

DECADE IN REVIEW

2010-2020



Educate | Motivate | Activate

Mission Statement

The Armenian National Committee of America-Western Region is the largest and most influential Armenian-American grassroots advocacy organization in the Western United States. Working in coordination with a network of offices, chapters, and supporters throughout the region and affiliated organizations around the country, the ANCA-WR serves all aspects of the Armenian Cause by organizing and developing local Armenian communities; promoting the political, legal, social, cultural, educational and economic interests and rights of the Armenian-American community at the local, state, regional, and national levels; seeking justice for the Armenian Genocide; supporting economic development and democracy in the Republics of Armenia and Artsakh; ensuring the right to self-determination and independence for the people of Artsakh and Javakhk; ensuring the return of Nakhichevan to its rightful owners; and advocating for all aspects of the Armenian Cause through grassroots mobilization, political relationships, media presence, and education.

Delivering Results

Working together with our counterparts in Washington, DC and the Eastern Region, our advocacy efforts resulted in defeating anti-Armenian, anti-Artsakh, as well as pro-Azerbaijani and pro-Turkish resolutions, obtaining state-level recognitions for Artsakh's independence and the proper recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the U.S. Congress, as well as successfully initiating and passing measures that directly benefit Armenia, Artsakh, and our community.

ANCA constantly updated US officials on matters regarding Armenia and Artsakh, monitored proposed policies and legislation, testified in front of Senate and House committees, published position papers and fact sheets, and initiated legislation on issues of concern to the Armenian-American community.

Here is a partial list of our activities:

Federal

- Secured near-unanimous U.S. House passage of H.Res.296 (405-11) in October of 2019 and unanimous Senate passage of S.Res.150 (100-0), establishing official and ongoing Congressional commemoration of the Armenian Genocide.
- Worked with Congress, U.S. states (49), media, academia, and entertainment industry to establish the facts of the Armenian Genocide in the American civic arena, isolating the White House as the lone outlier still backing Ankara's denial.
- Hosted annual Armenian Genocide remembrances on Capitol Hill and in local commemorations across America that featured speeches, published remarks, and Congressional letters by hundreds of U.S. Senators and Representatives.
- Advocated successfully—through annual Congressional testimony, Congressional sign-on letters, and nation-wide grassroots advocacy—for over \$2.5 billion in U.S. aid to Armenia for humanitarian, economic, democracy, and infrastructure programs.

- Secured passage of “Return of Churches” Resolution H.Res.306 (2011), calling on the Turkish Government to return stolen or confiscated Armenian, Greek, and Assyrian religious properties.
- Co-hosted a historic Christian prayer service in the Capitol Rotunda (2019), during which the Armenian liturgical chant “Der Voghormya” was sung by Armenian clerics.
- Secured passage of the Chu Amendment (2019) endorsing the Royce-Engel peace proposals, calling for the non-deployment of snipers, heavy arms, and new weapons; deployment of additional OSCE monitors, and placement of gunfire-locators along the line-of-contact.
- Secured passage of the Sherman Amendment (2019) placing legislative limits on U.S. defense sales or transfers to Azerbaijan that would strengthen Baku’s ability to act upon its stated intention to shoot down civilian aircraft over Artsakh.
- Broke down barriers to U.S.-Artsakh ties by encouraging and facilitating bilateral visits (to Washington, DC and Stepanakert) and building bipartisan support for the U.S.-Artsakh Travel and Communication Resolution, H.Res.190.
- Supported the success of Capitol Hill events featuring leaders of the Artsakh Republic.
- Spearheaded the signing of the U.S.-Armenia Trade and Investment Agreement (2015), which created a bilateral platform to resolve problems in the U.S.-Armenia trade and investment relationship.
- Supported the Haiti & Armenia Reforestation Act to reverse deforestation and restore native forests through U.S. aid and debt-forgiveness.

