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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HELEN AND EDWARD MARDIGIAN PLEDGE ADDITIONAL \$50,000 TO ACYOA

Mr. and Mrs. Helen and Edward Mardigian recently contributed another \$50,000 to the ACYOA Endowment Fund to support the organization's youth programs. During the past four years, the Mardigians have donated a total of \$150,000 to the ACYOA.

The Primate, the Very Rev. Fr. Khajag Barsamian, announced the pledge at Sunday night's Awards Banquet during the National Sports Weekend, at which the Mardigians were honorary chairmen. Father Khajag presented the couple with a beautiful *khatchcar* on behalf of the ACYOA, in appreciation of their outstanding support.

Fr. Khajag said, "Mr. and Mrs. Mardigian, devoutly religious and very proud of their Armenian heritage, have generously supported religious and cultural programs to perpetuate the Armenian Christian tradition in this country."

Central Council Chairman, Lisa Manookian, stated, "Mr. and Mrs. Mardigian are pillars of strength for Armenians throughout the world. Their unwavering support, dedication and generosity have been experienced by many. Their love for educating and assisting Armenian youth in their service to the Armenian Church knows no bounds. They are truly remarkable people."

The Mardigians have demonstrated great interest and commitment to the Armenian youth through contributions to the ACYOA and other youth organizations. Through their generosity, the ACYOA can expand and enhance its programs to further educate and nurture our youth.

Mr. and Mrs. Mardigian will be honored by the ACYOA during the organization's National Anniversary Ball celebration on January 26, 1991 in Boca Raton, Florida. This occasion will mark the 45th anniversary of the ACYOA.