of her husband. Being extremely poor, she did not have any choice but to stay with her father-in-law until the violence became intolerable. Through the AHABA funds the Coalition helped her to cover consultation, diagnosis and treatment that were not in the list of free, state-provided services.

UROGYNECOLOGY SYMPOSIUM, IJEVAN, ARMENIA October 2-4, 2018

Dr. Samuel Badalian, the Clinical Professor of Obstetrics/ Gynecology and Urology, Suny Upstate Medical University, New York and Dr. Elena Sagayan, Kaiser Permanente, Livemore, California, President of AHABA have been training Armenian regional doctors in urogynecology by demonstrating live surgeries and delivering lectures on practical aspects of gynecological surgeries. About 20 doctors from Tavush, Gegharkunik, and Lori regions had a chance to partake in surgeries for half a day, and to learn the theory for the next half. The symposium became possible due to effective cooperation between FAR, Healthcare Department, AHABA and the Armenian American Health Professionals Organization, which have a joint mission to support the Armenian health professionals and to improve healthcare system in Armenia.





AHABA HEALTH FAIR 2018

AHABA held our 2018 Health Fair on May 6 at the St. Andrew Armenian Church in Cupertino. Medical, surgical and allied health specialties participated in this community event after Sunday services. Specialties included primary care, endocrinology, gynecology, dentistry, dermatology, psychiatry, psychology, neurology, and pharmacology. Free screening for diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia and free dental exams were given. The event was cosponsored by the St. Andrew Armenian church, ARS Agnunchapter, and Homenetmen Ani Chapter



LIGHTHOUSE SHELTER

Lighthouse shelter located in Itchmiadzin provides housing for women and children, victims of domestic violence. Over the last 3 years AHABA has been purchasing much needed medications and medical supplies for the shelter residents, with the help of Dr. Susanna Onanyan, physician volunteer at the shelter.



5TH INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS

Reserve the first week of July for the 5th International Medical Congress of Armenia. This important event will bring together Armenian healthcare professionals from all corners of the globe. It will be held at the Armenia Marriott Hotel on Republic Square. Registration is available from the website <http://www.simca.am> with early bird rates through April 2019. A separate social program is available, including a Gala Dinner at the conclusion of the Congress.

Please consider sending your tax-deductible contribution to support our projects

2500 Hospital Dr. Suite 4A, Mountain View, CA 94040, tel. 650-940-1008

AHABA Tax ID: 46-5168594