

# Armenian-American Medical Society Celebrates 25 Years of Healthcare



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photo TIGRAN TOVMASYAN

The elite of Armenian American doctors were in attendance at a sold-out celebration of the Armenian American Medical Society of California (AAMSC)'s 25th anniversary. The proceeds of the event, \$175 thousand, will go to the Juvenile Diabetes Program in Armenia, which has been in operation since 1993. The program provides insulin to the people of Armenia, which has tremendously reduced life-threatening complications. Over 600 guests honored the founders of the AAMSC, Doctors Misak Barsamian, Artin Sagharian and John Momjian. In 1985, they joined forces with like-minded physicians to form an organization aimed at providing health education and medical care to those in need, both in Armenia and the Armenian Diaspora.

"The AAMSC is proud to stand on the framework established by its founding fathers and past presidents. Today, we celebrate them, their achievements and contributions," said current president Dr. Vicken Sepilian. Also honored were Doctors Varoosh Alaverdian, Boris Bagdasarian, Armen J. Cherek, David Davtyan, Misak H. Abdulian, Silva Karchikian, Bedros Kojian and T. Gregory Kirianoff. Dr. Alaverdian collaborated with the government of Artsakh to establish a mobile diagnostic and therapeutic unit for remote villages in Artsakh. Dr. Bagdasarian is currently president of the L.A. County Medical Association (District 4), and is a strong advocate for Armenian healthcare-related affairs in California. Dr. Cherek oversaw the creation of the Pediatric Epilepsy Center in Armenia, which continues

to take care of thousands of children with this condition. Dr. Davtyan significantly raised awareness about breast cancer and continues to educate the Armenian community about the current obesity epidemic. Dr. Abdulian successfully obtained a complete cardiac catheterization lab as a donation from Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center to Armenia. Dr. Karchikian was the lead on development of the Juvenile Diabetes Project. Under the leadership of Dr. Kojian and Dr. Kirianoff, thousands of dollars were raised after the devastating earthquake in 1988, which provided desperately needed medical supplies. "In the past two decades, the AAMSC has established a strong tradition to advance healthcare in Armenia, Artsakh and California," said Dr. Sepilian. To learn more, visit [www.aamsc.com](http://www.aamsc.com).



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