MESSAGE

Since its establishment in 1981, The Tibet Fund, USA, has contributed to the building and development of a robust Tibetan community in exile. It has also supported Tibetans in Tibet in socio-economic areas. Over three and a half decades, it has assisted the Tibetan leadership in exile in its work on infrastructural development, refugee rehabilitation, and cultural preservation, while also backing education, healthcare and other capacity-building programs.

Through such support, we have been able to strengthen our cultural institutions and undertake projects essential for the preservation of the Tibetan cultural heritage that is the very core of our civilization.

On the occasion of its 35th anniversary I commend the work done by the Board of Directors and staff of The Tibet Fund, and offer my gratitude to all concerned.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those, in particular the US Government, charitable organizations and individual donors, who have enabled The Tibet Fund to provide much needed service to the Tibetan community.

May 20, 2016
Message

On this momentous occasion of the 35th anniversary of the Tibet Fund’s establishment, I wish to congratulate the Board of Directors and the staff of The Tibet Fund for their extensive and successful services to the Tibetan refugees in India and Nepal.

The Tibet Fund has been one of the main partners of the Central Tibetan Administration in undertaking humanitarian assistance programs within the Tibetan refugee communities. Since its inception, the Tibet Fund has worked closely with the CTA in advancing education, healthcare, rehabilitation, religious and cultural programs thereby ensuring the long-term sustainability and development of the rich Tibetan cultural heritage.

With the help of organizations like The Tibet Fund, the CTA continues to make enormous efforts to strengthen and nurture the Tibetan refugee communities in India, Nepal and Bhutan. The mission of The Tibet Fund to preserve and promote Tibetan culture and identity in exile and providing basic needs to Tibetan refugees, remains a major challenge to all of us.

Central Tibetan Administration looks forward to continue our close working relationship with the Tibet Fund as we wish them much success in the coming years. I take this opportunity to thank all those who have been unwavering in their support towards Tibetan people during our most difficult period in history and keeping alive our hopes.

Dr. Lobsang Sangay

SIKYONG

Lobsang Nyandak
Executive Director
The Tibet Fund
241 East 32nd Street
New York, NY 10016

Dear Lobsang:

For 35 years, The Tibet Fund has provided humanitarian relief to Tibetan communities, both in exile and in Tibet. Its efforts serve as a constant reminder to the Tibetan people that many stand in solidarity with them as they strive to preserve their culture and practice their faith freely.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama wrote: “Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive.” The Tibet Fund inspires us to show that love and compassion to the more than 100,000 Tibetans who have fled their homeland. Through health care, education, cultural and community development programs, the fund has sustained Tibetan refugees and ensured that our common humanity will survive.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DF/cg
The Tibet Fund (TTF) was established at a time when the story of the Tibetan people and their suffering was largely unknown and the humanitarian assistance has begun to decline. In 1984, TTF received a generous funding through an offering to His Holiness the Dalai Lama from Mongolian Geshe Wangyal, which enabled to expand activities although the organization still had a modest operation. For instance, when I joined TTF as its president in 1987, we had only a desk at the Office of Tibet for which $200 was paid monthly and $300 for bookkeeping. That year, TTF board member conducted need assessment of 25 Tibetan refugee settlements in India and Nepal, which led to the creation of the Tibetan Economic Development Program and a revolving loan fund of $500,000 of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA).

I was fortunate to be part of that historic day when His Holiness presented His historic Five-Point Peace Plan for Tibet in Washington DC in September 1987. Soon after, the US Congress passed the first joint resolution condemning human rights violations in Tibet and resolved to provide scholarship awards to Tibetan students in exile. The next year, the US Department of State began funding the Tibetan Scholarship Program through The Tibet Fund. It was then we first hired a full-time staff to administer this program, which has continued on an annual basis to provide graduate-level education in the US for worthy Tibetan students.

In these past 29 years, we received a total of over $16 million as of June 2016 and brought 634 Tibetan students from India and Nepal to study in many prestigious universities in the US. It is so satisfying to see our former students working in all major CTA departments, settlements, schools, and hospitals as cabinet ministers, secretaries, doctors, nurses, school principals, teachers etc. It is needless to say that when His Holiness the Dalai Lama won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989, the plight of the Tibetan people gained worldwide attention. The Tibet Fund grew rapidly, building institutional relationships with foundations, governmental agencies and individual donors. Thus, with the help of cherished donors, TTF was also able to buy a townhouse in mid-Manhattan providing space for the Office of Tibet and several other Tibet-related organizations. In addition, The Tibet Fund is also proud to have supported the Office of Tibet in the purchase of a new building in Washington DC in 2015.

In 1991, the U.S. Department of State designated TTF as the administrator of an annual Humanitarian Assistance PRM Grant for the support of Tibetan refugee reception centers, and health, education and vocational programs in the settlements. Since then, TTF has successfully collaborated with the CTA and administered 25 annual PRM grants amounting to $49 millions.

In 1994, the Khawachen Assistance Program (KAPI) was initiated to address the unmet medical, educational, and economic needs of Tibetans in Tibet. With funding from private donors, TTF built Chushul Orphanage and funded two other children’s homes. TTF also funded the construction of Lhasa Eye Center and sponsored several surgical eye camps restoring more than 2,000 sights. KAPI at that time has won the support and confidence of Tibetan authorities at the highest levels both in Tibet and in exile and has successfully provided resources and training for education and health projects in Tibet as well as in mainland China and study and professional training opportunities for Tibetans in the U.S. Since 1998, TTF has continuously received grants from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the US State Department and has brought a total of 96 students to the US for study.

I have personally witnessed TTF grow from a single part-time staff to one of the primary funding organizations for programs and initiatives that give Tibetans enormous support in so many fields. In addition to federal grants, we have been able to raise several million dollars from family foundations and individual donors to support various projects including vocational trainings, workshops, construction of schools, libraries, public toilets, guest houses, community halls, elderly homes, clinics, bridges, water mills, overhead tanks for safe drinking water, and housing in scattered Tibetan refugees, green houses, organic farming, purchase of school buses, tractors, ambulances, construction of housing for CTA staff and others. We have also supported a number of monasteries and nunneries as well as cultural institutions such as the Tibetan Institute for Performing Arts, Library for Tibetan Works and Archives, and Nepal Lhamo Association.

In 1997, we initiated the Blue Book Project, which is seen as an effective way for individuals to support the Tibetan people. From 1997 to 2015, TTF has raised a total of over $310,000 from individual donors and transferred that fund to the Central Tibetan Administration. Establishment of the Tibetan Sponsorship Program in 1999 has also been very satisfying. We have been successful in finding sponsors for an average of 400 students, nuns, and elders per year. From 1999 to 2015, TTF has raised and transferred a total sponsorship amount of $4.3 million to India and Nepal.

In 2012, TTF’s field office in Dharamsala was inaugurated as part of an opening ceremony for the Tibet Education Project (TEP), a new USAID funded initiative. Currently, we have four staff including Field Director Bob Ankerson collaborating with the CTA in administering yet another USAID funded health program for Tibetan refugees.

Maintaining the viability of the Tibetan refugee settlements in exile is essential to the survival of Tibetan identity. Today, TTF’s assistance to the exile Tibetan community focuses on urgent and primary needs in the settlement communities such as clean drinking water and sanitation, economic and agricultural development, vocational training, and cultural preservation projects.

None of our work would have been possible without the support of our partners, individual donors, grants from foundations, and major funding from the US Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration and Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and the USAID. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the US Congress and Administration, whose continued support and belief in our mission has provided critical resources to help Tibetan people in Tibet and in our refugee communities in India to look forward to a better future. We thank the Central Tibetan Administration and the Snow Lion Foundation for their collaboration.

The Tibet Fund is blessed with a very strong board of directors whose unselfish dedication and guidance has been the main source of inspiration to our hardworking staff members. Without their active participation and guidance, we would not have been successful particularly in organizing annual galas and special fundraising events to cover our yearly operating budget.

Rinchen Dharlo
President
MESSAGE

It gives us great pleasure to present this special report that celebrates The Tibet Fund’s 35 remarkable years of services and contribution to the Tibetan communities in India, Nepal, Bhutan and Tibet. The report includes a summary of highlights of events and programs for the said period.

In the course of the Tibetan people’s struggle to rebuild their lives and to sustain their rich Tibetan cultural heritage in exile, The Tibet Fund as the only Tibetan humanitarian organization has walked hand in hand with the Central Tibetan Administration in serving, impacting and transforming the lives of Tibetan refugees. The last 35 years for The Tibet Fund has been a reservoir of extraordinary stories of resilience, empowerment, opportunities, partnership, innovation and sustainability.

Our past and existing works have been made possible with the consistent patronage of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and generous funding from the US Government, family foundations and individual supporters and especially with the strong leadership of our Board of Directors and dedicated works of our staff members.

I wish to express my heartfelt thank you to all of you for your continued support, as we look forward to expanding and strengthening the reach and scope of our services to the Tibetan community in the years to come.

Many Tashi Dekho!

Lobsang Nyandak
Executive Director
NEWS AND EVENTS:
THE TIBET FUND IN 35 YEARS
The Tibet Fund organizes various events and activities to promote Tibetan culture of peace and compassion and to expand the network of the organization including fund raising events. We were fortunate to host events with His Holiness on several occasions promoting His messages of human values and universal responsibilities. Of particular significance are programs that we have launched to provide opportunities for Tibetans in North America to learn Tibetan language, culture and Buddhist philosophy in an effort to preserve Tibetan cultural identity. Numerous events including Tibetan New Year and festivals were organized primarily for our friends and supporters to help them immerse in Tibetan customs and tradition thus supporting in our endeavor to preserve them.

**Some of the noteworthy events that the Tibet Fund has celebrated in the past 35 years since its inception in 1981**

**Symposium and Gala Dinner in Houston**

With the generous support of Gail Gross, member of Board of Directors (BoD) of The Tibet Fund, and her husband Jenard Gross, The Tibet Fund and International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) organized a successful symposium in Houston in May 1988. A gala dinner was also organized where Segal Rinpoche and Richard Gere spoke. A total of $199,125 was raised which was used to support ICT’s activities, poverty alleviation projects in Tibet and The Tibet Fund’s projects in exile.

**Benefit Reception for His Holiness the Dalai Lama in California**

With The American Himalayan Foundation, Richard Gere and Melissa Mathison Ford, The Tibet Fund hosted a very successful benefit reception for His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills, California, on August 1, 1996. The event was attended by many celebrities, and also received wide media coverage. The Tibet Fund’s portion of the proceeds from the event, amounting to $280,000, was used exclusively for snowstorm relief and eye clinic projects inside Tibet.

**His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Chicago**

In collaboration with ICT and Pritzker Family, The Tibet Fund hosted a reception in honor of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Chicago in 1996, which was attended by about 30 major donors. At a public talk held at Medinah Temple in Chicago on 28 July of the same year, His Holiness spoke to a packed house of over 4,200 people. Organized by the Chicago Tibetan Alliance, ICT, Office of Tibet and The Tibet Fund, the talk was preceded by a reception which was attended by about 350 people. Net proceeds from the event after deduction of expenses include $100,000.

