



STATE OF NEW YORK

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

June 24, 2004

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to join the members, supporters and friends of the Children of Armenian Fund (COAF) as your organization holds its inaugural *Save a Generation Award Dinner* honoring COAF benefactors Cynthia and Larry Feinberg. I also extend my warmest regards to COAF's Honorary Dinner Chairs, H.E. Arman Kirakossian and H.E. Armen Martirosian.

The Empire State is proud to be a place where philanthropy thrives, as here in New York countless humanitarian organizations perform generous and meaningful work. Our State's reputation as a leading center of philanthropic activity dates back to the early 1900s when there began an outpouring of relief efforts aimed at helping Armenian Genocide survivors – chiefly orphans.

Today, many more relief agencies strive to modernize developing and Third World nations, provide them with assistance, and encourage the growth of democracy. Much of this valuable work is accomplished in regions that include former Soviet republics. It is therefore appropriate that COAF hosts this introductory event to support initiatives that promise to improve conditions in Armenia, first by focusing on the needs of younger generations. My special congratulations as you begin this wonderful new tradition with hopes that COAF activities continue well into the future.

Children are indeed the stewards and proprietors of our future. With the right tools, such as those given to the beneficiaries of COAF's kindness, they will grow into productive, contributing members of society. Best wishes to the Feinbergs, whose devotion to Armenian children is greatly appreciated, and to all for an enjoyable evening.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. E. Pataki". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