- Secured passage of the Cox Amendment (2019) and the Valadao Amendment (2017) to the foreign aid bill, appropriating direct U.S. aid to meet humanitarian needs in Artsakh.
- Partnered with the HALO Trust (2019) to secure the signatures of 89 U.S. Representatives and 22 U.S. Senators on a letter opposing Administration attempts to shut down USAID funding for life-saving de-mining programs in Artsakh.
- Broadcast the May 2017 attack by Turkish President Erdogan's security detail against peaceful U.S. protesters in Washington, DC. The ANCA's live viral video was picked up by CNN, AP, the New York Times and other major media, transforming a violent incident into a global spotlight on Ankara's aggression.
- Testified before Congress on several occasions including Azerbaijan's state-driven anti-Armenian incitements and on the Erdogan-ordered beatings of U.S. protesters.
- Worked with Hellenic American allies to block U.S. arms transfers to Turkey (frigates, cluster bombs, etc.), remove Turkey from F-35 production, and enforce CAATSA sanctions over Ankara's purchase of S-400 missiles.
- Explored new ways to expand the Georgian-Armenian partnership to include broader direct Georgian and Armenian investments and also increased U.S. assistance to promote job-creation in the Armenian-populated Samtskhe-Javakheti (Javakhk) region of Georgia.



Delivering Results

State and Local

- Secured legislation on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide.
- Secured state-level recognition of the Artsakh Republic by California, Colorado, and Hawaii. Our Eastern Region colleagues have done the same in several other states.
- Secured legislation that would establish sister and friendship cities between the freedom-loving citizens of Artsakh and California.
- Introduced—via legislation and outreach—Armenian Genocide education in several states with our Eastern Region partners.
- Blocked the installation of Ataturk’s Monument in the City of Carson, CA.
- Secured the adoption of Armenian Genocide Remembrance Days, Armenian Genocide Commemoration Month, Djulfa Commemoration Day, and Sumgait, Kirovabad and Baku pogroms against Armenians, in a number of cities, counties, states, and school districts.



Divest Turkey

The Divest Turkey movement, was originally founded in 2014 by the Armenian Youth Federation-Western US and the All Armenian Students Association on university campuses statewide, and later spearheaded by the ANCA-WR on the political front.

The bill, entitled “Divestment from Turkish Bonds Act,” prevents the boards of the California Public Retirement System and the California State Teachers’ Retirement System from making additional or new investments, or renewing existing investments issued or owned by the government of Turkey after federal sanctions are imposed on Turkey. Moreover, CalPERS and CalSTRS must liquidate any of the investments described above within eighteen months of the passage of federal sanctions on Turkey. Total investments in the Republic of Turkey are upwards of \$350 million dollars as of the beginning of the 2019 calendar year.

After gaining bipartisan support and unanimously passing in the State Assembly and Senate, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed the bill on October 3, 2019.



Meeting With Officials

The ANCA-WR Board Members, staff, and local activists alike, have held countless successful meetings with elected officials from the local, state, and federal levels across the various Western Region states. As such, the organization has remained committed to its long-standing mission to educate and familiarize public officials with the Cause and concerns of the Armenian-American community. In addition, ANCA-WR has routinely met with high-level staffers of various representatives and officials, school administrators and teachers, to establish dialogue and garner their cooperation in the advancement of the Armenian Cause.

We have also closely tracked the performance of every incumbent Senator and Representative across a broad array of pro-Armenian legislative metrics, carefully scored and objectively graded each legislator seeking re-election, and then – as a public service to voters interested in factoring our insights into the diverse set of criteria they consider when voting – circulated a merit-based Report cards and endorsements during elections cycles.

ANCA-WR also attends the California Democratic (CADEM) Party State Convention and the California Republican (CAGOP) Convention. At both conventions, the ANCA-WR has an exhibit booth, thereby providing the opportunity to educate hundreds of convention attendees, delegates, politicians, and candidates on the Armenian Cause and the community's immediate legislative priorities.



Delegation Trips to Artsakh & Armenia

In an effort to establish direct ties between US elected officials and the Homeland by providing policymakers with a first-hand understanding of the rich Armenian history and culture, the ANCA Western Region helped organize several delegations of prominent city and state officials for week-long visits to Armenia and Artsakh, where they also met with Armenian authorities. Members of the ANCA-WR Board and staff accompanied the delegation.



