



## 2014 ANCA WR ANNUAL REPORT

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Educate | Motivate | Activate



## ANCA-WR MISSION

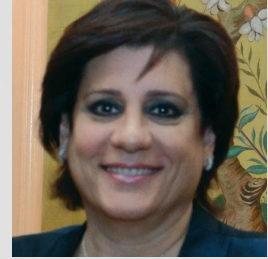
# Statement

The Armenian National Committee of America-Western Region is the largest Armenian American grassroots advocacy organization in the Western United States. Working in coordination with a network of offices, chapters, and supporters throughout the Western United States and affiliated organizations around the country, the ANCA-WR works to promote understanding regarding issues of concern to the Armenian American community.





Over the past year, I have had the honor of watching ANCA Western Region truly raise the bar for ourselves, for our communities, and our homeland. While the external environment remains a very challenging one, I have seen our community come together and show determination, resilience, and a shared sense of purpose, working tirelessly as a unified voice for justice, proper representation and the advancement of the Armenian Cause.



The challenges have been many and growing – from the Turkish and Azeri lobbies becoming ever so active and outspending us by a ratio of at least 10 to 1 to purchase influence, falsify history, and promote their interests to a persistently tough fundraising climate – but what has shone through is the unwavering commitment and dedication of our board members, committee members, staff, volunteers, and our grassroots stars working methodically, tirelessly, passionately, and unequivocally for our sacred collective Cause, for the survival, progress, and future of our homeland and the diaspora.

2014 has been an exceedingly busy year filled with countless accomplishments and victories. In less than 11 months' time, we expanded our reach outside of California by establishing local chapters and holding town hall meetings and advocacy days in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Texas and Utah, among others. Despite the millions of dollars spent by Azerbaijan and Turkey on high powered lobbying firms, working with the ANCA headquarters in Washington, D.C., our Eastern Region counterparts, and our grassroots we were able to defeat countless anti-Armenia and anti-Artsakh resolutions across the United States.

Our tireless efforts also resulted in the passage of an unprecedented number of resolutions recognizing Artsakh's independence and the Armenian Genocide, incorporating Genocide education in public schools, honoring the Near East Relief, establishing friendship cities between cities in the US and Artsakh, and holding Turkey accountable for the return of thousands of Christian churches to their true owners. All the while, our local chapters worked with city, county, state and federal legislators to defend the rights of our communities and increase their civic participation and activism.

Among the countless other triumphs this year, the ANCA WR held over 300 meetings with elected officials, travelled to Armenia with a high-ranking congressional delegation, organized its Annual Advocacy Day at the California State Capitol in Sacramento with the participation of 350 activists, launched the "America We Thank You: An Armenian Tribute to Near East Relief" initiative, expanded the Hye Votes initiative which includes voter registration, voter education, and get-out-the-vote efforts, and established monthly and annual giving programs to help support our efforts.

In 2014, we moved from having a seat at the table to setting the agenda – all with an annual budget of less than half a million dollars.

With the Genocide Centennial looming around the corner and with the security of Artsakh being threatened almost daily, I am proud of what ANCA Western Region accomplished in 2014 and excited about the future ahead. Our community is strong, vibrant, and growing, and together we will continue to fight for justice, uphold human rights, and safeguard our homeland and our communities throughout the United States.

As we move forward to 2015 and beyond, I encourage you to stand with us, fight with us, encourage, support, and enable us because Hye Tahd needs all of us.

In Common Cause,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nora Hovsepian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Nora Hovsepian, Esq.



# STRENGTHENING THE

# Grassroots

## A NEW ERA OF LOCAL ACTIVISM

2014 marked a new era of local activism across the western region and throughout the United States. 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 on a local level 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 ANCA WR.

## EXPANDING OUR REACH OUTSIDE OF CALIFORNIA

Building on our prior year's efforts to expand our reach, engage, and activate the Armenian communities outside of Southern California, the ANCA WR also hit the ground running with town hall meetings, advocacy days, and meetings with officials throughout the States of Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Nevada, Texas, and Utah among other locations. 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.

