

First Channels of Hope Facilitator training in Armenia

Dates: 15 - 25 June 2008



Participants: 23 Participants attended the training, of which 13 were WV staff members, 3 Priests and 7 members of a local NGO for people living with HIV

The Lead Trainer, Viktoria Sargsyan, as well as the Co Trainer and Assistant trainers were trained during regional trainings in 2007, and were implementing Channels of Hope since then within various communities in Armenia. They took the lead to adapt the materials to fit the Armenian context, and even translated all the materials in Armenian. With limited funding, they organized the training in a Community Centre in Yerevan.

One of the Assistant trainers, is Father Esai from the Apostolic Church in Armenia. He was also trained in 2007 and is a wonderful inspiration for priests in Armenia.

Father Esai observing a group discussion

They took the lead to adapt the materials to fit the Armenian context, and even translated all the materials in Armenian. With limited funding, they organized the training in a Community Centre in Yerevan.



One of the Assistant trainers, is Father Esai from the Apostolic Church in Armenia. He was also trained in 2007 and is a wonderful inspiration for priests in Armenia

Logy Murray, one of the mentors of the training commented: "It was a very special experience to see how the CoH methodology is universally challenging people's attitudes, creating enthusiasm for a shared vision, and empowers them to mobilize their communities towards a caring response. Although I could not read the worksheets on the walls, I enjoyed the "CoH feeling" when I recognized the posters and the process."



Vika Sargsyan is World Vision's "Channels of Hope Coordinator for MEER" (Middle East and Eastern Europe Region). Her vision for Channels of Hope for Armenia is to stop HIV expansion in the country:

"I wish we can bring our country back to a country where HIV is not a huge problem. At this moment it is a real threat. Just as someone diagnosed to be in the AIDS Phase, and then can go back to be HIV positive, I wish we can bring our country back from the "AIDS stage" to the "HIV positive" stage."

For more information on World Vision's work with Channels of Hope, contact

Logy Murray
Africa Advisor Faith Partnerships on HIV/AIDS
logy_murray@wvi.org