**Reception in Aspen, Colorado**

Along with TMG Productions in Miami, The Tibet Fund hosted a successful reception in Aspen, Colorado, on December 29, 1998. Gail Gross, TTF’s BoD member, was honored with the Spirit of Freedom Award for her compassionate work to help the people of Tibet. Academy Award winner Goldie Hawn spoke to the audience about Tibet and His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Ivana Trump and her daughter Ivanka were also present at the reception. The news of The Tibet Fund even made it into TV programs such as Hard Copy and Daily News. The Tibet Fund received net proceeds of $18,000 from this event.

**Kasur Jetsun Pema’s Speaking Tour**

The Tibet Fund organized a successful speaking tour for Kasur Jetsun Pema in the US. Kasur spoke at 18 different venues in Berkeley, San Francisco, Soquel, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Palo Alto, San Diego and Orange County in California, Chicago, IL and Denver, Colorado. The public talks were very well attended and received good media coverage. With the consent from Kasur Jetsun Pema, The Tibet Fund transferred $50,000 out of the total net proceeds of $64,401.94 raised from the event to the Central Tibetan Administration in India to overcome the year’s budget deficit.
Compassion in Exile

A 1993 film produced and directed by Mickey Lemle, Chairman of the TTF’s BoD, the film explores the richly textured story of the Dalai Lama of Tibet and interweaves an inspiring portrayal with urgent plight of his homeland under Chinese rule. A private World Premiere Screening of this film was held which was followed by a reception. Proceeds from the event benefited The Tibet Fund.

The Cup (Phörpa)

A 1999 film directed by Khyentse Norbu, the plot involves two young football-crazed Tibetan refugee novice monks in a remote Himalayan monastery in India who desperately try to obtain a television for the monastery to watch the 1998 World Cup final. With permission from Zongsar Khentse Rinpoche, The Tibet Fund was able to organize a benefit screening at New York University.

Himalaya

Nominated for the 2000 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, *Himalaya* is also the winner of two Cezars (French Oscars) for Best Cinematography and Best Music. At our request, Kino International agreed to produce benefit screenings of the film in Seattle, Los Angeles, San Diego, New York, and Chicago. The Tibet Fund made arrangements to organize screenings in each of the above cities with local support groups.

Raffi Cavoukian’s Concert for TCV School

An internationally renowned singer, songwriter, and a musician with over ten million albums sold worldwide, Raffi Cavoukian is known for his love of children and environment. Along with TTF’s President Rinchen Dharlo, Raffi visited Dharamsala and sought an audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and also performed for the students of Tibetan Children’s Village.

Luncheon Honoring His Holiness the Dalai Lama

At the request of The Tibet Fund, a luncheon was held in honor of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Los Angeles on June 25, 2000. Attended by about 750 people, guests included some prominent local and national political leaders including US Congressman Paul Sherman. His Holiness shared his global vision and ideas with the Taiwanese community in Los Angeles, home to approximately 300,000 Taiwanese. This luncheon was organized by about 22 different Taiwanese organizations working under an umbrella organization named as “Taiwanese Americans for Tibet” which was headed by Li Pei Wu, Chairman of the General Bank and the most prominent Taiwanese community leader in the region, and late Walter and Margarida Wu.

Willie Nelson’s Benefit Concert

Over $50,000 was raised from legendary country singer Willie Nelson’s concert organized at Sun Valley on September 10, 2005. The concert was organized by his production manager and Shep Gordon, TTF’s member of BoD. At the request of Kiril Sokoloff and the New York Office of Tibet, The Tibet Fund Board of Directors decided to donate the proceeds from this event to the Tibetan Culture Center at Bloomington, Indiana.

The Tibet Fund hosted a breakfast meeting with His Holiness the Dalai Lama for our BoD members and major donors at Mark Hotel, New York, on September 19, 2003. The BoD members had the opportunity to apprise His Holiness the Dalai Lama with TTF’s works in improving the lives of Tibetans in exile and inside Tibet. His Holiness expressed his heartfelt appreciation and emphasized the need to increase support for higher educational programs in the Tibetan community. In response to His Holiness’ request, TTF implemented the Professional Scholarship Program in 2008 that addresses severe shortage of Tibetan professionals in the exile community, particularly in the medical and health care fields.

Breakfast Meeting with His Holiness the Dalai Lama

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The Smithsonian Folklife Festival’s “Tibetan Culture beyond the Land of Snows” held in Washington D.C. in June-July 2000 became the largest celebration of traditional Tibetan culture ever held in the West. The festival broke all records of the then 34 years of the Folk life Festival, in the number of visitors, sale of merchandise as well as media coverage. Over one hundred Tibetan refugee artisans from India, Nepal, Bhutan, France, Switzerland, Canada, England and the United States demonstrated a variety of Tibetan crafts such as thangka painting, calligraphy paper, mask making, wood and stone carving, weaving and embroidery. Monks created sand mandalas and nomadic herders demonstrated their skills in tending yaks, which were brought to the festival from Idaho. His Holiness the Dalai Lama participated in Monlam or the Great Prayer Festival on July 2, and spoke to an audience of over 50,000 people on non-violence and social equity. As the parent organization of Conservancy for Tibetan Arts and Culture (CTAC) along with the ICT and the Tibet House, The Tibet Fund was heavily involved in both the fund-raising as well as organizing the event.

The Tibet Fund on “Tibetan Culture Beyond the Land of Snows”

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of The Tibet Fund, Gail Gross, member of TTF’s BoD and her husband Jenard Gross, chaired a symposium, a fund-raising dinner and a reception in Houston, Texas, on 21-22 September 2006. His Holiness the Dalai Lama was the keynote speaker at the all-day symposium entitled “Spiritualism and Science in the Modern World”. The symposium included internationally renowned speakers including Dr. Dean Ornish, Dr. Robert Thurman, Dr. Brian Greene, Dr. Paul CW Chu and Gelek Rinpoche. Goldie Hawn was the keynote speaker at the benefit dinner following the symposium.

Symposium on “Spiritualism and Science in the Modern World”

In association with New York Association for New Americans (NYANA), the Office of Tibet, the Tibetan Association of New York/New Jersey, Tibetan Youth and the Tibetan Women’s Association, The Tibet Fund organized a Tibetan Cultural Festival in Battery Park on July 8, 2001. The event showcased traditional Tibetan culture and way of life, which turned out to be a huge success. A similar Tibetan cultural festival was held at World Trade Center in the same year.

Tibetan Cultural Festivals in New York

A talk by Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche entitled “Uncompromising Truth for a Compromised World” was attended by 500 members of the Himalayan Institute, a leading organization in the field of yoga, meditation, and holistic health with extensive expertise in international development programs. The Institute operates innovative energy farming and other economic development programs in Africa and India. In 2007, The Tibet Fund initiated discussions that led to a proposal from the Institute to work with the CTA on a pilot energy-farming project in Hunsur Tibetan Settlement with the aim of replicating the model in other agricultural settlements that were in the process of converting to organic farming.

A Conversation with Professor Samdhong Rinpoche
To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Tibetan diaspora, The Tibet Fund organized a series of programs to raise awareness about the achievements of Tibetan refugee community and the impact of Tibetan culture and religion on the global community. The first of these projects was a dedicated website, www.50yearsinexile.org, which contained extensive information about the institutions in exile that have sustained the Tibetan way of life, language, cultural traditions, and identity for half a century outside Tibet. The second program in the series was “Celebrate Tibetan Family Day”, in order to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Tibetan diaspora, a dialogue was held between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Mary Robinson, the first woman President of Ireland and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, on “Wisdom and Compassion for Challenging Times” at a Town Hall in New York on May 3, 2009. Moderated by journalist Pico Iyer, His Holiness and Mrs. Robinson discussed “Universal Ethics” as a key to solving issues such as environment, war and conflict, poverty, and the impact of economic globalization on human rights and cultural continuity.

In collaboration with NYANA, The Tibet Fund organized the Torch of Honor Award Benefit Dinner on February 10, 2013, and honored Lodi Gyari, Rick Swartz and the National Coalition for Haitian Rights. The event raised $20,000, which The Tibet Fund shared with NYANA.

In September 2013, The Tibet Fund hosted a reception for the trade delegation of the Tibetan Chamber of Commerce. The delegation visited New York to establish networks and explore possible markets in the United States. The Tibetan Chamber of Commerce was established in 2005 with H. H. the Dalai Lama’s patronage under the leadership of Lobsang Nyandak, Executive Director of The Tibet Fund, during his tenure as Finance Minister of the Central Tibetan Administration. The primary goals of the Chamber are to strengthen the Tibetan business community in exile and to support new and aspiring Tibetan entrepreneurs.

The Tibet Fund hosted a talk on “The Story of Reincarnation in Tibetan Buddhism” by Dr. Thupten Jinpa Langri at the Lincoln Center Theater. Dr. Langri delivered a talk to a full house immediately following a teaching by His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the Beacon Theater in Manhattan, and received a standing ovation.
The Annual Gala of The Tibet Fund has been the main fundraising event to generate revenue for the organization and to bring together many of our friends and supporters of the Tibetan people. The galas also serve as opportunities to honor exceptional people who have made significant contributions in preserving and promoting Tibetan culture and shared in The Tibet Fund’s mission of helping Tibetans to rebuild and sustain their culture.

- His Holiness the Dalai Lama attended the first Gala Dinner of The Tibet Fund in New York on August 12, 1999. Chaired by Richard Gere and Sharon Stone, the gala was joined by Melissa & Harrison Ford, Martin Scorsese, Goldie Hawn, Adam Yauch, to name a few. Sheri Gordon was instrumental in organizing the Gala. World famous chefs including Roger Verge, Emeril Lagasse, Michel Nischan and Nobu Matsuhisa hosted the dinner. Julia Taft, the then Special Coordinator from the US Department of State, and Senator Chuck Schumer of New York also attended the event and gave speeches.

- In 2011, The Tibet Fund celebrated “30 Years of Service” with a gala dinner at The Pierre Hotel. Richard Gere was honored for his dedication in protecting Tibet’s cultural identity as well as being a visionary supporter. Shelley and Donald Rubin were honored for their devotion to the preservation, study and enjoyment of Himalayan art. Eleven chefs led by Chef Eric Ripert prepared a four-course meal comprising of their signature dishes for a table of 20 people in the grand ballroom of the hotel. Other chefs included April Bloomfield, Stéphane Brecht, David Chang, Tom Colicchio, Scott Conant, Dan Kluger, Mark Ladner, Anita Le, Laurent Manrique and Joseph Realmuto.