# ELEVATING AWARENESS AND

# Advocacy

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

2014 marked an unprecedented number of accomplishments for the ANCA WR and the Armenian Cause in the area of legislative affairs. While the Turkish and Azeri lobbies dumped millions in pursuit of spreading false propaganda and genocide denial, the ANCA WR powered up its grassroots and continued to educate elected officials, hold regular meetings, cultivate relationships, and work on policy issues as they relate to the benefit of the Armenian communities in the region, Armenia, and Artsakh.

Working hand in hand with our national headquarters in Washington D.C. and our Eastern Region counterpart, the ANCA WR and its grassroots stars were able to kill, month after month, anti-Armenian, anti-Artsakh and pro-Azerbaijani resolutions in the States of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Hawaii, Indiana, Maine, Missouri, New Jersey, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wyoming.

All the while, our local chapters took on local issues - demanding proper representation in their city institutions, opposing electrical fee hikes that would heavily impact the livelihood of the Armenian-American residents in their region, partnering with their school districts to ensure that Armenian parents and students with language barriers were able to successfully navigate the education system, and serving as the bridge between issues in city departments and their Armenian-American constituency.





# FEDERAL

# Level



## **ARMENIAN GENOCIDE TRUTH AND JUSTICE ACT**

For the first time in nearly a quarter century, in early April, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee adopted the Armenian Genocide Resolution, calling upon the Senate to commemorate this crime and encouraging the President to ensure that America's foreign policy reflects and reinforces the lessons, documented in the U.S. record, of the still-unpunished genocide.

## **THE TURKEY CHRISTIAN CHURCHES ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

In June, despite a last minute campaign led by pro-Turkey lobbyists, the House Foreign Affairs Committee passed a powerful religious freedom measure holding Turkey accountable for the return of thousands of stolen Christian holy sites and urging the immediate opening of the Halki Theological Seminary. H.R. 4347 requires that the U.S. Department of State formally report to Congress on an annual basis about the status of Turkey's return of stolen Christian churches and properties in Turkey and occupied Cyprus.





# STATE

# Level



## **AJR 32 – Recognition of Artsakh’s Independence.** | Assembly votes 72-1, Senate votes 24-0

In late August, the State of California, representing over 38 million people, passed AJR 32, a resolution recognizing the Independence of Artsakh by a unanimous vote. This resolution also encourages Artsakh’s continuing efforts to develop as a free and independent nation and formally calls upon the President and Congress of the United States to do the same.

## **AB 1915 - The Armenian Genocide Education Act** | Assembly Votes 78-0, Senate Votes 36-0, Signed into Law

In late September, after unanimous passage in both State Houses, CA Governor Jerry Brown signed the Armenian Genocide Education Act (AB 1915) into law. This bill adds Armenian Genocide survivor and witness oral testimonies into the teachings of human rights in California public schools. It encourages professional development activities and resource development for teachers to teach about the Genocide.

## **AJR 41 – Honoring the Near East Relief** | Assembly votes 74-1, Senate Votes 33-0

In late April and late September, the CA State Assembly and the CA State Senate respectively passed a resolution honoring and commending the extraordinary service of the Near East Relief, the American effort which helped save over 132,000 orphans and provided humanitarian aid to the victims of the Armenian Genocide, and recognized the ANCA WR “America, We Thank You” initiative.

## **SB 1380 – Teaching the Armenian Genocide** | Assembly Votes 78-0 Senate Votes 34-0, Signed into law

In late September, Governor Brown also signed SB 1380, which promotes the inclusion of the Armenian Genocide and oral histories in the social studies curriculum in CA Public Schools.

