

**Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects FY2018:
Completion Ceremony of
“The Project for Improvement of Social-Educational Center for the
Unemployed in Gyumri”**

On February 26th, 2021, the Completion Ceremony of the Grant Contract for “The Project for Improvement of Social-Educational Center for the Unemployed in Gyumri” up to USD 26,923 within the frameworks of Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) of Japan was held at the Armenian Apostolic Church (AAC) Shirak Diocese Social-Educational Center. The Ceremony was attended by Mr. Jun Yamada, Ambassador of Japan to Armenia, Mr. Ruben Sanoyan, First Deputy Mayor of Gyumri, Michael Ajapahyan, Archbishop of Shirak and Gyumri and others.

From 2019 to 2020, AAC Shirak Diocese Social-Educational Center implemented the "Vocational Training for the Unemployed in Shirak Region" program. The objective of the program was to contribute to the development of the potential of the unemployed people in the most vulnerable families of Gyumri, Shirak region by providing professional vocational trainings for them. Related to this program, the Project aims to renovate and rehabilitate the building of the Social-Educational Center in Gyumri. Through the Project, the training facilities of the center have been repaired and furnished with modern equipment, which nowadays enables approximately 105 unemployed men and women to attend vocational trainings in cosmetology, hairdressing, manicure, cake baking and decoration and cooking.

During the Ceremony, warmly welcoming the guests, Archbishop Ajapahyan expressed his gratitude to Ambassador Yamada and the People of Japan for the assistance that enabled AAC Shirak Diocese Social-Educational Center to implement the above program.

Ambassador Yamada, in turn, expressed his congratulations on successful implementation of the Project and stressed that Japan values the improvement of institutions and infrastructures for the economic growth and regional development. Ambassador Yamada mentioned that this assistance is one of the steps of the efforts for more sustainable development at the grassroots level. Ambassador Yamada also added that vocational education and training is a key to a country’s social and economic advancement, and that this Center will ensure the growth in academic and professional achievements of many people in Gyumri and Shirak region.

Following the speeches, Ambassador Yamada presented certificates to participants of the program. Archbishop Ajapahyan and Deputy Mayor Sanoyan also presented appreciation letters to Ambassador Yamada for his contribution.



Ambassador Yamada Visiting Renovated and Furnished Rooms of the Center



Students during Training for Cooking Using New Equipment



Ambassador Yamada Cutting a Cake Made by the Students



Welcoming Speech by Archbishop Ajapahyan



Congratulatory Address by Ambassador Yamada



Ambassador Yamada Receiving Appreciation Letter from Archbishop Ajapahyan



Deputy Mayor Sanoyan Handing Over Appreciation Letter to Ambassador Yamada on Behalf of the Mayor of Gyumri



Ambassador Yamada Presenting Certificate to the Graduates of the Program