- On October 2, 2012, The Tibet Fund held its third annual gala at Le Cirque, which was co-chaired by Richard Blum, Richard Gere, and Carey Lowell. The event was held in honor of Lodi Gyaltset Gyari, former Special Envoy to His Holiness the Dalai Lama, to celebrate his four decades of service to the Tibetan people and his dedication towards strengthening the relationship between the United States and Tibet. Both Richard Gere and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi gave speeches at the gala in tribute to their longstanding friendship and collaboration with Lodi. Chef Eric, along with Chef Alan Ashkinaze, Chef Laurent Manrique, Chef Jeremy McMillan, Chef Laurie Jen Moran, and Chef Olivier Regnienia hosted the dinner.

- The 4th Annual Gala held in 2013 was chaired by Richard Gere where we honored three cherished friends of The Tibet Fund: scholar, conservationist, and philanthropist Dr. Stephen Rockefeller for his enthusiastic and steadfast support of the Tibetan people, Chef Eric Ripert for his work in preserving Tibetan culture, and the late music composer, and filmmaker Adam Yauch for his efforts to raise awareness about the Tibetan freedom movement.

- At the 5th Annual Gala, The Tibet Fund honored Richard Blum, Chairman of American Himalayan Foundation, and Diana and Jonathan Rose, co-founders of the Garrison Institute, for their long-standing support to His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people. Richard Gere and Sam Nappi co-chaired the Gala. Renowned chefs, including Eric Ripert, Laurent Manrique, Michael White and Devin Bockaya, Thomas Raquel and Seaden Shouse lent their culinary talents for the evening.

- Le Bernardin Privé in New York City hosted the 6th Annual Gala on October 14, 2015. The Tibet Fund honored Shep E. Gordon, an American talent manager, Hollywood film agent, and producer; Gyaltsen Rinpoche, a spiritual teacher and founder and president of Jewel Heart; and Philip Glass, a renowned music composer, for their long-standing support of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people. Richard Gere and Sam Nappi once again co-chaired the Gala. There were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family. Celebrities and well-known guest speakers were a total of 175 guests, including Michael Douglas, Michael Myers, David Crosby and the Moss family.
CELEBRATION OF YOGURT FESTIVAL

The 2014 Shoton or Yogurt Festival, featuring performances of Tibetan, Nepali, Polynesian, Kathak, and Flamenco dancers and special performances by Angela McKenzie and Dikyi Ukyab, was held at Washington Irving High School Auditorium in Manhattan. Over 300 guests attended the show organized jointly by Lotus Music & Dance and The Tibet Fund.

SUMMER TIBETAN STUDY PROGRAM

In collaboration with the Institute of Buddhist Dialectics in Dharamsala, The Tibet Fund organizes a five-week long Summer Tibetan Study Program every year beginning 2014. Held at the College for Higher Tibetan Studies at Sarah, the program provides Tibetan students studying in colleges in North America with an opportunity to learn Tibetan language, culture, history and Buddhist philosophy. Students who participated in the program were able to gain an in-depth understanding of their cultural heritage, tradition, community in exile, and issues associated with Tibet. They also visited important cultural and religious centers in Dharamsala such as Tuglagkhang, Norbulingka Institute, the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts, and the CTA offices, including the Tibetan Parliament-in-exile and the Cabinet, where talks were arranged. Students also received an audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and His Holiness the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa.

BUDDHIST RETREAT PROGRAM FOR TIBETAN FAMILIES

The Tibet Fund, in collaboration with Dongak Kunphenling Centre, hosted a three-day Buddhist retreat for Tibetan families in Redding, Connecticut, in June 2015. It was the first such opportunity for Tibetan families in North America. Given the positive feedbacks of enlightening experiences from different participants, this program is being carried out every year. In 2016, we had more participants.

Beginning 2014, every year, we host Mindfulness and Language Retreat for Tibetan youth at Do Ngak Kun Phen Ling, a Tibetan Buddhist Center in Danbury, Connecticut, with full support from The Tibet Fund. Attended by approximately 15 students a year, the retreat program involves prayer offering, meditation, mindful breathing, and study of Tibetan Buddhist texts. Cultural Tibetan musical instruments like dranyen and yang chi are also taught during the retreat. With the success of the first retreat, we will be hosting our 3rd Annual Mindfulness and Language Retreat in August this year.

– Tenzin Woden and Chemi Dolkar, Founders of Online Tibetan Education

TALK ON “THE TIBETAN HISTORY OF KNOWLEDGE”

In collaboration with Latvia Library in New York, The Tibet Fund organized an exclusive talk on “The Tibetan History of Knowledge” by Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche on April 16, 2015. Around twenty Tibetan scholars from New York and New Jersey attended the event.

WORKSHOP ON “HOW THE COURAGE TO BE COMPASSIONATE CAN TRANSFORM OUR LIVES”

The Tibet Fund organized a public talk entitled “Mind Training and Compassion Applied to Everyday Life” at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, which was attended by over 300 people. After the talk, a dialogue was held between Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche and Rev. Dr. James A. Kowalski, Dean of the Cathedral.
The Tibet Fund, in collaboration with Dr. Kazuko Tatsumura, hosted an elegant dinner reception at the JW Marriott, Essex House, on July 7, 2015 in celebration of the 80th birthday of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Around 120 people attended the dinner, representing different communities from around the world, including Chinese, Bhutanese, Tibetan, Mongolian, Korean, Indian, Japanese, and American.

The Tibet Fund organized a three-month long photo exhibition beginning on June 8, 2015 at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Presented jointly with The Cathedral, this exhibition celebrates the life of His Holiness the Dalai Lama through a diverse collection of portraits that illustrate His commitment to civil rights and interfaith understanding. Drawn from the work of many acclaimed photographers, the photographs stand as a testament to His Holiness’s role as a world spiritual leader and an advocate for peace. The exhibit also helped to introduce His Holiness’s work and aspirations for this world to a new generation. Sonam Zoksang served as guest curator of this exhibition.

Tibet is one of the last living wisdom cultures, one that can still teach us much of how we can live together in joy and mutual responsibility on our small planet. In doing so over these many years, I have worked closely with the Tibet Fund, which is certainly one of the most trusted organizations helping the Tibetan people and the Tibetan community today.

– Richard Gere, May 17, 2016
Tibet issue has remained one of the long-standing protracted issues of humanitarian concern in the world today. His Holiness the Dalai Lama and thousands of Tibetan refugees have been forced to flee into exile in India in 1959 and the flow of refugees has since then remained unabated. Rehabilitating a displaced community and reviving its way of life in a foreign land is a long-term process and a herculean task.

The very survival and sustenance of Tibet’s identity, culture, religion and way of life were at stake both in Tibet and in exile—the former because of China’s imposition of authoritarian Tibet policies that violate fundamental human rights and freedom of Tibetan people and the latter owing to the need for humanitarian financing and other assistance to help sustain Tibetan refugees in India. Under the visionary leadership of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and with the steadfast backing from governments primarily of India and the US, charitable organizations, and an army of individual supporters, Tibetans showed great resilience and gradually built a refugee community with strong Tibetan characteristics in India. Embarking on their exile life, Tibetans have embraced the vision to initially establish a modern, democratic and a uniquely Tibetan community in exile and to ultimately restore freedom in Tibet.

It was during such a critical time in Tibet’s history that The Tibet Fund (TTF) was established under the patronage and guidance of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to help the Tibetan community. Over the last 35 years since its inception in 1981, The Tibet Fund has impacted and empowered all aspects of the Tibetan lives by funding wide-ranging projects that cater to the multi-dimensional needs of a refugee community in India, Nepal and Bhutan. In accordance with its founding mission to rebuild the Tibetan community and to preserve its distinct national identity and cultural heritage, The Tibet Fund has consistently worked to strengthen educational standard and workforce competency through higher education opportunities, professional trainings and scholarships; improve healthcare and sanitation awareness through various health facilities and programs; promote grassroots socio-economic viability through investments in technological advancements, entrepreneurial projects and infrastructural developments; support the vulnerable segments of the society especially the poor, the elderly and the differently-abled Tibetans through provision of social amenities, housing and financial support; nurture traditional Tibetan religion and culture through sponsorship and funding of various need-based cultural and religious programs; assist people affected by natural disasters such as earthquakes, snowstorms and fire with emergency relief and most importantly aid in the rehabilitation of newly arrived refugees from Tibet.

In its three and half decades of services, The Tibet Fund has contributed significantly in creating opportunities and providing resources for Tibetans to enable seamless transition into the modern 21st century while retaining that sacred space for Tibetan religious culture to flourish. As funding resources are essential to accomplish all these objectives, TTF has successfully served as the most trusted non-profit humanitarian organization connecting generous donors and the Tibetan community by working both independently of and collaboratively with the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) in India. By coordinating international humanitarian efforts and fostering the development of other Tibetan aid and charitable organizations, TTF has helped improve the quality of life of thousands of Tibetan refugees and further play a key role in ensuring the long-term survival of the Tibetan people and its culture.
Due to the deadlocked status of the Tibetan issue and increasing repressions in China-controlled Tibet that is characterized by social marginalization, racial discrimination, denigration of Tibetan religion, culture and language, and political control, there has been a relentless exodus of Tibetans into exile in Nepal and India.

Overwhelmed by the climate of fear and reprisal endured on a daily basis, Tibetans inside Tibet undertake this risky journey across the snow-covered Himalayas under harsh environmental conditions sometimes resulting in deaths from edema and hypothermia. And with imminent risk of arrest, deportation and shooting by the Chinese border police. Those that survived frequently arrive at reception centers in Nepal and India suffering from frostbite, trauma and other serious ailments necessitating medical assistance, prosthetics and long-term rehabilitation.

Children constitute nearly 25 percent of the total number of fleeing refugees. Under China’s education policies and system in Tibet, Tibetans are denied proper access to standard educational opportunities, which is further aggravated by prioritization of Chinese language over Tibetan language in curriculum, administration and commerce. These practices result in denial of proper Tibetan education and general paucity of avenues for Tibetans to develop Tibetan-ness in all aspects of their lives. Parents, therefore, make the heartbreaking decision to send their young children across for freedom and better educational opportunities with the near certainty that they might never see them again. The CTA place these children in Tibetan-administered schools for children designated specifically for new refugees—Tibetan Children’s Village—Bir and Transit School—Dharamsala. TTF has also helped in the construction of a new refugee center in Dharamsala to replace the old one, as the previous building was located in a highly congested area of the town.

The three refugee centers provide high quality reception services to the newly arrived refugees. TTF provides free accommodation, meals, clothing, and transit for the Tibetan refugees, and also ensures universal medical check-ups for infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and Hepatitis B. After a period of rest and recuperation in the Tibetan Reception Centre in Kathmandu, the center arranges for their onward transit to the reception centers in Delhi and Dharamsala. In coordination with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Kathmandu, the center also mediate and negotiate on behalf of Tibetan refugees who are detained and deported by the Chinese border police. The reception centers in Delhi and Dharamsala then assist in rehabilitating the new refugees by enrolling young children in Tibetan schools.
aimed to make the Tibetan refugees
All these assistance and aids are
refugees suffering from post-traumatic
prisoners, torture survivors and
Lama in Dharamsala. Former political
audience with His Holiness the Dalai
India, as well as organizes special
document of the Government of India
registration certificates, the official
The centers also assist in securing
and nunneries in various monasteries
Tibetan Transit School and monks
Homes Foundation, young adults in
schools such as TCV and Tibetan
Homes Foundation, young adults in
Tibetan Transit School and monks
and nuns in various monasteries and nunneries in accordance with their choice of religious traditions.
The centers also assist in securing
registration certificates, the official
document of the Government of India
that enables stay and travel within
India, as well as organizes special
audience with His Holiness the Dalai
Lama in Dharamsala. Former political
prisoners, torture survivors and
refugees suffering from post-traumatic
stress receive special financial and
psychosocial support.