## **AJR 35 Recognition of the Armenian Genocide** | Assembly Votes 75-0 Senate Votes 37-0

Introduced by CA Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez, AJR 35 designates the week of April 20 to 26, 2014, as “California Week of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide of 1915–1923,” and calls on the Congress and the President of the United States to observe the California Week of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide by participating in the Armenian Genocide Commemorative Project.

## **SJR 21 Recognition of the Armenian Genocide** | Assembly Votes 73-0 Senate Votes 35-0

Introduced by CA Senate President Pro Tempore, Kevin de Leon, SJR 21 designates and encourages the people of California to commemorate the month of April 2014, as “California Month of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide of 1915–1923,” and calls upon the Congress and the President of the United States to act likewise and to formally and consistently recognize and reaffirm the historical truth that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people constituted genocide. The measure commends conscientious educators who teach about human rights and genocide and calls upon the President to work toward equitable, constructive, stable, and durable Armenian-Turkish relations and a fair, just, and comprehensive international resolution of this crime against humanity. Lastly, the resolution calls upon the Republic of Turkey to acknowledge the facts of the Armenian Genocide and to work toward a just resolution.

LOCAL

Level



### **Pico Rivera | Karvachar Friendship City Partnership**

In late April, thanks to the efforts of our San Gabriel Valley chapter, the Pico Rivera City Council unanimously passed a resolution honoring the Republic of Artsakh and its citizens, announcing the town of Karvachar, Artsakh and the City of Pico Rivera as “Friendship Cities”. The resolution goes on to recognize the sacrifices, dedication and resolve shown by the residents of Karvachar and the Republic of Artsakh in the face of extreme adversity.

### **Los Angeles Community Colleges and Glendale Community College Districts | Unanimous Passage**

In late August and early September, the Los Angeles Community Colleges District and Glendale Community Colleges Board of Trustees adopted resolutions designating the month of April 2015 as “Los Angeles Community College District Month of Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915”. The very strongly worded resolutions also incorporate Armenian Genocide education and awareness as part of the districts’ teachings and campus activities, and call on the United States President to work toward equitable, constructive, stable, and durable Armenian- Turkish relations based upon the Republic of Turkey’s full acknowledgment, with reparations, of the facts and ongoing consequences of the Armenian Genocide, and a fair, just, and comprehensive international resolution of this crime against humanity.

### **Burbank | Hadrut Friendship City Partnership**

The efforts of our Burbank chapter resulted in the establishment of a friendship city between the cities of Burbank, CA and Hadrut, Artsakh. In late October, the Burbank City Council unanimously passed a resolution honoring the Republic of Artsakh and its citizens, announcing the region of Hadrut, Artsakh and the City of Burbank as “Friendship Cities”. The resolution goes on to recognize the sacrifices, dedication and resolve shown by the residents of Hadrut and the Republic of Artsakh in the face of extreme adversity.

In addition, as our communities commemorated the 99th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, our local chapters across the region worked alongside their local institutions to ensure passage of Genocide Recognition and Commemorative resolutions through their city halls, school and college districts, while the ANCA WR worked in concert with the Armenian Students Associations at UCLA, UC Riverside and UC San Diego to pass similar resolutions on university campuses.

## MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS

The ANCA WR along with its local chapters held a whopping 300 plus meetings in 2014 with federal, state and local level elected officials to educate and advocate on issues of concern to the Armenian-American community. This high volume number of meetings does not include those held with appointed high level administrators, school administrators and teachers, or any meetings held by the ANCA National Headquarters.

## DELEGATION TRIP TO ARMENIA

Building on the 2013 groundbreaking CA Delegation trip to Armenia and Artsakh during the week of April 24, 2014, a delegation of ANCA leaders including ANCA Chair Ken Hachikian, ANCA National Board members Raffi Hamparian and Steve Mesrobian, ANCA Western Region Chair Nora Hovsepian, longtime Orange County community leader Sylvie Tertzakian and ANCA Legislative Affairs Director Raffi Karakashian traveled to Yerevan, Armenia to welcome Chairman and Ranking Members of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, and to join with government officials and hundreds of thousands of Armenian citizens participating in events marking the 99th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA) and Ranking Member Eliot Engel (D-NY) were joined on this Congressional Delegation by House Foreign Affairs panel members David Cicilline (D-RI) and Lois Frankel (D-FL). The Congressional delegation held meetings with Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan, Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, and other senior Armenian officials, and paid a solemn April 24 visit to Dzidzernagapert, the national memorial to the Genocide.





