



**The Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP)**

[www.meaningfulworld.com](http://www.meaningfulworld.com)

*NY Office*

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**Collaborative Project in Armenia  
SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE - ARMENIA –**

**Brief Proposal for your URGENT Attention**

**MISSION**

To create and establish a public service that offers those in need of psychological guidance a direct toll-free telephone ‘life line’ that offers guidance in coordination with local law enforcement and psychological health providers.

**OBJECTIVE**

**To prevent undo loss of life**

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- To instill hope by teaching emotional management, and emotional intelligence
- To provide a 24-hour service of staff trained by local and international psychologists that are versed in crisis management and suicide prevention support
- To work in collaboration with law-enforcement officials and local psychological health centers if immediate intervention or additional care is warranted
- To provide psychology volunteers on call in collaboration with an American-based NGO called Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention (ATOP) Meaningful World 501(c)3 affiliated with the United Nations
- To work collaboratively with the local NGO Armenian Center for Health & Education, “APAGA” Psychological Center
- To increase the availability of Armenia’s psychological health care and integration into local law enforcement, academia, and psychological health centers
- To compile a Mental Health Resource List to provide supervision and follow up training to care givers and care seekers.
- To provide crisis management, follow up mental health and psychological care through referrals and long term care if needed.

**WHY? URGENCY OF IMPLEMENTATION: Current Statistics**

1. Since 2003, **suicide rates in Armenia** have **increased by more than 100%**
2. There has been a significant increase in **teenage and young adult suicide**



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3. The Kievyan Bridge in Yerevan is now called “**Suicide bridge**” due to the frequent number of suicides
4. Armenia has the third highest rate of suicide in the previously Soviet Republic.
5. More statistics are available upon request. (Dr Kamo Vartanyan)

**PARTNERSHIPS & SPONSORS**

➤ **US Embassy of Armenia**

Provide guidance, funding, and logistical support in order to establish an operational services.

➤ **Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention, Meaningfulworld**

Collaboration with Columbia University Professor, Dr. Ani Kalayjian and her NGO, ATOP Meaningfulworld to provide trainings and literature as well as guidance, supervision, and advisory support. [www.Meanngfulworld.com](http://www.Meanngfulworld.com)

➤ **Ministry of Health** Dr. Samvel Torosyan, Chief Psychiatrist

Dr. Torosyan stated that this suicide prevention hotline is long overdue and essential to the well-being of the nation.

➤ **Armenian Pedagogical University**

Collaboration with Dr. Kamo Vardanyan, Director of the Research Center, Research and Training; Neuropsychologist and Suicidologist

➤ **US Embassy, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs**

Mr. Audie Holloway, INL Senior Law Enforcement Advisor

➤ **World Health Organization, Mr. Egor Zaitsev, Representative**

Mr. Zaitsev expressed his support and desire to collaborate with Meaningfulworld, describing the suicide prevention hotline as urgent, very important, timely, and consistent with the goals of the Ministry of Health and the UN.

➤ **UNFPA**

Mr. Garik Hayrapetyan, Assistant Representative

➤ **Karitas, Archbishop Rafael Minassian,**

➤ **Apaga Center, Dr Armen Bejanyan (Founder and Director) and Karen Gargaryan**

Organizing member of a group of local-based psychologists who will work to provide services for people in need of guidance and project lead on behalf of ATOP in Armenia.

➤ **TUMO Creative Center for Technology, Creative infographic animations / posters of qualitative and quantitative data from AUA Research to be used for promotional and awareness-building advertisements.**

**Following agencies contacted, due to no funding referred us to others:**

➤ **.Minister of Emergency Situations of RA, David Edgar Tonoyan**

➤ **USAID – Met with Dr. Astghik Grigoryan, Project Management Specialist of Democracy, Health, and Social Reform Office. Although very interested but due to no funding referred us to other Ministries.**



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**Suicide Prevention hotline budget:**

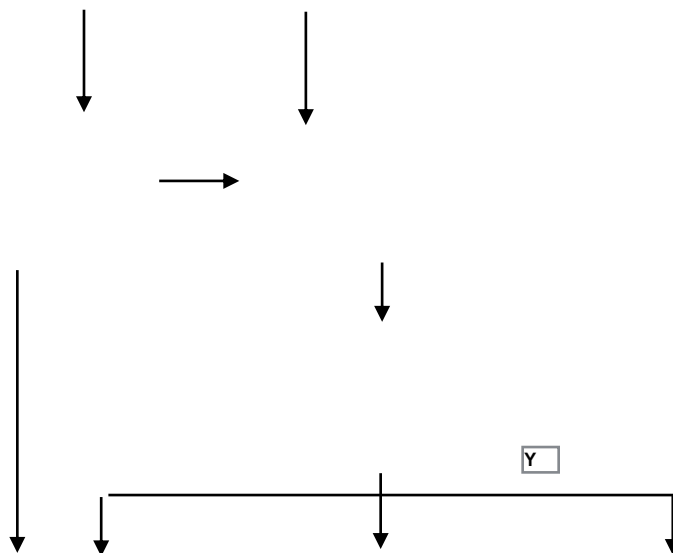
Coordinator: 100,000 Armenian DRM  
Trainer & Assistant: 80,000 (2 sessions X 8 hours each)  
Telephone line: 6 person (8hrs each): 87,000 (X6): 527,000  
Total per month: 707,000 AMD = \$1,500 USA per month  
Consultants \$2,000 for the year travel only

Total \$20,000 USD per year

**Contact:**

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PERSON AT-RISK OF  
SUICIDE IS ADMITTED

↓  
INCARCERATION TO

↓  
↓