All these assistance and aids are
aimed to make the Tibetan refugees
become self-sufficient and productive
members of the exile community
or return to Tibet with knowledge
and skills that allow them to find
meaningful employment. Till date,
the rehabilitation phase of the PRM
Humanitarian Assistance grant from
the US Congress has helped more than
90,000 Tibetan refugees from Tibet.

Director, Office of the
Reception Centre,
Central Tibetan
Administration, India
18 April 2016

EMPOWERING TIBETANS
IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE

I
n the early 1980s, I had somehow
heard that the Office of Tibet in New
York (within which The Tibet Fund
was housed in its initial years) was
providing scholarship for further
studies. I therefore wrote a letter to
it explaining my interest in studying
journalism. I was greatly encouraged
to get a positive response that my
scholarship request was accepted. But
then I had also heard from Indian
Express newspaper that they were
going to hire me. So I did not need to
avail myself of the scholarship from
The Tibet Fund.

I am relating this personal experience
only to illustrate how The Tibet Fund
has been impacting the lives of
Tibetans at the fundamental level in its
35 years of service to the community. It
was in subsequent years that I came
to learn more, particularly after I joined
the International Campaign for Tibet
(ICT) in Washington, D.C. I saw at close
quarters how The Tibet Fund and ICT
worked together in order to provide
concrete help to the Tibetan people.
For years, ICT worked with the United
States Administration as well as
staff and members of Congress who
cared deeply for the Tibetan people to
support initiatives that would provide
funding to empower the Tibetan people
in all aspects of their lives. Upon
fruition of the initiatives in the form of
scholarship, humanitarian assistance
and development grant programs,
etc., The Tibet Fund assumed
the major responsibility of implementing
the programs within the Tibetan
community in exile. They did this in close
coordination with the Central Tibetan
Administration in Dharamsala, India.
Today, to me, The Tibet Fund’s impact
on the Tibetan community can be
placed in three broad categories:

Empowering Tibetans in exile
Strengthening Tibetan institutions, and
Impacting Tibetans in Tibet
Empowering Tibetans in exile
The Tibet Fund came into being at a
time when the Tibetan people had,
through the foresight of H.H. the Dalai
Lama, been able to lay the initial
foundation for the preservation and
promotion of their identity, including
their religious and cultural traditions.
The people had the will and the
determination but needed resources
to enable them to initiate programs.
Through a variety of grants, The Tibet
Fund has been empowering the Tibetan
community to resurrect, promote and
sustain its culture and tradition.

Strengthening Tibetan institutions
The second area in which The Tibet Fund
has been contributing to the
Tibetan society is by strengthening
Tibetan institutions by enabling them
to provide much-needed short-term
and long-term services to the people.
At the topmost is its close working
relationship with the Tibetan
leadership in Dharamsala, particularly
in the fields of education, health,
religion and culture. A significant part
of this relationship is the operation
of the funding provided by the United
States Government. While the
humanitarian assistance is enabling
the Central Tibetan Administration
to provide health care and other socio-
economic programs to the Tibetan
people, I feel the scholarships for
Tibetan students from the Indian
subcontinent to undergo further
studies in schools in the United States
is having a long-term impact in the
development of the community.
One drawback of the Tibetan
governance in the past has been the
lack of exposure of the administrators
and leaders to systems other than
that of the traditional Tibetan one.
Even in the post-1959 period while
there were sporadic cases of Tibetans
being sent abroad for specialized
education, there was nothing in the
scope of the Tibetan Scholarship
Program. Since its inception in 1988,
graduates of the program have gone
back and are virtually forming the
backbone of the Tibetan leadership,
both in administration as well as in the
education field.

Impacting Tibetans in Tibet
The Tibet Fund has also been
implementing both socio-economic
welfare and educational programs for
our brethrens inside Tibet. Over the
years, I have met Tibetans from Tibet
who have benefited from educational
opportunities that the Tibet Fund has
provided to them. In fact, it was also
encouraging to hear a comparatively
high Tibetan official in Tibet refer to
this program in casual conversations
during one of the visits by envoys of
H.H. the Dalai Lama between 2002
and 2010.
If and when there is a solution to the
Tibetan issue I am sure The Tibet Fund
has the potential and the capability to
expand its programs in Tibet so that
the majority of the Tibetans there can
also be empowered.

— Bhuchung K. Tsering,
Vice-President,
International Campaign
for Tibet
ENHANCING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
One of the significant contributions of The Tibet Fund has been in the field of education of the Tibetans. In order to improve the quality and efficiency of education in the Tibetan diaspora, TTF has maximized educational opportunities for the Tibetan students, generated and administered scholarship and sponsorship programs, initiated and implemented many educational undertakings such as Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP), Tibetan Professional Scholarship Program (TPSP) and the Tibet Education Program (TEP), and funded exclusive schools for the newly-arrived refugees and the differently-abled. TTF has provided funding for innovative programs, human resource trainings and infrastructural resources including introduction of technology in schools to scale up the best practices and outcome in the Tibetan education system.

A good education is generally considered the key to a better life and a stronger community. Especially for a refugee community, educational attainment is inextricably linked with the development of human capital, improved socio-economic condition and a greater political and civic engagement. Within this context, TTF has over the years worked to advance efficiency of the Tibetan education system in general and the quality of education being imparted to the Tibetan students in particular. TTF continued to help address any deficiencies in core resources and key educational components in the Tibetan education system that act as barriers in our mission to guarantee quality learning and increased access for higher education to the Tibetan students.

Educating Tibetan children with high-quality education has been one of the topmost priorities of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Upon His arrival in India in 1959 and after consultation with the then Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, separate schools with Tibetan characteristics were built for Tibetans in India. In close partnership with the Department of Education (DOE) of the CTA that oversees 73 Tibetan schools and educates nearly 24,000 students, TTF has consistently worked to improve the existent Tibetan education system in exile as well as to generate new opportunities in education that strengthens the administrative, community, health and educational resources of the Tibetan refugee community.

As envisioned by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, The Tibet Fund has over the years prioritized and worked to achieve increased access to and opportunities for quality higher education for the Tibetan students. Through our many educational undertakings, TTF has created avenues for opportunities, information and scholarships in the field of higher education that alleviates any existing impediments as well as instills hope and confidence in the Tibetan students to reach for their highest dreams. Hundreds of Tibetan students so far have had the opportunity to graduate from many of the best colleges and universities in the US, India and Nepal. Besides being deeply engaged with the world, these students play prominent roles in community development, economic growth and democratic governance of the Tibetan society. Especially for Tibetan students from Tibet, many return to Tibet with alternative perspectives and innovative skills that tremendously help in their works and volunteerism within China’s bureaucratic, administrative and academic systems in Tibet.
Tibetan Scholarship Program (TSP) has been one of the most successful higher education initiatives undertaken by The Tibet Fund. Established in 1988 with the funding from the US Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the goal of the TSP is to provide scholarships to Tibetans in exile for higher education in the US.

The Tibet Fund has effectively implemented the program which has enabled a total of 436 Tibetan students to receive higher education at some of America’s most prestigious educational institutions, including Harvard, Columbia, Yale and the University of California, Berkeley. This year, a batch of eight students from India and Nepal completed their studies in the US and a new batch of eleven students is scheduled to arrive in August 2016. Nearly 92 percent of the TSP students have successfully completed their academic programs and the majority of them have returned to serve their communities in India and Nepal.

In terms of program benefits, the TSP alumni have become valuable resources both for the CTA and the Tibetan communities and organizations as they bring with them newer skills, broader perspectives, and more innovative approaches to aid in the functioning and development of the community. TSP alumni now include members of Tibetan civil service such as members of the Tibetan Parliament-in-exile, cabinet ministers and secretaries of various departments, and many assuming other leadership positions within the Tibetan community. Many school principals, headmasters, and teachers as well as doctors and nurses serving the Tibetan exile community are former TSP students.

My two-year stay at Brandeis University changed my whole outlook and approach to my work and life. Brandeis has grounded me to become serious in whatever I do, and look at every issue in a more deeper and holistic manner. As such, I am not only grateful to Brandeis, but also to the Tibetan Scholarship Program and The Tibet Fund for having provided me with this wonderful opportunity.

— Tsewang Phuntsok, M.A. in Sustainable International Development, Brandeis University

The success of TSP program can largely be attributed to TTF’s ability to work in coordination and in compliance with the US Department of State and the CTA’s Department of Education in India. An assessment conducted by the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in July 2004 on the efficacy of the TSP program concluded:

“The TSP is achieving its overall goal of increasing mutual understanding under the Fulbright-Hays mandate, as well as the specific objectives of achieving cultural learning and generating positive personal and professional outcomes and linkages. According to both qualitative and quantitative information collected through several means from grantees, participation in the TSP has provided a highly beneficial educational and cultural experience that serves both the individuals who participated in the program, and the wider Tibetan refugee community.”

Upon return from the US in June 2015, I began working as a lecturer in Public Administration at the Dalai Lama Institute for Higher Education. In retrospect, the experiences I have gained during those two years have been invaluable in shaping me as a person both personally and professionally. One of my cohorts at the Institute said, “Not all your students can go to Harvard but you can bring Harvard to them.”

— Norzin Dickyi, Harvard University
After I graduated from Columbia University in 2013, I served in the Department of Health of the Central Tibetan Administration and had a very productive service filled with positive results. There exist immense challenges in the field of public health in the Tibetan community in India and Nepal. I, along with my team of colleagues, were able to contribute a lot in the alleviation of health problems by conducting health researches, discussions with professionals as well as the public, proposing solutions, promoting health awareness etc. to mitigate the problems.

— Tenzin Tseyang, Masters in Public Health (MPH-Epidemiology), Columbia University

I can testify to the fact that the TSP has contributed significantly towards strengthening the capacity and resilience of exile Tibetan community by providing world-class training and education in the fields that are necessary to sustain and thrive in this globalized world. The program expanded the horizon of my understanding and outlook on things that really matters. The program will result in a long and continuous impact on bringing sustained and holistic development of our community.

— Tsewang Rigzin, Masters in Development Practice, Emory University

Another important initiative by The Tibet Fund in education has been the establishment of the Tibetan Professional Scholarship Program (TPSP) in 2009. Administered through the CTA’s Department of Education, the TPSP was launched to mitigate severe workforce shortage that has affected short-term self-sufficiency needs and long-term sustainability of a stronger Tibetan community. More conspicuous in the fields of medicine, information technology, engineering, architecture and other professional studies, this workforce shortage is caused due to lack of scholarship opportunities, and exorbitant college fees for professional studies faced by Tibetan students.