## ADVOCACY DAY IN

# Sacramento

On April 7, 2014, more than 350 activists of all ages converged upon the California State Capitol in Sacramento to participate in over 75 meetings in one day's time during our Annual CA Advocacy Day. Now in its seventh year, the 2014 Advocacy Day drew the largest number of participants to date with activists traveling from San Diego, Orange County, Los Angeles, Central Coast, Fresno, Bay Area and locally from Sacramento, all with one mission in mind: to advocate for the Armenian Cause.

Showing their promise as leaders who will continue to pursue justice for the Armenian People into the future, students from Armenian schools all over the State proudly wore their school uniforms into the Capitol, representing the Rose & Alex Pilibos School in Hollywood, Ferrahian High School in Encino, Mesrobian Armenian School in Montebello, Charlie Keyan Armenian Community School in Clovis, and Krouzian-Zekarian-Vasbouragan School in San Francisco. An enthusiastic group of students from the San Marino public High School, led by their 12th grade World History teacher Peter Paccone, joined in Advocacy Day to promote their Genocide Education project to State legislators and education officials.

Groups of activists representing the Armenian Relief Society, the Armenian Youth Federation, the Service Employees International Union, as well as members of the ANCA-WR Education Committee and Near East Relief Committee all joined the Government Affairs Committee, Board of Directors, and staff in achieving a day of well-organized grassroots advocacy.

Featured in the Capitol Rotunda was the ANCA-WR's exhibit showcasing its "America We Thank You" tribute to Near East Relief, in order to educate the public about the role of the American People, and specifically the people of California, in rescuing hundreds of thousands of refugees and orphans who survived the Armenian Genocide. by raising \$117 million (\$2.7 billion present value) and administering over 400 orphanages, hospitals, food & clothing distribution centers, and vocational training schools throughout the Ottoman Empire from 1915-1930. Many of the activists participating in Advocacy Day were the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of orphans who were saved by Near East Relief and had their own personal stories to tell.

The day's events were highlighted by the unanimous adoption of Armenian Genocide resolutions in both houses of the State legislature (SJR21 and AJR35), whereby a "Week of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923 was proclaimed from April 7-11, 2014, and Congress and the U.S. President were called upon to follow suit.

# BRINGING EDUCATION TO THE *Frontline*

In an effort to bring education to the frontline, in early 2014, the ANCA WR established an education committee comprised of dedicated community members and professionals from the field. The committee fosters and maintains relations with officials, administrators and representatives from community based organizations that deal with education and youth matters.

## **Major accomplishments of the committee since its launch in March include:**

- Working closely with public officials and community organizations to ensure that future generations learn about Armenian history and culture
- Providing schools districts 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
- Providing training for American and Armenian teachers on Armenian Genocide education; supporting efforts of Armenian youth involved in Armenian Genocide information campaign
- Launching a public information social media campaign entitled #99YearsAgoToday with daily NY Times and other American publication coverage postings of articles as the Genocide was taking place
- 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
- Passage of local, county, and statewide resolutions related to education
- Hosting community forums related to education matters
- Establishing partnerships with the USC Shoah Foundation and the Armenian Bar Association to meet common goals and to address serious education concerns as they relate to Armenian faculty and staff in Arizona and California respectfully.





## CORPORATE SPONSORS

### *Silver Sponsors \$5000*

Commerce Casino

Keosian/Berberian LLP, Attorney at Law

Southern California Edison

### *Bronze Sponsors \$2500*

Comcast Cable

EH Bank

Southern California Gas Company

Sun Dairy, Inc.