Advocacy Days

The ANCA-WR organizes and leads hundreds of activists from respective states in to their state's capitol to bring the united voice of the Armenian-American community to the frontline of the legislative agenda.

From educating elected officials about the Armenian Genocide and the proud chapter in US history when the American people helped save the Armenian nation from annihilation during the 1915 atrocities to informing them about Turkey and Azerbaijan's intolerant dictatorial regimes with gross human rights violations that continue to deny the Armenian Genocide and stop peace from reaching the region, the advocacy days in the varied states bore new heights of awareness, and resulted in both legislative and community successes throughout the region.

Equally important, the advocacy days provided community members with the opportunity to meet fellow human rights activists from every corner of their state to exchange ideas, organize their communities and ultimately strengthen the network of grassroots activism - which forms the foundation of the ANCA-WR.



Building Bridges

The ANCA-WR has taken concrete steps toward cultivating mutually beneficial relationships with coalition partners which resulted in formalizing cooperation with the Assyrian and Hellenic communities. The ANCA-WR has also built coalitions with the Jewish, Korean, and Hindu community organizations, developed relationship with anti-genocide and human rights organizations, and participated in conferences and advocacy efforts led by the multi-ethnic In Defense of Christians organization seeking to protect and promote the rights of endangered Christian communities in the Near and Middle East.



Bringing Education to the Frontline

The ANCA-WR's Education Committee fosters and maintains relations with officials, administrators, and representatives from community-based organizations that deal with education and youth matters. Here some of our accomplishments:

- Working closely with school administrators to expand the states' curriculum frameworks as they pertain to teaching about the Armenian Genocide and incorporating the heroic response by the United States during the Genocide in American history coursework.
- Providing resources and tools to be used in classrooms, and sharing the story of the Armenian Genocide, the “America We Thank You” initiative, and Artsakh.
- Attending conferences to provide training to teachers from around the nation on available resources and lesson plans.
- Submitting expansive language on the Armenian Genocide to major textbook publishing companies to be incorporated in the next print of history books.



- Providing school districts with a speakers bureau list, a video library, Armenian Genocide education materials and lesson plans through the Genocide Education Project, literature lists for classroom reading for different age groups.
- Holding meetings with the Governor's office, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, K-12, college and university leaders to ensure incorporation of Armenian Genocide, history and culture within the public school system.
- Strengthening and continuing its established partnerships with the USC Shoah Foundation, Armenian Genocide Education Project, and the Armenian Bar Association to meet common goals.
- Advocating for genocide education legislation, which led to California providing a \$500,000 state grant to create study guides for California schools to properly teach the Armenian Genocide.
- Honoring and celebrating educators who have creatively taught the Armenian Genocide within their school communities, across different courses such as social science, English language arts, music, art, theater and film.
- Periodically organizing exhibitions at Holocaust Museums, lectures for the community, traditional Armenian Book Release events, etc.



Grassroots Makes the Difference

The work we do is critical to the advancement of the Armenian Cause and the promotion of interests of the Armenian-American community. We have tens of thousands of dedicated community members across the region who serve on our regional and local boards, committees, and subcommittees, while others graciously contribute financially to make our programs and initiatives possible. No matter the size of the group or task being completed, all of our dedicated volunteers play a vital role in helping us fulfill our goal of educating, motivating, and activating our community, all the while demanding accountability, proper representation, and justice from our elected representatives.

With broad-based support of an unparalleled network of cultural, educational, athletic, charitable, and youth organizations, the ANCA-WR worked alongside its local chapters toward cultivating relationships with local public officials and entities, continued its community development programs, and helped promote grassroots activism to be utilized at the state, regional and national levels in advancing the Armenian Cause.



From hosting annual blood drives, to college preparation and financial aid workshops, to providing after-school tutoring, to registering voters and participating on city, county, and statewide committees, the ANCA-WR local chapters served as the glue of their communities and of the organization.

