THANK YOU SPEECH

FOR

AMY BOYADJIAN

Hello everyone. I am truly honored, humbled and ecstatic to have been named Woman of the Year for 2013 for the ABMDR. I have been working with the organization for the past five years and I am astounded and inspired by the dedication and selflessness of our members. As Armenians, we have a special mandate to really be there for each other, and through the global outreach of the ABMDR, we have made a tremendous impact on our community as we serve, inform, and save lives.

I want to thank my husband Michael for always being by my side, encouraging me, and partnering me through all of the adventures and challenges we have faced together. To my daughter Natalie, you are an inspiration, and you give me the reason to give of myself as much as I can to support our community, its children, and the future. I want to thank my friends and family for all of their love and support, and of course, I want to thank God for always guiding me to find the strength to serve and contribute to this noble cause.

Five years ago, my father died of cancer. It was a devastating blow to our entire family-he was only 61 years old, but that tragedy really opened my eyes and showed me that we really all are in this fight for life together. The ABMDR does vital work in finding organ donor matches, so critical to our culture’s survival. The beauty of the work that we support is that it is so simple and yet can have unimaginable impact for those desperately seeking organ donations. With just a simple swab test, each one of us can do our part in finding donor matches. There is nothing like the gift of saving someone’s life.

I want to thank all of you again from the bottom of my heart, and remember a simple swab test can save precious life.

Thank you!.