### *Youth Sponsors (\$200)*

Altounian Family Trust

Bank of the West

Anita Q. Gabrielian



AMERICA

*We Thank You*

#### **AN ARMENIAN TRIBUTE TO NEAR EAST RELIEF**

Timed for the centennial of the Armenian Genocide, In March 2014, the ANCA WR launched the “America We Thank You: An Armenian Tribute to Near East Relief” initiative, a movement to recognize the outpouring of generosity by the American people in the immediate aftermath of the Armenian Genocide (1915-1930) and to highlight the efforts of Near East Relief in rescuing and providing assistance to hundreds of thousands of men, women and children who were victims of the Genocide.

Established in 1915 as a direct result of the Armenian Genocide, the Near East Relief (currently known as the Near East Foundation) is the United States’ oldest Congressionally-sanctioned non-governmental organization. From 1915 through 1930, the NER mobilized the entire American nation, and the world, into a well-organized and well-funded relief effort that successfully saved over 132,000 Armenian orphans and 1 million refugees half a world away. Despite its initial fundraising goal of \$100,000 which was later raised to \$30 million, the NER ultimately raised \$117 million, the equivalent of \$2.7 billion in today’s dollars. The NER went on to build over 400 orphanages, food and clothing distribution centers, medical clinics and hospitals, and vocational training schools throughout the Near East to house and care for the survivors. Notably, the NER was successful in inspiring more than 1,000 American volunteers to leave their comfortable lives to travel across ocean and land to dedicate themselves to the relief effort.

“America We Thank You: An Armenian Tribute to Near East Relief,” will continue to organize commemorative events and programs throughout 2015 to honor the legacy of the NER. The various initiatives of the committee, in collaboration with the Near East Relief Historical Society and the Near East Foundation, will aim to express its gratitude to the American people for establishing and continuing the tradition of being the most generous nation.



# MAKING OUR COMMUNITY'S VOICE HEARD THROUGH

# Hye Votes

Making Our Community's Voice Heard through Hye Votes

Acknowledging the power of a community that votes, the ANCA WR heavily invested in and expanded its Hye Votes initiative, a region wide, non-partisan program to engage community members in the electoral process.

For the 2014 Primary Elections and currently for the 2014 General Election, Hye Votes along with area specific ANCA WR local chapters throughout the State of California -from Sacramento, San Francisco and to Pasadena, Glendale, the San Fernando Valley, and all the way to South Bay and San Diego - coordinated a multi-faceted civic participation campaign designed to walk first-time and disadvantaged voters through the entire political process. The components of the campaign included: voter registration, voter education, voter mobilization, voter assistance, voter research, voting rights advocacy and get-out-the-vote efforts.

The aforementioned combined with on-the-ground field organizers, advertising, direct mail, trainings, phone banking, and canvassing resulted in over 8,000 additional registered Armenian voters since its launch and unprecedented turnout in the Elections by the Armenian-American community.

Given the success and the importance of the initiative, the ANCA-Western Region will continue its efforts beyond 2014 in preparation for the 2015 Municipal Elections and the 2016 Presidential Elections.



# HYE VOTES

# INVESTING IN THE *Future*



No other Armenian American public affairs organization in the United States benefits more from young activists than ANCA-WR. Hundreds of high school and college students and young professionals volunteer their time, energy, and talent to make the ANCA-WR the premier organization it is today.

Through its internship and development programs and its special relationship with the oldest and most active Armenian American youth groups- the Armenian Youth Federation (AYF) and the Armenian Student Associations (ASA) on campuses across the Western United States, the ANCA-WR fosters a spirit of community service, participation, and leadership in our community's youth. These efforts provide a valuable foundation for creating a new generation of Armenian Americans who will be prepared and eager to advance Armenian issues for decades to come.