The ANCA-WR, also held a series of road trips and community town halls across the region, in an effort to reactivate and engage Armenian-American communities throughout the western United States. Given the remarkable response by local community members to attend the town hall meetings and their eagerness to start a local chapter or become involved with an existing one, the ANCA-WR will continue to heavily invest in building and engaging Armenian communities outside of its headquarters base in Los Angeles, CA.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Burbank
Crescenta Valley
Glendale
Hollywood
Orange County
Pasadena
San Fernando Valley East
San Fernando Valley North
San Fernando Valley West
San Gabriel Valley
South Bay-Torrance
Sunland-Tujunga

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

Fresno

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Sacramento
San Francisco
Silicon Valley

ALASKA

ARIZONA

COLORADO

HAWAII

IDAHO

Boise

Twin Falls

NEVADA

NEW MEXICO

OREGON

TEXAS

Dallas

Houston

UTAH

WASHINGTON



HyeVotes

The HyeVotes Initiative was launched by the ANCA-WR in 2012, as a region wide, non-partisan initiative to engage community members in the electoral process. During the election season, HyeVotes serves as a source for voter information and continues to encourage Armenians to amplify the collective power of our community through the election booth. Throughout the decade, as new technology was integrated into the voting process, HyeVotes provided informational guides to educate the community on the process in their native language, worked with local centers to make them into vote centers during the election season, and assisted the elderly by providing rides to the vote centers.

Over the years, the HyeVotes office and ANCA-WR local chapters planned massive voter registration drives and voter assistance outreach in areas with a high concentration of Armenian American constituencies. In order to successfully reach out to the community, HyeVotes partnered with local Armenian schools, churches, organizations, media, and various business institutions. Since its inception, we have registered more than 50,000 new voters.



HyeCount

In 2010 and 2020, the ANCA-WR was actively involved in ensuring that the Armenian community was represented in the US Census. Historically, the Armenian community like other minorities, have been undercounted. Through canvassing and phone banking, HyeCount (formerly ANCensus) led a campaign to encourage our community to indicate their race as Armenian on the questionnaire to maximize the Armenian-American participation.



In order to ensure proper representation, the ANCA-WR worked with Armenian-American faith-based and community organizations that have a broad grassroots reach and ability to spread the word effectively and regularly appeared on TV channels to raise awareness about the Census and the importance it has for the Armenian-American community.



HyeCitizen

Launched a bilingual training video for the United States Citizenship Civics Test required for US naturalization designed specifically for native Armenian speakers.



Commemorating the Armenian Genocide Centennial

2015 witnessed a renewed commitment and a new era of grassroots activism at the ANCA-WR as we commemorated the Armenian Genocide Centennial, marching on in our pursuit of truth and justice. With broad-based support of an unparalleled network of cultural, educational, athletic, charitable, and youth organizations, the ANCA-WR efforts expanded tenfold as we worked alongside our local chapters toward cultivating relationships with local public officials and entities, continued our community development programs, and helped promote grassroots activism on a local level to be utilized at the state, regional and national levels to advance the Armenian Cause.

America We Thank You: An Armenian Tribute to Near East Relief

Timed for the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide, the ANCA-WR Launched the “America We Thank You: An Armenian Tribute to the Near East Relief” initiative, a movement to recognize the outpouring of generosity by the American people providing assistance to hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children who were victims of the Genocide. Throughout the year, there was a traveling exhibit prepared in collaboration with the Near East Foundation entitled, “They Shall Not Perish: The Story of Near East Relief,” a documentary film was produced in collaboration with four-time regional Emmy Award-winner Bared Maronian that documented the humanitarian relief efforts, an educational handbook was published, a website full of resources was launched, and thousands of private and public school and college campus students heard about this lost, proud chapter in American history.



March for Justice

The ANCA-WR played an integral leadership role in the Armenian Genocide Centennial Committee – Western USA, helping organize the historic March for Justice on April 24 when more than 166,000 activists took to the streets of Los Angeles demanding justice for the 1.5 million lives lost during the Genocide of 1915, making it the second largest march in the history of Los Angeles.