Working in close coordination with DOE, the Tibetan Professional Scholarship Program was later renamed as Sikyong Professional Scholarship Program (SPSP). The SPSP supports high achieving students to pursue professional degrees at the most selective and competitive colleges, universities and technical institutes in India. The initial focus of the program was on medical and healthcare degrees that were gradually expanded to include scholarships in other fields such as engineering, science, architecture and community development. In 2015, TTF transferred a total of $47,125 for this program. By the end of May 2016, TTF will have sponsored 66 students with 36 currently studying at various colleges and universities.

With its successful implementation, the SPSP program has been producing workforce with relevant skills to support development goals, strengthen human resources, and build professional capability within the Tibetan society. It furthermore fills the prevalent skill gap and contributes to the overall cohesiveness of Tibetan settlements and sustenance of Tibetan culture and identity.

Being a TCV ward, pursuing professional course in good colleges is practically impossible for me due to lack of financial support. But support from the Sikyong Professional Scholarship Program made it possible to secure my dream of becoming a professional and enabled me to pursue further studies in M-Tech in Geotechnical Engineering.

— Karma Norbu, M.Tech Geotechnical Engineering, KIIT University, Bhubaneshwar, India
THE TIBET FUND has been committed to providing excellent education to Tibetan students spanning from early learning to college.

**TIBETAN EDUCATION PROGRAM**

With the total award of $2,846,000 from the USAID for a five-year project phase, The Tibet Fund in collaboration with the CTA’s Department of Education has been able to undertake effective and transformational activities in Tibetan schools under the Tibetan Education Program (TEP). The core goals of the TEP have been to improve educational opportunities, increase access to higher education and professional degree programs and to strengthen Tibetan education as a whole. Under the TEP, TTF managed to introduce programs that train primary teachers, parents and librarians to promote reading habit in early learners. As reading culture promotes fluency, critical thinking and literacy skills, major focus in 2015 was on the Tibetan Early Grade Reading (TEGR) program. TTF facilitated different opportunities for teachers, principals, librarians and parents to receive necessary trainings and workshops. In order to ensure every student being prepared and ready for college at all levels, Tibetan students receive coaching, career guidance and counseling as well as leadership trainings to empower their college-readiness skills. New innovative programs were launched in schools to increase science learning and extensive assessment were conducted of more than 928 school system administrators, school leaders, teachers, parents and students from 31 Tibetan schools to understand the challenges being faced in the Tibetan education system.

**SOME ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN UNDER THE TEP**

- TTF’s TEGR resulted in the production of first Tibetan language graded reading series, a collection of 40 original stories, and reading corners in early grade classrooms. For instance, classroom reading corners were installed in eight primary schools in Nepal that benefited 523 students.
- Over 200 primary teachers from 53 Tibetan schools learned early grade reading instruction methods through a series of training workshops.
- Over 224 school principals and teachers participated in education conference on the theme of primary education improvement and teacher professional development.
- Over 450 parents gained practical knowledge on the importance of early child reading from parent workshops held in 2014.

**OTHER INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS IN TIBETAN EDUCATION**

**OTHER PROGRAMS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Apart from the TSP Program, The Tibet Fund has facilitated other higher education initiatives that have opened a gateway of opportunities to Tibetan students from India, Nepal and Tibet.

- Through the establishment of a Special Students Program in collaboration with the CTA, TTF provided $100,000 to help Tibetan students study in community colleges in the United States.
- Between 1987 and 1990, TTF brought nine promising Tibetan students from Tibet to study in the US.
- Since 1998, TTF through its Ngawang Choephel Fellowship Program, funded a total of 90 students from Tibet to study in different colleges and universities in the US.
- TTF through its Khawachen Assistance Program (KAP) provided English language training to several hundreds of Tibetans in Beijing (100 Tibetans), Dharsedo Khampa Institute (140), Chengdu (30), and Xining, Qinghai (42). Such trainings have helped these Tibetan students to aspire for further education in Tibet.
- From 1991 to 2003, TTF paid New Delhi-Lexington airfare expenses totaling $25,000 for 23 undergraduate students at Berea College.
- With a seed grant of $25,000 to the CTA’s Department of Education, TTF established a scholarship program for Tibetan women to support higher education in India.
- Scholarships have been awarded to Tibetan students to pursue higher education in a wide-range of subjects such as medicine, engineering, information technology and biotechnology in India and Nepal. The scholarship supported 377 students in 2013 and 342 students in 2014.
- To enable Tibetan students to pursue higher education in India and Nepal, TTF with the help of Yeshe Khorlo Foundation and We Trust, made a grant of $100,000 each in 2014 and 2015 to support a total of 371 students pursuing higher education.
- Scholarships have been awarded to Tibetan students to pursue higher education in a wide-range of subjects such as medicine, engineering, information technology and biotechnology in India and Nepal. The scholarship supported 377 students in 2013 and 342 students in 2014.
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**THE TIBET FUND**
• Leadership trainings were conducted for students in India and Nepal. It benefited a total of 761 students.

• More than 5,750 students benefited from the science initiative that equipped activity-based teaching aids in eight middle schools, a mobile science exhibition at seven schools and National Geographic educational materials were introduced at five schools.

INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS

The Tibet Fund believes that information and communication technology (ICT) is fundamentally important for learning environment in this technology-driven era. TTF has been able to effectively integrate educational technology in many Tibetan schools by providing computers and access to rich online resources. These resources enabled Tibetan students to become tech-savvy and succeed in this highly technology-dependent 21st century economy. Exemplifying innovation agenda of TTF, our following initiatives revolutionized the traditional pedagogical method and helped enhance connectivity and interactivity in and within the schools and beyond:

• In the beginning of the 2000s, TTF provided computers to 30 Tibetan schools in India and Nepal, and funded computer technology and training programs for office staff and teachers in 33 Tibetan settlements.

• TTF established a multimedia unit and computer training project with a grant of $11,199.59 at the Institute for Small Trade, Neala Mangala, South India.

• With a grant of $100,000 from the Salesforce Foundation, TTF was able to provide computers, furniture, and training in eight exile community schools, namely Srongtsen Bhirikuti High School, Namgyal High School and Namgyal Middle School in Kathmandu, Nepal; and Sambhota School, Dikyiling-Dehradun, Sambhota School-Paonta Sahib, Sambhota School-Manali, Sambhota School-Chauntra and Sambhota School-Gangtok in India.

“ We are greatly indebted to TTF for their generous help in various educational and institutional development programs for the last several years. Some of the TTF help includes, sponsorship, supplementary diet, drinking water, leadership workshops and school infrastructure development projects. They have all contributed greatly for creating a conducive, healthy environment for a quality education.”

– Kalon Ngodup Tsering, Department of Education, Central Tibetan Administration, 12 April 2016

• TTF supported to establish computer classes at two schools— Helitar Jampaling and Pokhara Tashi Paljey — in Nepal.

• Computer classes were established at two TVC schools in Dharamsala and Bir Suja in India.

• Critical improvements were made at 15 Tibetan schools in India and Nepal. Interactive Smart Class whiteboards and computer stations with innovative English language learning software were introduced in five schools in India, benefiting 3,171 students. Six new computers were donated to Alisha Primary School in Nepal, benefiting 57 students.

FACILITY UPGRADE IN EXILE TIBETAN SCHOOLS

In our years of works on education, TTF has identified lack of adequate infrastructural facilities and limited access to educational resources as obstacles impeding educational productivity and overall achievement of a student. Some schools are challenged with a broad array of facility upgrade such as inadequate space for instruction and separate rooms for libraries and laboratories. Unlike in the urban area, many rural-based schools in exile are affected by energy efficiency. In addition, many Tibetan students lack healthy and nutritious diet, which is vital for their physical growth and mental concentration. With the help from various funders, TTF has worked to fill those gaps and provide much-needed resources to the Tibetan students at various rural schools.

TTF has helped in the construction and renovation of many Tibetan schools in exile. For example, TTF has funded Transit School-Dharamsala and TVC School-Bir. In 1991, TTF donated $75,000 to TVC School through the CTA that supported building additional classrooms at McLeod Ganj Day School, restoration works of Gangchen Kyishong Day School and other basic maintenance, medical care and school for newly-arrived children from Tibet.

In order to upgrade school facilities, TTF has supported installation of solar lighting system at Namgyal Higher Secondary School and Namgyal Middle Boarding School in Nepal as well as two separate solar lighting systems at the hostels of both boys and girls at Sambhota School at Peanta Sahib in India. A total of 120 new dormitory beds were provided to College for Higher Tibetan Studies in Dharamsala and 350 mattresses were purchased for students at the Central School for Tibetans in Mussoorie. TTF granted $30,000 towards purchase of a new school bus for Srongtsen Bhirikuti High School in Kathmandu for easy commute for 712 students, many of whom live at considerable distances from the school. TTF also granted fund to pay salaries for teachers and foster mothers at Lophel Ling School in Nepal.

INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

With funding help from TTF, EduLift based in Nepal has incorporated new and more effective methods of experiential learning for teachers and schools into their teaching framework. EduLift aims at creating innovative educational programs using a holistic and experiential-based learning approach at Tibetan schools in Nepal.
KHAWACHEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN TIBET

Under the Khawachen Assistance Program (KAP) launched in 1994, The Tibet Fund has successfully implemented education projects that enabled Tibetans inside Tibet with study and professional training opportunities in Tibet and in the US. KAP has received 12 grants and two amendments with a total funding of $1,984,669.

- Since 1999, a total of 145 students have successfully completed Beijing English Language program.
- KAP established the English Language and Computer Skills Training Center at the Teacher Training Institute in Dhartsedo in Kham in 2001. A total of 175 students have attended, including 20 students from Muli.
- KAP and the Lhasa-based Tibet Development Fund jointly established an English Language Program in Chengdu in Sichuan Province for students from the TAR. KAP provided $40,000 to train a total of 45 students from 2003-2005.
- In 2008-2009, TTF administered two semesters of English language training at Qinghai Tibetan Medical College for 20 students and enabled seven students to come to the US for one-year certificate programs in English at various colleges and institutes.
- Partnership between Qinghai Tibetan Medical College and three American universities—John Hopkins University, Brandeis University and the University of Wisconsin—resulted in context-based English language training program for 20 students in Qinghai and later four of the top students came to the US to study.

TIBETAN SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

In our decades of humanitarian works for the Tibetan community, Tibetan Sponsorship Program of The Tibet Fund has the most impact on the lives of the most vulnerable sections of the Tibetan society. TTF has provided basic care and support to thousands of Tibetans who are destitute, orphaned and newly arrived refugees from Tibet. Due to general poverty prevalent in the Tibetan refugee settlements as well with the continuous influx of Tibetan refugees from Tibet, many monastic institutions, schools and elder homes in the exile community struggle to provide nutritious meals, clothing, educational materials, training, healthcare and other basic necessities to the monks, nuns, children and elders.