## **ANCA WR INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Acknowledging the importance of providing a pipeline of support to the next generation of our community's leaders, the ANCA WR expanded its internship program in 2014 to allow for more students to participate in this hands-on program. This selective, part time, leadership training program provides high school and college students as well as recent college graduates an opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of community issues as well as advocacy efforts on the local, regional, and federal levels. During their tenure, interns are given valuable opportunities to interact with public officials, develop leadership and advocacy skills, represent the ANCA WR at community and media events, organize various grassroots campaigns and events, work with staff, Board members, committee members, and local ANCA chapters as well as attend weekly educational lectures.

The multi-faceted internship compounds professional skill-building with networking opportunities to promote well-rounded individuals to serve in our community and on future ANCA Western Region and local chapter committees. The program hosts spring, summer, and fall sessions.

## **ANCA LEO SARKISIAN INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

In that same spirit, the ANCA WR also sponsored one local student to participate in the prestigious ANCA Leo Sarkisian Internship Program in Washington, DC. The Internship program, now in its 30th year, provides Armenian American youth leaders from across the U.S. an opportunity to learn first-hand about the inner workings of the American political system during its eight week training session in the nation's capital.





## PATH TO COLLEGE PROGRAM (PTC)

Originally launched by the ANCA Glendale Chapter in 2007, the PTC program consists of a series of forums organized to educate the non-English speaking immigrant Armenian population about the multitude of opportunities available to secondary school students. Though the program is geared toward the non-English speaking immigrant population, it is open to all students and parents who need assistance. Given the success and the need in our communities for such services, the ANCA WR brought the PTC program on the regional level to help organize similar forums across the region using the Glendale model.

In 2014, from Crescenta Valley to Sacramento, Pasadena, the San Fernando Valley, and the heart of Hollywood, parents and students alike participated in the ANCA WR PTC forums, which covered such topic matters as high school graduation requirements, 4 year plan, English Language Development classes, the college application process and deadlines, financial aid, SAT & ACT college admission exams, how to write personal statements, and the difference between community colleges and 4-year universities.

## WIRING UP THE ANCA E-ACTIVIST

Recognizing the unprecedented growth of the internet and social media over the past decades, in 2014, the ANCA WR gave birth to its revamped website, weekly and monthly e-newsletters, and added social media accounts; keeping the community informed of critical issues, while providing powerful tools to make their voices heard.

The results of these efforts created a new exciting brand of ANCA WR supporter- the ANCA WR e-Activist. From the comfort and convenience of their homes, workplaces and smart phones, these dedicated individuals have transformed the Internet into an effective tool to educate elected officials, the media and the general public on issues of concern to Armenian Americans while helping spread breaking news and ANCA WR initiatives to tens of thousands of Armenian Americans.

Whether it is the hundreds of thousands of individuals who visited the ANCA and ANCA WR websites, reached by ANCA WR email Action Alerts and email updates, or communicated through the ANCA or ANCA WR social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn, Armenian Americans are better connected than ever to each other, their elected officials, the media, and the general public.



[twitter.com](https://twitter.com/ANCA_WR) & [instagram ANCA\\_WR](https://www.instagram.com/ANCA_WR) | [facebook.com/ANCAWesternRegion](https://facebook.com/ANCAWesternRegion) [ancawr.org](http://ancawr.org)

# SIGNATURE *Events*

## **ANCA GRASSROOTS CONFERENCE**

This bi-annual conference 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.

## **ANCA-WR ANNUAL GALA BANQUET**

This is the premier annual fundraising event for the ANCA-WR, where over 1,000 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.

## **ANCA-WR ANNUAL ADVOCACY DAYS**

ANCA WR leads hundreds of activists from respective states in the western region to their state's capitol where they lobby their state legislators, face to face. The breadth and depth of the ANCA WR Advocacy Days is captured in the diversity of our activists, coming from nearly every age group and all backgrounds.