Building Bridges

Considering that the Recognition of the Armenian Genocide has never solely been an Armenian issue, but one that belongs to all guarantors of truth and justice, the ANCA-WR forged new relationships with other organizations. The coalition partners, which included non-profit, civil rights, unions, labor, community-based and student organizations affirmed their commitment to the global demand for justice for the Armenian Genocide, and advancing the call for accountability on the part of the Turkish government in acknowledging their crimes against the Armenian people.



Grassroots Conference

The ANCA-WR organizes a biennial conference (held in 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019) that brings together experts and hundreds of activists from all over the world to analyze issues related to the Armenian Cause and to develop and promote new avenues of leadership and advocacy. The ANCA-WR Grassroots Conference is composed of a groundbreaking series of informative and inspirational panel discussions, which successfully educate and empower the community to become a more active and dominant force in the collective pursuit of the Armenian Cause.



Annual Gala Banquet

The Annual Gala Banquet is the premiere event for the ANCA-WR and the Armenian-American community, where activists, supporters, donors, and public officials come together to acknowledge the work of the organization and to pay homage to annual honorees whose contribution to the Armenian Cause is recognized each year. We have honored dozens of prestigious individuals including politicians, celebrities, journalists, community and religious leaders, athletes, and activists who have used their platforms to advocate for the Armenian Cause. The annual dinner provides crucial financial support to the ANCA Western Region, which serves as a vital center for advocacy, activism, education, and community development.



Elevating Media Presence

The ANCA-WR is the community's watchdog to ensure proper and accurate reporting on our issues by the American print, broadcast, social, and other media. With new threats and challenges facing the Armenian Nation, both in the Diaspora and the Homeland, it is imperative to have a dedicated media-focused entity to effectively promote and present our issues to regional, national, and international media outlets to further raise awareness about the issues of concern to our community. Over the years, we have cultivated new relationships, challenged negative propaganda, and constantly disseminated information and fact sheets to media outlets.

ANCA-WR spokespeople continue to make regular bilingual appearances throughout Armenian print and broadcast media and hosted live interviews to keep our community informed about activities pertaining to the advancement of the Armenian Cause and to motivate participation and action. ANCA-WR social media pages on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter also serve to inform the public about issues of concern as well as our accomplishments.

THE JERUSALEM POST
Los Angeles Times
PROVIDENCE

San Francisco Chronicle

Armenian school in SF vandalized with threats, hate speech as conflicts with Azerbaijan intensify
Vandals targeted the Krouzian-Zekarian-Vasbouragan Armenian School in San Francisco with threatening and racist graffiti in an attack that ...

KRON4

Armenian school, community center in San Francisco vandalized

The Krouzian-Zekarian-Vasbouragan (KZV) Armenian School in San Francisco was vandalized Friday during the overnight hours.



LAist

Here's How LA's Armenian Community Is Remembering The ...

"That sense of community is at the heart of who we are as Armenians," said Alex Galitsky, a spokesman for the Armenian National Committee of ...

NBC Southern California

Armenian Genocide Remembrance Is a Lonely Day in Empty LA Streets, But You Can Make the Best of It

Friday marks the 105th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, a time in ... ago," said Alex Galitsky, Communications Director at the Armenian ...



Impact Media Institute

The latest initiative of the ANCA-WR is the launching of the Impact Media Institute (IMI), which will serve to uphold and promote fundamental human rights for all people and to fight against hatred, bigotry, intolerance, and historical revisionism in non-Armenian media.

Combat the Normalization of Genocide Denial in Media: There is a concerning trend towards the normalization of genocide denial in the media, including a refusal to acknowledge clear cases of genocide as 'genocide'. This grants impunity to perpetrators of mass atrocities as well as policymakers by downplaying the severity of crimes perpetrated.

Reporting on Genocide in the World Today: The Impact Media Institute will provide comprehensive reporting on active cases of genocide denial and perpetration in the world today, and serve as a media watchdog to ensure accurate reporting on cases of genocide as they unfold.

Reporting on Genocide in the World Today: Through coalition building and strategic relationships with key stakeholder across government, media, and academia the Impact Media Institute will work to build public awareness and raise the national profile of atrocity crimes in the media.