In response to the sponsorship appeal TTF made on our website, social media and other organizations such as Casa Tibet Mexico, a multitude of compassionate donors have come forward to support and make a difference in the lives of Tibetans over the years. Our Sponsorship
Coordinator currently works with over 80 institutions and organizations in exile. She meticulously maintains regular communications and follow-ups between all the donors and the beneficiaries that sometimes result in their life-long personal relations and in some cases, extended educational sponsorship beyond the intended timeframe. In implementing this much needed sponsorship program, The Tibet Fund makes zero deductions on administrative costs to ensure that 100% of the donations reach their intended beneficiaries.

In 2015, TTF received a total of $192,453.58 in sponsorship donations from private sources, which was transferred 100% to the offices of the sponsored monasteries, nunneries, schools, and elder homes in India and Nepal. The sponsorship supported 447 school children, 252 monks, 102 nuns, 45 disabled children, 23 elders, and 15 performing art students. Since the establishment of the Tibetan Sponsorship Program in 1999, The Tibet Fund has transferred a total of over $4 million to the approximately 80 sponsored institutions in exile. Our sponsorship program has reached out to the most disadvantaged sections of the Tibetan society and act as an intervention to help alleviate their source of vulnerability. This aid and assistance has brought them succor from their otherwise daily struggles to focus on other life goals such as educational enrichment and employment opportunities. The works in this area not only target at breaking the cycle of deprivation but also substantively enhance the lives and wellbeing of the most vulnerable sections of the society.

To sponsor a tibetan monk, nun, elder or child, sign up @ www.tibetfund.org/sponsorships

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**OUR BENEFICIARIES**

**MONASTERIES**
Chawar Guiden Dopheling, Dzongar Institute, Drepung Gomang, Drepung Loseling, Gaden Shartse, Ganden Jangtse, Ganden Tharpa Choling, Gyuemed Tantric, Gyudmed Monastic School, Gosok Phuntsok Choeling, Guto Tantric University, Institute of Buddhist Dialectics, Kirti, Sera Jhe, Sera Mey, Sera Mey Toesam School, Shalu, Tashi Lhunpo, Thubchog Gatsel Ling, Sera Mey Tsangpu, Khari

**SCHOOLS**
Atisha Primary School, CST Dalhousie, CST Kalimpong, CST Nainital, CST Ravangla, CST Shimla, CST Sonada, CST Darjeling, CST Musorie, Karuna Home for The Disabled, Lopchen Ling School in Manang, Mt Kailash School, Pokhara, Nepal Snow Lion Foundation, Namgyal Middle Boarding School, Ngoenga School for Tibetan Handicapped Children, SOS High School Pokhara, Strongten School, STS, Bir, STS Chautara, STS Dekyiling, STS Gangtok, STS Manali, STS Paonta Sahib, STS Pokhrabipong, STS Shillong, STS Mewon Tsuglag Peteon, TCV, Chautara, TCV Dharamsala, TCV Outreach Program, TCV Selakui, TCV SOS Bylakuppe, TCV SOS Gopalpur, TCV SOS Ladakh, TCV Suja, Tibetan Children’s Village, Lower TCV Schools, Tibetan Homes Foundation, Tibetan Medical and Astrology Institute, and Yongling Creche, Kindergarden

**ELDER HOMES**
Tsering Elder’s Home, Jwalakhel Elder’s Home

**NUNNERIES**
Dolma Ling, Geden Shoeling, Jamyang Choling Institute, Jangechub Choeling, Keydor Thukeke Choeling, Laddakh Nuns Association, Namdroling, Sakya Rinchen Choeling, Samtenling Nunnery, Shugseb, Tibetan Nun’s Project, Tilikpur, Tsogay Shedapling, Thekchok Namdolting

**PERFORMING ARTS INSTITUTES**
Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA), Thanktong Lugkar

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“I am happy to support the incredibly important and meaningful work of The Tibet Fund, a great organization that has excelled in its mission for 35 years and who will continue to excel for many more.” — Chef Eric Ripert, April 19, 2016
PROMOTING
HEALTHY TIBETAN COMMUNITIES
Health developments and conditions of the Tibetans in refugee settlements in India and Nepal are complex since patterns of poverty and limited resources overwhelm their differing health demands. Their challenges resulting due to adverse socio-economic circumstances range from poor access to healthcare services, inability to procure basic life-saving preventions and treatments, endemic rates of malnutrition, limited access to potable waters and sanitary facilities, shortage of health care workers, and general susceptibility to life-threatening diseases, infections and substance abuse. All these challenges are further exacerbated by lack of basic knowledge about diseases and preventive health strategies, resulting in poor health practices and leading to delayed treatment that threatens community health when diseases are contagious.

Principally, the Tibet Fund accords high priority to providing qualitative, accessible and adequate health care services that incorporate curative, preventive and rehabilitative components and improved sanitation facilities to the Tibetan refugee community. As evidenced by our efforts through the years, TTF has worked on a wide spectrum of different health care projects that fundamentally works to create conditions conducive to the protection, promotion and maintenance of health and prevention of illnesses for the Tibetans. With funding from the PRM and other sources, TTF has strengthened both the institutional and human resource capacities as well as outreach capabilities of the Department of Health (DOH) of the CTA. Our support through intervention, prevention and education encompasses multi-sectorial approaches that extend beyond health, and furthermore seek to dismantle any barriers that Tibetan community face in health care services and resources.

Some of our major efforts over the years include tuberculosis prevention program; maternal child health and immunization program; health information system; vaccinations; reproductive health; hospitalization; prosthetics; Leprosy and disabled services; health education; trainings in basic health awareness; HIV awareness; substance abuse counseling; program to provide essential drugs, and in some cases provision of cash to medical facilities in the settlements to purchase essential medication, such as penicillin and other supplies.

TTF has also funded other diverse programs and competencies not directly involved with health care but contribute in one way or another to total human development. These programs include nutritional supplemental program; provision of vehicles including ambulances for delivery of health services; and safe drinking water and construction of toilets and septic tanks in numerous settlements. As of 2015, more than 53,000 Tibetans directly benefited from all the aforementioned health services in India and Nepal.

The health care services to the Tibetan community through the DOH has improved community health; enhanced resource mobilization; strengthened existing health care infrastructure; expanded the number of health care access points; trained and nurtured the knowledge and capacity of the health care community; and provided essential services to the most underserved, geographically remote, and vulnerable section of the community including the elderly, destitute, disabled, disadvantaged women and children, torture survivors, patients with tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and hepatitis B. In recent years, our programmatic works have expanded to include pioneering projects such as the Health Information System (HIS) that not only augment the existing health care practices but play a key role in developing long-term health policies and in shaping the health system of the Tibetan refugee community.

New and expecting Tibetan mothers often face enormous challenges during pregnancy and childbirth due to poor quality gynecological and antenatal care at public hospitals, cultural barriers in discussing reproductive health with health care providers, and limited access to national vaccination programs for their children. Newly arrived women from Tibet and those living in geographically isolated areas often have little to no access to reproductive or maternal care.

Over the years, TTF has been committed to supporting the health initiatives of the DOH related to maternal, child and reproductive care by providing access to both primary health care services and a basic set of health care interventions. TTF has supported pregnancy tests, reproductive health awareness campaigns, antenatal care, micro-nutrients for pregnant women, gynecological and safe delivery training for nurses, safe delivery services, and cervical cancer vaccinations. TTF also promoted healthy child development by supporting vaccinations, child hygiene and nutrition awareness, and nutrition supplements for children in remote areas. Good maternal health has significant impact on the survival and health of children, the economic stability of family and productivity of the community. It is firmly believed that long-term investments in and integrated approach to maternal or neonatal health, child health, voluntary family planning, and reproductive health programs not only reduces maternal deaths and infant mortality rates, but also enable mothers to have planned birth at their healthiest time and also guarantee the child’s health and survival.

Reliable and timely information on health challenges faced by the community and overall performance of a health system is essential for good governance and health equity as it informs health planning, policy making and resource allocation. With the USAID award of $3.2 million in 2014, TTF supported the development of a Health Information System (HIS) that enables the DOH to improve health care services and policies for the Tibetan refugee population in India and Nepal. Implemented in two phases of baseline assessment and creation of road maps for implementation, this four-year project is expected to strengthen the DDH capacity to continue delivering high quality services especially in TB care, maternal and child health, community health education, and health information systems. The Department of Health and the USAID Department provided the required funding.
Medical equipment, an important aspect of tuberculosis prevention and control, was provided by donors such as David Lynch and Molley Bailey, Breathe Free Tibet, and Give-A-Meal Foundation. Dr. Zorba's efforts in improving patient meals have contributed significantly to the health of patients. Tibetan Doctors Association has worked on the distribution of Tibetan medicine to hospitals. The Tibet Fund has provided grants to TMAI Research and Development, capacity strengthening project, TTF also made a grant of $55,000 to TMAI Research and Development, construction of a new inpatient ward and free distribution of Tibetan medicine to the hospital.

Nutritional Support Program

Many Tibetan schools in exile lack resources to provide a balanced and healthy diet for their students. The Tibet Fund has helped improve the capacity of the community towards infrastructural development as well as awareness campaigns. TTF has funded sanitation projects such as building toilets and public bathrooms including building new toilets in approximately 20 Tibetan settlements in the early 2000s. The increase in population of around 3000 and ever growing tourist inflow has strained under the pressure of overcrowding for decades. Dharamsala has strained under the pressure of overcrowding for decades. The original infrastructure was built during the pre-independent British period for a few hundred people who came to the hill station for summer vacation. TTF supported infrastructure improvements and housing for recent arrivals that has positively impacted the quality of life and health of residents.

Waste Disposal and Sanitation Programs

By identifying and addressing the bottleneck with regard to sanitation and solid waste infrastructure, The Tibet Fund has helped improve the quality of life through better sanitation and hygiene in the region. The program includes building toilets and public bathrooms as well as setting up waste disposal systems. TTF supported the construction of a public health clinic and staff quarters in Miao settlement in Arunachal Pradesh with a grant of $24,526. The clinic now has separate male and female inpatient wards, an on-duty nurse room, and X-ray and laboratory equipment. This facility makes a tremendous difference in the quality of life for the settlers, especially at the height of the monsoon season when malaria runs rampant. The Namgyal Clinic in Bylakuppe received a grant to improve and maintain clinical services. A new mobile X-ray machine and necessary accessories were donated to the Care and Fair Clinic in Kathmandu, as the clinic has been serving the Tibetan refugee community in Jawalakhel Settlement as well as local Nepalese patients with discounted and free medicines for the last several years.

Public Toilet Facility in Dharamsala

Dharamsala draws thousands of visitors, particularly when His Holiness the Dalai Lama gives religious teachings at Thikchen Choling Temple. As there were no public toilets in the area, it caused severe sanitation problems to the locals, pilgrims, and tourists. TTF provided a total grant of $30,611 to the CTA’s Department of Health for the construction of a toilet complex near the site of the teaching that helped alleviate the problems.