## **ANCA-PN DESTINATION WEEKEND**

Launched in 2012, ANCA PN DestiNation Weekend is organized bi-annually, alternating years with the ANCA Grassroots Conference with the goal of bringing together young Armenian professionals from all over the world in different locales to network, share ideas, identify mentors, socialize, and share their interest in the Armenian Cause.



# HOW DOES ALL OF THIS

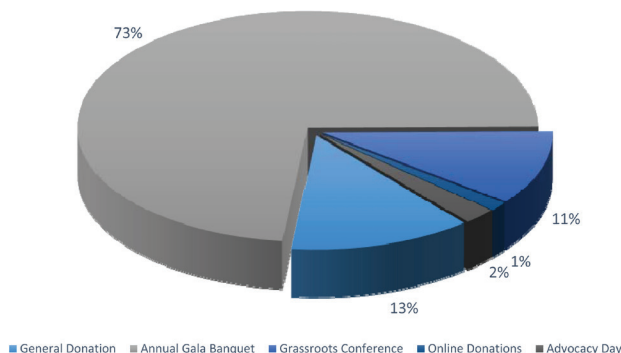
# Happen?

## Through Grassroots Efforts

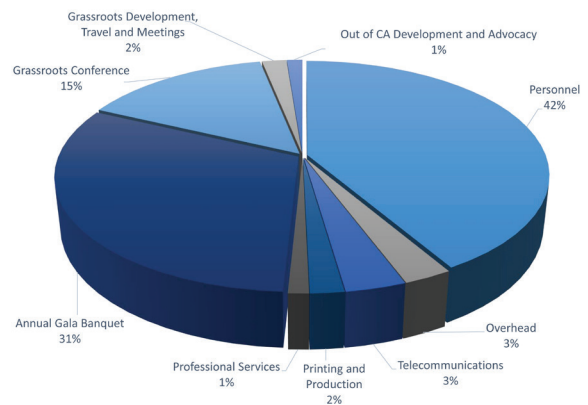
Because we have a proven track record and the work we do is so critical to the advancement of the Armenian Cause and the promotion of interests of the Armenian American community, we have hundreds of dedicated community members across the region who serve on our regional and local boards, committees, 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.

Join us for a fulfilling, enlightening and empowering experience. Our strength lies in our numbers and the passion of our grassroots activists, donors, volunteers, and supporters.

### 2013 ANCA-WR INCOME



### 2013 ANCA-WR EXPENSES





## 3 WAYS YOU CAN



## DONATE

When you give to the ANCA WR you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping us continue our advocacy, community outreach, civic engagement, youth, and development programs.

You can be sure that we will stretch every dollar of your donation and ensure that your voice will be heard through local, state, and federal government agencies and grassroots action on the issues that matter to you most.

The ANCA WR is completely funded by donors. If it weren't for the support of donors like you, we could not do the work that makes you proud. Be a part of it!

## 3 WAYS TO DONATE / JOIN

### 1. Friends of ANCA Western Region - Our Monthly Giving Club

We rely on region-wide monetary donations for the bulk of our operating funds. No matter how large or small, every donation helps keep our lights on and fuels our advocacy, community outreach, civic engagement, youth, and development programs. A \$15 donation allows us to purchase a case of paper, while a \$100 donation covers the monthly bill of keeping our community informed of issues that are important to them through monthly e-newsletters.

Setting up a monthly pledge is easy for you, and efficient for us — You can make a general donation to the ANCA Western Region or give to the following specific program you care most about.



Operating Costs  
Advocacy Efforts  
Genocide Education in Public Schools  
Community and Local Chapter Development  
Internship and Youth Programs  
Hye Votes

Visit: [ancawr.org/friends](http://ancawr.org/friends) Call: 818.500.1918

## 2. The ANCA Western Region Founders' Circle – Our Annual Giving Program

Your participation in this once a year appeal will allow us to plan ahead and provide annual operating funds for programs and grassroots efforts to advance the Armenian Cause.