Empowering the Leaders of Tomorrow

Acknowledging the importance of providing a pipeline of support to the next generation of our community's leaders, the ANCA-WR continued to educate, motivate, and activate our youth through its hands-on programs and initiatives.

Over a hundred students and recent graduates participated in the different programs and learned about the intricacies of public policy and advocacy, interacted with public officials, developed leadership and advocacy skills, and gained an understanding of the Armenian Cause.

ANCA-WR Internship Program ***Location: (Los Angeles or Virtual)***

The interns are given the opportunity to work on grassroots campaigns and events, work on local, state, and federal legislation, and represent the ANCA-WR at community and media events, while simultaneously impacting the Armenian Cause.



Walter and Laurel Karabian Fellowship ***Location: (Sacramento, CA)***

The year-long fellowship is the first Sacramento based program of its kind with the goal of preparing the next generation of Armenian-American policy leaders through policy research and analysis projects, and placements in state and administrative offices, non-profit organizations, advocacy groups, labor unions and consulting firms, while also honing their professional and networking skills.



ANCA Leo Sarkisian Internship Program Location - Washington DC

Armenian-American youth leaders are given the opportunity to learn first-hand about the inner workings of the American political system during an 8-week program in the nation's capital.

ANCA Hovig Apo Saghdejian Capital Gateway Program Location - Washington DC

Helps secure permanent employment and professional internships in Washington, DC for young Armenian American professionals and students. The ANCA utilizes its resources and contacts to help candidates identify and secure jobs that fit their interests and needs.



Other Initiatives

ANCA-WR Staff members continue to visit high schools and universities to speak with students about the importance of activism and advocacy. Through these campus tours, we have been able to educate thousands of students how to get active in the Armenian Cause. We have also occasionally teamed up with Armenian Student Associations to organize social media campaigns to raise awareness about specific topics. During the summers, the ANCA-WR is teaching hundreds of youth at AYF Camp the importance of civic engagement and democratic participation.



ANCA Professional Network

ANCA-PN is an association composed of Armenian American young professionals in the western United States with expertise in every field who are brought together by heritage, social responsibility and a desire to expand the civic awareness and involvement of Armenian American professionals working in both the public and private sectors.

The ANCA-PN has taken the lead in providing resources and networking opportunities for young Armenian professionals, organizing tech panels, job fairs, workshops on resume writing and professional development, and joint events with other professional organizations in the Armenian community.



Responding to the Challenges of 2020

2020 was a challenging and complicated year, to say the least. Our communities were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, our compatriots in Lebanon witnessed the horrific explosion in Beirut, and our brothers and sisters bravely defended our homeland as Azerbaijan with support from Turkey, launched a full scale war. As we navigated through the challenges, the ANCA-WR was always ready to respond to the crisis by launching campaigns and mobilizing the community.

Responding to COVID-19

As we battled the COVID-19 pandemic as a community, the ANCA-WR and local chapters teamed up with local Armenian-American groups to assist community members in need by providing groceries, translating materials, and directing community members to the resources they needed. Our staff regularly updated the community by having appearances on Armenian TV channels and hosting live updates with elected officials to provide up to date information to our community.



Responding to the Challenges of 2020

Commemorating the 105th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

On April 24, 2020 in lieu of traditional events, the Armenian-American community commemorated the 105th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide by partnering up with Feeding America to provide meals to those facing a food insecurity crisis due to unprecedented levels of unemployment brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic. Through this epic campaign, the entire Armenian community was able to give thanks to America for its philanthropy at our greatest hour of need, and in turn the Armenian-American community was able to help our neighbors of all backgrounds and affiliations who faced food shortages at this extraordinary time. The campaign, whose main goal was to provide 1.5 million meals, exceeded its original goal and we were able to provide more than 5 million meals, in honor of our martyrs.



