Arkansas was an integral supporter of Near East Relief, the American-led campaign that quickly sparked an international response with its unprecedented humanitarian endeavor, mobilizing all segments of American citizenry including elected officials, celebrities and laypersons alike, to help rescue victims of the Armenian Genocide in Ottoman Turkey from 1915-1930.

- Arkansas facilitated its relief efforts from its headquarters at the Arcade Building in Little Rock.

- A native of Monticello, Arkansas, Mr. Roy Davis left the comforts of his life in America and travelled overseas to work in the Near East Relief’s orphanage school at the Kazachi Post in Alexandropol, Armenia (present-day Gyumri, Armenia’s second largest city).

- Mr. Davis’ story was reported in the July 1922 issue of the New Near East, NER’s official publication, which boasted a monthly readership of over 100,000 persons.

- Mr. Davis, in his role as Superintendent, oversaw 90 teachers who instructed over 6,000 Armenian orphan students in Alexandropol which was known to the world as “Orphan City” as more than 30,000 Armenian orphans found refuge there under the auspices of the Near East Relief.

Arkansas, We Thank You!

Thanks to the generosity of the Near East Relief, its participating organizations and entities, the U.S. Government and State Governments, and especially the American people at large, over 1,000,000 refugees and 132,000 orphans of the Armenian Nation and other Christian minorities were rescued, fed, clothed, and educated. We have survived, thrived, and prospered from the horrors of Genocide at the hands of Ottoman Turkey.

For your unwavering support and unprecedented generosity in donating to Near East Relief’s humanitarian efforts, Arkansas, We Thank You!