



Making a Difference in Armenia in the Name of Jesus Christ AMAA's 15th Annual Medical Mission Trip to Armenia

By Dr. Al & Sue Phillips, AMAA Armenia Medical Mission Leaders

This year, the AMAA Armenia Medical Mission team traveled to Armenia on July 11, 2024, for a 10-day Mission. For the past 15 years, we have organized and led medical teams to Armenia.

Because we had 52 enthusiastic volunteers, the Mission was split this year into three independent teams. We returned to the Lori Valley, setting up clinics in Vanadzor and Stepanavan, Gyumri, and to Sisian. Going to three areas of Armenia at the same time was a monumental event, allowing us to expand the Mission's impact throughout the country.

Because of our growing mission, we want to recognize those who took on a leadership role in each location. The Vanadzor/Stepanvan team was led by

Christine Charkhedian, Dr. Annie and Gary Barseghian and Dr. Chris Visser. The Sisian team was led by Drs. Chris and Barbara Tashjian and Christine and Bruce Momjian. We led the team in Gyumri along with our daughter Allison Phillips and Karen Sarian.

Because of the AMAA's investment in the Medical Mission outreach, the AMAA has employed Armenian doctors, a pharmacist, and other personnel who worked alongside the volunteers from the U.S. and will provide follow-up on the patients after the team departs. It has become a wonderful synergy of professionals working side by side for one purpose. As in previous years, dentists treated and educated the children and youth at all the locations. This has

produced noticeable improvements in dental hygiene and reduced decay.

This year, the Medical Mission saw 1,519 patients and the dentists treated approximately 500 patients. The typical patient was first moved through the clinic to have their vital signs collected and urine tested. If necessary, an EKG was performed. From there, the patients were interviewed by nurses and medical students to collect a preliminary history. If necessary, blood work was obtained, or ultrasound evaluations were performed. From the triage area, patients were seen by the physicians and medical practitioners. Prescriptions were given for a large variety of conditions, but primarily for hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease.



The patients' prescriptions were filled and provided free. Patients were counseled on their medications by the pharmacists. Other services provided this year included nutritional education, psychological and spiritual counseling by a psychologist, and training for special needs children.

Multiple church services were held during the clinic days, where the local ministers preached the Gospel and team members shared their testimonies. The doctors and health professionals also prayed with each patient after their visit and showed God's love in a tangible way.

The Mission attempts to meet both the patient's physical and spiritual needs. The impact on the Armenian patients is quite evident, but those who served with us felt empowered by the Holy Spirit and their faith strengthened. This was a win-win situation for all and instilled enthusiasm for the AMAA and Christian service for future generations.

We have committed to return for our 16th Mission trip on June 26, 2025. Depending on the number of volunteers, we hope to again staff three independent teams next year. This will allow us to continue to see more patients and provide short-term Mission opportunities for those in the U.S. and Canada, ultimately making a greater impact for our Lord Jesus Christ.

If you have a desire to serve or want more information, please go to the AMAA.org website and look for the Armenia Medical Mission link under the projects tab. Medical and non-medical, Armenian or non-Armenian speaking volunteers are welcome to apply. Consider joining the team and make a difference in Armenia in the name of Jesus Christ. 🇸🇪