Port of Beirut Explosion

On August 4, 2020, there was an explosion in Beirut that caused devastation across the city. The Armenian community in Lebanon was not spared the wrath of the blast. The ANCA-WR along with other Armenian organization, under the Pan-Armenian Council organized a Telethon that raised more than \$1.4 million to enhance its ongoing relief efforts aimed at assisting the Lebanese-Armenian community. The ANCA-WR also advocated for a robust U.S. support (\$48 million to date), to help meet humanitarian, rebuilding, and development needs among Armenians and all Lebanese impacted by this disaster.

Attacks on Tavush and wave of Armenophobia

For several days in July, Azerbaijan launched a series of cross-border attacks against Armenia's northern Tavush region. Just days prior to the initial July 12th attack, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev described the ongoing OSCE Minsk Group moderated peace talks regarding Artsakh as "meaningless" and threatened to resolve the issue militarily. Although, several Congressional leaders condemned Azerbaijan's aggression, Azerbaijan was not fully held accountable and the silence of the international organizations and media that refrained from identifying Azerbaijan as the aggressor - only propelled them to attack once again couple of weeks later.

Armenians throughout the world were also subjected to a spate of violent hate crimes, which included mob attacks against Armenians by Azerbaijanis in Russia, an arson attack on an Armenian embassy vehicle in Germany, the burning down of an Armenian business in Ukraine, and the assault of Armenians in Turkey. In the United States, particularly in San Francisco, the Armenian community was subject to a spate of incidents including the racist vandalism and shooting at an Armenian School, and the arson attack on an Armenian Church Community Center all being investigated as hate crimes.



War in Artsakh

As the Armenian nation confronted the new challenges of the war that began on September 27, 2020, the ANCA was quick to mobilize the community to take action by calling on the US to hold Turkey and Azerbaijan accountable for the war crimes being committed and called on the U.S. to take a decisive role as the OSCE Minsk Group co-chair. ANCA-WR also worked with several groups to have advertisement billboards around the city, staff members wrote articles for the nation's top newspapers, advocated for PR firms to drop Azerbaijan and Turkey as their clients, advocated to end the sale of drone parts to Turkey, created graphics to help the community understand what was going on and what they can do to help, held several meetings with prominent local and national news agencies to address the false equivalence of Armenia and Azerbaijan, and connected journalists with people in Artsakh. As a member of the Pan Armenian Council, we also helped organize another historic march, where more than 150,000 Armenian-Americans marched to protest Turkey and Azerbaijan's genocidal aggression against the Armenian people and stand in solidarity with Armenia and Artsakh.



Looking Forward: 2021 and Beyond

Reflecting on the past decade, there are so many vivid reminders of the challenges we face as well as the undeniable power we have as a collective force to bring justice and greater awareness in pursuit of our Cause. This Decade in Review is testament of the work that we were able to do thanks to the generosity of our donors and supporters, the unwavering commitment of our grassroots and volunteers, the resources and assistance provided by our friends in elected office, and the strength of our just Cause.

As we look ahead to the promise of a better year, we ask you to support our efforts, so we can expand our reach and continue advocating for the security, prosperity, and long-term viability of a free, independent, and united Armenian homeland.

Without a doubt, Hye Tad - the Armenian Cause - is not just for our organization. It belongs to every single Armenian who believes in its mission and commits to its advancement. Together, united and with one voice, we can empower our community and overcome all those who seek to silence us. As the character of our national identity continues to evolve, it is only through this collective effort that we will succeed in achieving our goals for Hye Tad. Our destiny is in our hands.

So, whether it is through your generous donations or your benevolent devotion of time and expertise - our Nation needs each of us now more than ever, and for this reason, we hope to see you in the trenches!

ANCA Western Region

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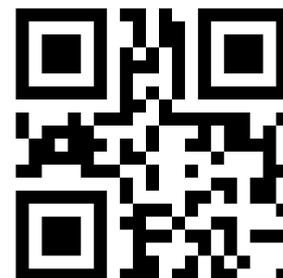


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Become an ANCA Rapid Responder

The ANCA has made it easier than ever to ensure your voice is heard in the Halls of Government on the federal, state and local levels, with the ANCA Rapid Responder System. By signing up, you allow the ANCA to automatically send pre-written letters on your behalf to your legislators.

To learn more and to register, visit: www.anca.org/rapid





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