**Strengthening Tibetan Civil Society**

From April 7-9, 2016, IM–Individuell Människohjälp, The Tibet Fund, and the Tibet Relief Fund jointly organized a first-of-its-kind conference on Strengthening Tibetan Civil Society in Dehradun, India. More than 20 Tibetan NGOs from India and Nepal gathered to discuss the importance of strategic planning, networking, and collaboration. TTF was represented by Katrina Edwards, Senior Consultant in Nepal.

**Losar Festivity**

On February 3, 2016, The Tibet Fund celebrated Tibetan New Year at Baruch College, New York, with over 140 friends and supporters. This cultural event included traditional Tibetan musical performances by Taktser Band, a fashion show by contemporary Tibetan designer Shamphel, a silent auction, and traditional ceremonial Losar rites including Guthuk, the “dough-ball revelation” dinner. The guests enjoyed coming together to celebrate new and old expressions of this secular Tibetan holiday.

**Tibetan Innovation Challenge**
The University of Rochester organized and held the final competition of the 2016 Tibetan Innovation Challenge (TIC) on June 3, 2016. MBA students from five universities participated in this intercollegiate collaboration to promote innovation in social entrepreneurship. The contest focused on self-sustaining and replicable business ideas that improve the lives of Tibetans living in refugee settlements in India. Executive Director Lobsang Nyandak was one of the four judges to select the final three winners.

Nord Anglia International School Fundraising for Nepal Earthquake
In March 2016, Rashida Taheraly of Nord Anglia International School, New York, organized an Enterprise Scheme Day to support the renovation of Srongtsen Bhrikuti High School, which was damaged in the 2015 Nepal earthquake. Nord Anglia students developed ideas and products for sale. This included an art auction, wheat grass projects, photo booths, and other highlights, all of which raised renovation funds. President Rinchen Dharlo thanked the school for their generous donation of $2,236.

Reception for H. H. the Sakya Trizin
On April 28, 2016, Jonathan and Diana Rose hosted a special reception in their Manhattan home to celebrate The Tibet Fund’s 35 years of service to the Tibetan people. His Holiness Sakya Trizin, the spiritual head of the Sakya tradition of Tibetan Buddhism and one of the most senior Buddhist teachers, gave a moving and inspiring talk about the next 35 years of preserving Tibetan religion and culture.

Annual Conference of NAFSA in Colorado
TTF’s Program Coordinator for Tibetan Scholarship Program, Tenzin Choephel, attended the 68th Annual Conference of National Association of Foreign Student Advisors (NAFSA) from May 29 to June 3, 2016, in Denver, Colorado. Mr. Choephel hosted an information booth at the conference and participated in various sessions on international admissions and international education.

Screening of the Film The Last Dalai Lama?
On 9 June 2016, The Tibet Fund held a New York-world premiere of director Mickey Lemle’s film The Last Dalai Lama? The documentary film inspired the audience to give a standing ovation at its conclusion. The documentary was also screened at three different film festivals in Mill Valley, Woodstock, and Maui, where it won the prestigious Audience Award. It was also screened in Tel Aviv, Dharamsala, and Santa Fe. The New York screening raised $22,695 in ticket sales with a net revenue of $10,082. Lemle is Chairman of TTF’s Board of Directors.

Buddhist Retreat and Summer Program
In June 2016, TTF hosted a three-day Buddhist retreat for 14 Tibetan families at Do Ngak Kunphen Ling (DNKL) in Connecticut. In August, TTF organized a three-day intensive Mindfulness Retreat and Tibetan Language Program for 21 Tibetan students in collaboration with Online Tibetan Education at DNKL. Eighteen Tibetan students from North America also attended a five-week Summer Tibetan Study
His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 81st Birthday
Gaia Holistic, Tibet House, and The Tibet Fund jointly organized a celebration of His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 81st Birthday at JW Marriot Hotel on July 6, 2016. Over 140 guests joined in the celebration. Robert Thurman spoke on the life and work of His Holiness, followed by greetings from Lobsang Nyandak and Dr. Kazuko Tatsumura of Gaia Holistic. Former members of the Tibetan Inst. of Performing Arts entertained guests with traditional songs and performances. The evening concluded with the International Flag Ceremony for World Peace.

Orientation Workshop for TSP Students
In partnership with the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, TTF held three orientation workshops for Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP) students from India and Nepal. In January 2016, seven students attended a workshop at the State Department in Washington, and in June eight students attended a “Re-Entry Workshop” in New York. In August, a two-day orientation workshop was held for six newly arrived TSP students at the U.S. Mission Office in New York.
NA Tibetan Associations Conference
At the invitation of the Office of Tibet, Executive Director Lobsang Nyandak spoke at the North American Tibetan Associations Conference held in Boulder, Colorado, in October 2016. Mr. Nyandak gave an overview of TTF’s work and achievements in the past 35 years and highlighted our priority programmatic areas, including the professional scholarship program, the preservation of Tibetan cultural identity, and important humanitarian programs focusing on education, healthcare, and community development.

Tibetan Chamber of Commerce Delegation Visits the U.S.
In September 2016, a delegation of 15 members of the Tibetan Chamber of Commerce arrived in the U.S. to establish partnerships and build networks with various chambers of commerce and business institutions. In addition to coordinating the delegation’s visits to Washington D.C. and Connecticut, TTF assisted the delegates in maximizing opportunities for networking and cooperation through engagements with business experts and leaders of the Chambers of Commerce of Manhattan, Queens, Greater Flushing, and Eastern Connecticut, and facilitated meetings with representatives of the Office of Tibet, International Campaign for Tibet, and the U.S. State Department.
TTF held its annual gala at Le Bernardin Privé in New York on October 19, 2016. Over 170 guests attended the event and we honored Minority Leader of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, Congressman Jim McGovern, and philanthropist Dr. Kazuko Tatsumura. TTF also paid special tribute to late Melissa Mathison, an outstanding American film and TV screenwriter and celebrated each of these honored guests, their extraordinary achievements and steadfast support as Tibet advocates. Chef Eric Ripert, Chef Laurent Manrique, Chef Michael White, Chef Devin Bozkaya, Chef Thomas Raquel and Chef Scott Burnet lent their culinary talents for the evening. We have raised a total of $417,512 at the Gala, including $19,350 for the Professional Scholarship Program. After deducting the actual gala expenses of $42,653 and payable for Darjeeling Trek and Buddhist Pilgrimage totaling $12,200, we have a net surplus of approximately $343,309.