Housing, Sewage, Waste Removal and Drainage Facilities in Dharamsala

Due to the influx of many Tibetans as well as with the temporary stay of thousands of visitors each year, Dharamsala has strained under the pressure of overcrowding for decades. The original infrastructure was built during the pre-independent British period for a few hundred people who came to the hill station for summer vacation. TTF supported infrastructure improvements and housing for recent arrivals that has positively impacted the quality of life and health of residents. TTF supported the construction of a toilet complex near the site of the teaching that helped alleviate the problems.

Public Health Education

Access to public health information is often limited due to language barriers, high mobility, and wide dispersion of the refugee population, and low health literacy is thus compounded by cultural misconceptions about the causes of illness and disease transmission. To address these challenges, TTF supports health education and awareness campaigns in refugee settlements, schools, monasteries, and nunneries; screening campaigns for hepatitis, hypertension, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS; and publication of Tibetan language health brochures and pamphlets. The health education benefited thousands of Tibetans in exile.

Community Health Education

The Tibet Fund established the Society for Tibetan Medicine in 1982 to promote deeper understanding of Tibetan medicine in the West by fostering research and distributing educational materials. Besides helping to organize US tour for Tibetan doctors, TTF also made a grant of $55,000 to TMAI Research and Development, construction of a new inpatient ward and free distribution of Tibetan medicine to the handicapped and infirm in the settlements.

Tibetan Medical and Astrological Institute

The Tibet Fund established the Society for Tibetan Medicine in 1982 to promote deeper understanding of Tibetan medicine in the West by fostering research and distributing educational materials. Besides helping to organize US tour for Tibetan doctors, TTF also made a grant of $55,000 to TMAI Research and Development, construction of a new inpatient ward and free distribution of Tibetan medicine to the handicapped and infirm in the settlements.

Tibetan Delek Hospital

The Tibet Fund has provided significant support to Delek Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in the exile Tibetan community, in receiving funds from various donors such as David Lynch, the Namaste Foundation, Warrington Foundation, John and Molley Bailey, Breathe Free Tibet and Give-A-Meal Dr. Zorba Paster. The generous funding supported general operating costs, their tuberculosis prevention campaign, medical equipment, and improving nutrition of hospital patient meals.
FREE CAMPS
IN INDIA AND NEPAL

DENTAL CAMPS IN NEPAL
For three consecutive years in 2013, 2014 and 2015, The Tibet Fund partnered with the New York University College of Dentistry in organizing dental camps in Nepal. Organized in partnership with Henry Schein Cares, 7 Summits Foundation, and Srongtse Brikuti High School, the camps provided comprehensive dental care, preventive services, examinations, treatments and oral hygiene education to thousands of Tibetan children and elders including 1,200 in 2013 and 1,500 Tibetans in 2014.

FREE EYE SCREENING & CATARACT SURGERY CAMPS
With the help of Gere Foundation and Eye Surgery Fund, The Tibet Fund facilitated free eye screening and surgery camps to prevent and treat curable blinding diseases at some of the poorest and remotest Tibetan settlements in India. In 2013, 798 Tibetan refugees benefited from such a camp. TTF also made a grant to DOH to support ten free eye camps in another nine Tibetan settlements. At eye camps held in two Tibetan settlements in South India—Kollageal and Hunsur—Vittal International Institute of Ophthalmology in Bangalore screened 271 individuals with preliminary vision tests, whereby 55 patients were identified with vision impairment, of which 31 cataract blind patients received sight restoring operations, 22 received pterygium surgery, and 15 patients with more complex issues underwent additional screening and received referrals for further treatment.

HEARING MISSION IN NEPAL
Hearing impairment is one of the most chronic health problems of the elderly Tibetans. With the help of The Starkey Foundation and in collaboration with Pema Ts-ul Sakya Monastic Institute of Pokhara and assistance from Mr. Tamdin Dorjee of the Tibetan Welfare Office of Kathmandu, a total of 626 Tibetans and other Himalayan people in Nepal received special hearing test and hearing aid devices. In February 2015, 19 Tibetans received hearing assessments through Awaaz Hearing Center in November 2015.

HEALTH CAMP AT BHAKHANG, NEPAL
The Tibet Fund supported a free health camp and medicine distribution camps at Kyirong Thukje Choeling and three elderly homes in Kathmandu with the help of Mr. Dhurba Bdr. Pandey, Central Member of BP Thought Academy, and Snow Lion Foundation.

ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE REFUGEES

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through this program, The Tibet Fund has extended essential health services to the most vulnerable Tibetan refugees, including the destitute, torture survivors, HIV patients, substance-abuse victims and the special needs population. Funding ensures delivery of essential medicine and life-saving drugs, emergency medical relief and hospitalization, financial support, psychosocial counseling, and substance abuse prevention and rehabilitation services. Free health examinations by visiting doctors are also provided in remote settlements, reaching the communities most vulnerable to serious health risks. In 2015, more than 22,300 of the most vulnerable Tibetans including those who are disabled, elderly, financially destitute, torture survivors, and recovering substance abuse victims received financial and other direct support from the PRM grant.

SOBER RECOVERY TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTRE
Established in 2009, SRTC is an NGO based in Nepal that provides pro-bono treatment and support to victims of addiction and substance abuse. With an estimated 30% of the youth abusing drug and alcohol, substance abuse is widespread in Nepal resulting in threat of HIV/AID and increased crime rate. The main goal of Sober is to create nurturing environment for drug free lives but also to assist substance abuse victims in acquiring skills to achieve sobriety. So far, Sober has treated approximately 300 Tibetan clients. TTF has helped maximize the outreach of the NGO and make recovery available to victims.

In the health arena, The Tibet Fund has been fundamental in facilitating fund transfer and preservation especially for the ongoing Tuberculosis program, hospital infrastructure development and many other projects. We feel deeply indebted for the trust and assistance The Tibet Fund has provided us over the years and also the contribution it has made for the betterment of the Tibetan people in areas of health, economy, development and preservation of culture.

– Dawa Phunkyi, Administrator, and Dr. Tsetan Dorji Sadutshang, Chief Medical Officer, Delek Hospital, India
28 March 2016
SAFE DRINKING WATER PROJECT

Clean drinking water is essential to health as it promotes better hygiene, fights preventable diseases and combats the spread of waterborne illnesses, especially in the Tibetan refugee communities who are settled in remote and rural areas of India and Nepal. To mitigate the shortage as well as the safety of the clean drinking water, The Tibet Fund has worked to create long-lasting water infrastructure and facilities in many affected Tibetan settlements and schools.

With funding support from the USAID, Flora Foundation and Clear Water Project, TTF in collaboration with Lha Charitable Trust has installed water purification systems in three institutions that support the elderly and school children in Dharamsala, Shimla and Sataun; constructed new water tanks in the Tibetan settlements in Rajpur, Kham Kathok, and Bonshi; drilled bore well and constructed overhead water head with built-in infiltration mechanism and piping system connected to every household in Mainpat; installed four hand pumps with the grant of $19,025 in remote and semi-arid Tibetan areas of Hanley, Kagshung, Nugtse, and Ringthung in Jiangthang, Ladakh; and provided a grant of $20,000 among others to address acute water shortage in CST Mussoorie that has directly benefitted 677 students. TTF also funded to construct two large underground water tanks at Srongtsen Bhrikuti High School in Kathmandu.

“Lha Charitable Trust is grateful to The Tibet Fund for supporting our Clean Water Project by funding the installation of three of the water filter systems that are helping to improve the health of Tibetan exile communities in the Himalayan regions. The Tibet Fund also supported the setting up and continued maintenance of our Community Soup Kitchen, which provides nutritious meals to 50-60 needy Tibetans in Mcleod Ganj on a daily basis. Lha had the honor and privilege of collaborating yet again with The Tibet Fund this year for a World Storytelling Day event.”

– Ngawang Rabgyal, Director, Lha Charitable Trust 19 April 2016

HEALTH CARE PROJECTS IN TIBET

Since 1994, The Tibet Fund, through its Khawachen Assistance Program (KAP), has provided urgently needed health care support to organizations working in Tibet.

TIBETAN MEDICINE FACTORY

One of the KAP’s earliest and largest undertakings was to facilitate the construction of a Tibetan medicine factory in Tuelong Dechen. It produced various Tibetan medicines, some of which were internationally distributed. When Chinese authorities forbade any engagement in business ventures, the medicine factory was sold.

JINPA PROJECT

KAP supported Jinpa Project, which has established large-scale projects in Yushu including schools, health clinics, nomad camps and elder care.

ERADICATING BLINDNESS

In collaboration with Nepal’s Tilganga Eye Center and Seva Foundation, KAP has sponsored several surgical eye camps in Tibet. TTF also provided $180,000 to Lhasa Eye Center for the construction of its facility, equipment and surgical trainings of Tibetan eye specialists. A KAP grant helped treat cataract blindness in Tibetans in the Amdo region, and further supported the purchase of equipment for a new 36-bed Cataract Treatment Center in Xining, Qinghai with a grant of $10,000 from the Eye Surgery Fund. KAP and Seva Foundation organized a seminar on “Blindness in Tibet” in Kathmandu for 17 medical professionals from Tibet and 40 non-Tibetan eye specialists.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARENESS

Tibetan Community Health Network (TCHN) functions as a volunteer organization to promote health awareness in rural communities in Tibet. They published health promotion materials in Tibetan on various health issues through websites and printed flyers and also facilitate online debate on specific health issues.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

The Tibet Fund supported two students studying for four years to become Tibetan medicine physician in Tibet. One of them successfully obtained the degree and is currently working in a village in Shigatse.
DEVELOPING ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND COMMUNITY IN EXILE
The Central Tibetan Administration in exile is faced with a twin task of rehabilitating the newly-arrived refugees as well as in empowering the refugee community in exile. There is a diverse range of economic and community development needs in the Tibetan diaspora at the individual level and for wider social structures and processes that would foster empowerment, viability and sustainability. For Tibetan refugees to have improved quality of life and develop into an economically and socially competitive community, it is vital to have access to basic infrastructure including housing, roads and clean water as well as to essential facilities such as schools, health care and community centers.

With the help of our generous funders and in close collaboration with the CTA’s Department of Home, TTF has financed innovative programs and projects that empower Tibetan community to foster self-sufficiency and long-term sustainability. TTF maps out our community development priorities and plans primarily in accordance with the urgent needs identified in the five-year Integrated Development Plan developed by the Planning Council of the CTA. Our funding priority is also determined based on relevant local conditions and context-specific variables.

