



**AMERICA
WE THANK YOU**
An Armenian Tribute to Near East Relief

DELAWARE
**FACT
SHEET**

Delaware was an integral supporter of Near East Relief (NER), 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.



- Delaware coordinated its relief efforts through neighboring Pennsylvania's NER state headquarters located on Locust Street in Philadelphia.

- An official accounting receipt from May 1919 details the cash contributions for the urgent relief efforts capturing donations across the United States from one week of fundraising alone, which totaled an impressive \$806,543.57.

- Contributions from the generous citizens of Delaware during the week's fundraising were facilitated through Wilmington and totaled \$35,000.
- In 1924, the Near East Relief launched the "Children's Crusade," wherein every school child in the United States, including Delaware, was encouraged to participate in collecting donations, clothing and non-perishable food for shipment to children overseas. Jackie Coogan, the most famous child actor of the 1920's, and arguably Hollywood's first humanitarian, piloted his "Milk Train" across the United States which made stops in every major U.S. city to collect the cans and cases of milk, boxes and packages of food, and money raised, which totaled over \$1 million for shipment overseas. Jackie Coogan's tour received unprecedented media coverage in the U.S. through newspapers, magazines, and newsreels.



An ANCA WR Initiative



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Delaware, 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, Delaware, We Thank You!



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