



### AWARD FOR THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

*It has been 10 years now that CARD Foundation cooperates with Mr. Hunan Sargsyan, in Aragatsavan community, Aragatsotn marz and Mr. Suren Vardanyan, Sarnakunk community, Syunik marz. These two veterinarians have been involved in a vast number of projects implemented by CARD, they have participated in different professional trainings, including the ones organized by the PUM Netherlands Senior Experts. Afterwards they successfully trained the community veterinarians on artificial insemination techniques. Farm and Veterinary Service Centers, in Aragatsavan and Sarnakunk communities were established due to dedication, as well as high professionalism of Suren and Hunan.*



During his working visit to Syunik marz on March 15, 2016 the RA Minister of Agriculture Mr. Sergo Karapetyan highlighted the recent progress in the field of agriculture in the region and awarded a gold medal to Suren Vardanyan for his invaluable input in the progress.



Their significant contribution to the development of the agricultural sector is highly appraised also by the government. On March 30, 2016 Mr. Sergo Karapetyan visited Aragatsotn marz which provided for the 10 percent of the Gross Agricultural output in 2015. Mr. Karapetyan awarded a gold medal to Hunan Sargsyan for his contribution. Now both Suren and Hunan act as directors of the Farm Service Centers and we are sure that their skills and experience will further promote the development of the veterinary and animal husbandry sector in Armenia.



## NEW FVSC IN ARAGATSAVAN COMMUNITY

*The Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD) Foundation established a Farm and Veterinary Service Center in the Aragatsavan community of Aragatsotn marz, within the framework of the US-AID funded Partnerships for Rural Prosperity (PRP) program. The Center will focus on the development of the veterinary and animal husbandry sector in Armenia and will promote advanced techniques and practices.*



The official launch ceremony of the Farm Service Center (FSC) was held on April 25 with the participation of the RA Minister of Agriculture Mr. Sergo Karapetyan, the head of USAID Armenia Karen Hilliard, RA Deputy Minister of Agriculture Mr. Armen Harutyunyan, CEO of Small and Medium Enterprise Development National Center of Armenia Mr. Levon Mnatsakanyan, Director of “Agricultural Project Implementation Unit” State Agency Mr. Gagik Khachatryan, Director of “Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development” (CARD) Foundation Mr. Gagik Sardaryan. Representatives from USAID, CARD, and the Small and Medium Entrepreneurship Development National Center of Armenia, which implements the PRP program, as

well as community members were also in attendance. The new center will provide a package of services to local farmers and will link them with international companies that provide supplies, equipment, and know how on new technologies. The center will offer up-to-date equipment and tools for artificial insemination and veterinary services and will facilitate market linkages and access to finance for Armenian farmers and rural small and medium size enterprises. The FSC will host workshops and training programs by Armenian and foreign experts for more than 2,000 local farmers from 7 communities in Aragatsotn. The center will also serve as a venue for hands-on seminars for the students of the Armenian National Agrarian University.