This Annual Giving Program is designed with the donor in mind. Participation in one of the five levels of giving comes with the following benefits:

- Advance notice of all ANCA WR events and news updates
- Invitation to VIP Cocktail Reception with ANCA WR leadership and elected officials.
- Invitation to quarterly briefing socials and round tables
- Honorable mention in ANCA WR Annual Report distributed to over 150,000 households.
- Complimentary ANCA WR pin and pen
- Invitation to lunch with Executive Director
- Invitation to meetings and gatherings with elected officials
- The satisfaction that you contributed to the advancement of the Armenian Cause



### Founders' Circle Levels

Benefactor: \$5,000

Patron: \$4,000

Friend: \$3,000

Supporter: \$2,000

Activist: \$1,000

Donations to the ANCA WR are not tax deductible. They support our support advocacy, education, and political efforts.

## 3. Make a tax-deductible gift to the ANCA WR and help us continue our education and community outreach efforts

### GET INVOLVED IN YOUR ANCA WR

Let us know you want to join in on the efforts. Submit form online at [ancawr.org/getinvolved](http://ancawr.org/getinvolved).

Contact us at:

**ANCA Western Region** 104 N. Belmont, Ste. 200, Glendale, CA 91206

[www.ancawr.org](http://www.ancawr.org) | [twitter.com/ANCA\\_WR](https://twitter.com/ANCA_WR) | [facebook.com/ANCAWesternRegion](https://facebook.com/ANCAWesternRegion) | Instagram: ANCA\_WR

[info@ancawr.org](mailto:info@ancawr.org) | (818) 500-1918

### BECOME AN ANCA WR E-ACTIVIST

Get active online. Share and like our Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn updates, re-tweet our Twitter posts and get your family and network of friends engaged in advancing the Armenian Cause. Becoming an ANCA WR E-Activist is just a click away.

# ANCA-WR

# Leadership

## ANCA WR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Haik Petrosian  
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Tereza Yerimyan, Government Affairs Director  
Haig Baghdassarian, Esq., Legislative Affairs Director  
Nare Kupelian, ANCA-San Gabriel Valley Executive Director  
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Alina Sarkissian, Banquet Coordinator



## ANCA WR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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# A GRASSROOTS

# Organization

The Armenian National Committee of America- Western Region (ANCA-WR) is a grassroots public affairs organization devoted to advancing issues of concern to the Armenian American community. For nearly a century, the ANCA-WR has served to educate, motivate and activate the Armenian American community in the Western United States on a wide range of issues.

With its headquarters based in Los Angeles, California, the ANCA-WR enjoys broad-based community support through an extensive network of cultural, educational, athletic, charitable and youth organizations. In addition, the ANCA-WR is tied to a variety of media, including several of the leading Armenian media organizations in America and the largest bilingual Armenian daily in the United States-Asbarez.

With chapters throughout the State of California and in over a dozen other western states, the ANCA-WR works in cooperation with its national headquarters in Washington, DC, and its Eastern Region counterpart in Boston, to promote the concerns of Armenian Americans. The ANCA-WR is joined in these efforts by a far-reaching network of international affiliates in Europe, Canada, South America, the Middle East, Australia, Armenia and Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh).

Whether the focus is empowering our community by registering voters through the organization's HyeVotes initiative, the drive for recognition, restitution and justice for the Armenian Genocide, educating the public on local, state, and federal legislation concerning issues in their local communities and the Republic of Armenia or advocating the legitimate right of self-determination for the people of Artsakh, the ANCA-WR is a robust force in advancing the Armenian Cause in the greatest democracy on earth – the United States of America.

The main goals of the ANCA WR are:

- To foster public awareness in support of a free, independent and united Armenia;
- To influence and guide U.S. policy on matters of interest to the Armenian American community;
- To empower and represent the collective Armenian American viewpoint on matters of public policy, while serving as liaison between the community and their elected officials and government institutions.

# #goANCA



Armenian National Committee of America, Western Region

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