In our decades of service to the Tibetan community, TTF has been committed to support infrastructure development, expand educational opportunities and capacity building efforts, assist in micro-finance enterprise and economic empowerment, and revitalize any high-poverty, chronically underserved and undercapitalized section of the Tibetan society. Along with the CTA, TTF has also worked with local Tibetan NGOs, elder homes and grassroots organizations to address local community priorities and to enable them to play critical role in regeneration of the community. Our works in the community development and economic empowerment through the CTA and other organizations have sought to help the Tibetans to work on their own agendas to improve the quality of life. Wherever deficiencies in resources are identified, TTF has financed to advance sufficiency and to facilitate sustainability.

TTF supports demand-driven vocational training and technical skills as they play a critical role in human resource development, contribute to refugee empowerment and facilitates in the process of achieving suitable employment and economic livelihood. Our management training programs help build skills and competencies of the CTA officials and other settlement administrators as well as strengthen their management capabilities and leadership qualities to oversee complex problems. TTF has built housing projects, flood control structures, community centers, and other public facilities and services. Our economic development projects through small business developments and entrepreneurial programs have resulted in better entrepreneurship skills, job creation and income generation for the Tibetans. Then, there are other diverse programs TTF has funded that contribute in one way or the other to both human developments as well as to effective community sustainability.

Based on assessed needs for capacity building within the Tibetan community, The Tibet Fund has tailored our assistance on leveraging concrete opportunities and resources that encompasses human resources as well as financial capacity. Through the years, TTF has implemented targeted and high-impact capacity building programs to improve capacity of our partner organization in India and Nepal, in particular the departments and affiliates of the CTA and local Tibetan NGOs.

INTERNET FREEDOM AWARD/ PROJECT DHARAMSALA
With a grant of $1.36 million from the US Department of State’s Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL), the two-year Project Dharamsala aimed to strengthen internet security infrastructure of the CTA and enhance capacity of Tibetans to address computer and cyber security challenges. All the CTA hardware and software were upgraded in 2014, and new network servers, network switches, and work stations were installed throughout the CTA vicinity. The websites of the CTA and Tibetan NGO were migrated to a secure hosting server, and a forensic malware lab was established to track and study cyber-attacks. System administrators and incident handlers were trained to protect exile networks and online resources, and robust security policies and procedures were developed for the CTA staff.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN TIBETAN SETTLEMENTS
The cooperatives within the Tibetan settlements operate various enterprises such as carpet weaving, handicraft centers, flourmills, animal husbandry, tractor workshops and transportation, and provision stores, to meet the needs of the settlers and to provide them with supplementary services.
income. Since the cooperatives play a pivotal role in the long-term sustainability of the settlements, strong cooperative management is vitally important. Strong cooperative management is essential for the sustainability of the settlements, as it plays a pivotal role in the long-term income. Since the cooperatives are key players in the economic development of the settlements, it is crucial to ensure effective management.

• Training for Cooperative Accountants: In 2003, in conjunction with the CTA, TTF provided training for 50 accountants and section accountants of 14 major cooperative societies in operations and financial management, including accountant training.

• Co-operative Audit Training Project: Office of the Auditor General, CTA, Dharamsala organized the Co-operative Audit Training Program for its 16 staff members. There are a total of 18 co-operative service societies in the country, and the program helps in building their capacity.

HUMAN RESOURCE TRAINING CENTER IN DHARAMSALA

A new Human Resource Training Center was established at the building of Tibetan Reception Center in Dharamsala, and 35 CTA and local NGO staff received intensive training courses in organizational leadership and effective management.

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP IN NEPAL

TTF facilitated a capacity building workshop at the office of Snow Lion Foundation (SLF) for the staff in Kathmandu. SLF, our primary local partner in Nepal, is an NGO that implements education, health, and community development projects in all Tibetan settlements in Nepal. After organizational and individual capacity needs were assessed, 17 training courses and group workshops were conducted for the staff.

WOMEN LEADERSHIP TRAINING

In order to advance women representation and leadership in the Tibetan community in exile, The Tibet Fund has funded Tibetan Women’s Advanced Leadership Workshop with a total of $52,243 for four years since 2010. Attended by women participants who included teachers, health workers, social workers and students and other community leaders, these workshops have helped engender women empowerment within the Tibetan community.

CREATION OF COOPERATIVE MODEL

In 2003, TTF provided $10,000 towards the creation of a model cooperative in Mundgod, South India. The goal of the project was to create a model that can address chronically short resources at cooperatives in the settlement system in terms of planning and management skills, and to replicate this model in other settlements.

OTHER GRANTS IN CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMS

In 1999, TTF was an early supporter of the US Tibetan Resettlement Project that helped 1,000 Tibetan refugees and their family members to settle in 22 cluster sites in North America. From 2001 to 2006, TTF provided office space for its national office and gave $21,000 and other forms of assistance to the New York Tibetan Alliance to help Tibetans who were resettled in the metropolitan area. TTF also funded the attendance of Tibetan delegations for the 2002 Earth Summit in South Africa and for the International Tibet Support Group Conference in South Africa in 2004. In 2015, 35 CTA staff received professional skills training.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY

The Tibet Fund recognizes the important role that entrepreneurship plays in promoting financial empowerment and economic mobility in a community. It not only promotes capital formation but also creates large-scale employment opportunities and facilitates overall development.

TIBETAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Launched by the Department of Finance of the Central Tibetan Administration in 2013, this program aimed to provide small and aspiring entrepreneurs with business training, incubation and advisory services. TTF continues to encourage the growth of entrepreneurial ventures in the exile community through the extension of the TED. With support from the US State Department, 750 participants attended entrepreneur outreach and information sessions in settlements, colleges and universities, and 10 entrepreneurs were chosen to take part in start-up incubation and training at Jindal Institute and the JSS-STEP Incubator Center in Delhi. With the help of Judith Mcbean Foundation, TTF also provided salaries for two full-time TED staff who attended networking forums and trainings. They also created a five-year business plan for the program in collaboration with Intellecap, a reputed entrepreneurship consultancy in India.

TIBETAN ENTREPRENEUR’S GAME CHANGER’S CONFERENCE

With the help of private donations of $20,832, TTF co-supported the first “Game Changer’s Conference” organized by the CTA’s Tibetan Entrepreneurship Development (TED). More than 100 new, aspiring and established Tibetan entrepreneurs attended the conference and presented their business plans to a jury panel of entrepreneurship specialists and TED advisors. Winning enterprises received investment awards ranging from INR 100,000-400,000.

TIBET INFOTECH SOLUTIONS

Founded by the Federation of Tibetan Cooperatives in India (FTCI), Tibet Infotech Solution aims to generate new employment and improve livelihood in the exile community by providing business process outsourcing services in rural settlements including translation, transcription, and online Tibetan language teaching. TTF provided a grant for FTCI to hire a general manager to lead the start-up phases of the new company.
A ccess to vocational training and technical education is often limited by financial barriers and training infrastructures. Seen as facilitators in the process of achieving suitable employment and poverty alleviation, technical and vocational education plays a significant role in developing human resource and creating skilled manpower. TTF, therefore, has provided trainings in vocational and business skills to the most disadvantaged sections, entrepreneurs and job seekers to improve employability and livelihood opportunities.

### Vocational Trainings and Employable Skill Training

In 2014, TTF supported vocational training courses for 241 unemployed Tibetan youth in India and Nepal. Courses in India included carpet-weaving training, vehicle driving, web design, and hairdressing training. In Nepal, ten unemployed youth received training in self-identified skills, basic business training and business planning assistance. Following a business plan competition, six youth received seed grants to start their own businesses including two travel agencies, a restaurant, and a music production venture. TTF also supported the CTA’s Tibetan Career Center (TCC) to provide career counseling for unemployed Tibetans and organize career planning workshops for 1,985 high school students and parents.

### Language and Job Skills Training for New Refugees

Since 1990, TTF has sponsored Tibetan thangka or traditional scroll painting and tailoring and cutting training at TCV Bir Suja School in Dharmsala. TTF also supported language and job skills training program to help newly arrived political prisoners, who are under the care of the CTA’s Department of Security.

### Workshop Upgrade and Mechanic Training

TTF provided funds for mechanic training and to upgrade and expand the tractor workshop at Doeguling Tibetan Settlement in Mundgod.

### Institute for Small Trade Learning

TTF supported setting up beautician training facility at the ISTL in Neela Mangala, South India, in 2005, and funded purchase of computers, training equipment, recreation facilities and a generator. A beautician training batch of 16 unemployed girls started in mid-April, which was provided twice a year on six-month basis. An additional grant of $20,000 was made to the Institute to purchase bus to transport vocational trainees.

### Livelihood Improvement and Capacity Building

A total of 70 newly arrived refugees from the Tibetan Transit School received skills training in thangka painting, computer skills, toy crafts production and tailoring. Another 49 unemployed youth at Neelamangala Vocational School completed their skill training in cookery, computer skills, and English. In Nepal, ten unemployed youth completed their vocational training in beautician skills, tailoring, secretarial skills and driving.

### Skills Training for Women

With the help of The Tibet Fund, women employees of the Tibetan Women’s Center, a handicrafts cooperative in Rajpur, received skills training for six months in innovative production techniques, fair trade marketing and management skills. These resulted in improved livelihood and self-reliance for at least 80 women and their families.

“Over the past three and a half decades, the Central Tibetan Administration and The Tibet Fund have worked in tandem to serve the needs of the Tibetan community in India, Nepal and Bhutan. The invaluable support of The Tibet Fund has helped to this Department to strengthen community cohesiveness at a crucial period in our history by impacting the long term sustainability of the settlement and its socio-economic development in exile.”

– Kalon Dolma Gyari,
Department of Home,
Central Tibetan Administration,
14 April 2016
Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in India, Nepal and Tibet

The Tibet Fund supports Tibetan farmers through the Department of Home of the CTA with knowledge, information and resources to achieve agricultural productivity and to facilitate environmentally sustainable agricultural practices. Since 1987, TTF has supported a variety of agricultural projects to remedy existing challenges by expanding reach of rural extension services to the marginalized and isolated sections of the community, and identifying potential income generating activities and related training needs.

Revolving Loan Fund
After a nine-month detailed assessment of the community needs and economic problems of 25 refugee settlements in India and Nepal by our board member, Richard Weingarten, TTF launched Tibetan Economic Development Project. TTF worked for several years with the CTA, late Mr. Michael Currier of New Cycle Foundation and His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s Charitable Trust to establish a $500,000 revolving loan fund in India. The project helped upgrade agricultural and handicraft cooperative societies, establish new cottage industries, develop small-scale industries and business in the settlements and strengthen existing agricultural and handicraft ventures.

Training and Pilot Project in Organic Farming
TTF supported organic crop demonstration and training of farmers in 13 settlements in India with a grant of $20,000. TTF also funded a pilot project with a grant of $8000 to adopt organic and natural farming practices in Lakanwala and Khera camps in Dochu Yeugyalal Tibetan settlements.

Green House Construction in Sonada
The Cooperative Society of Sonada Tibetan Settlement in Darjeeling district, India, decided that greenhouses are the best way to cultivate fruits and vegetables, given the climate and settlement’s steep terrain. TTF provided a grant for green house construction.

Sherkhum Delek Ling Apple Plantation
TTF made a grant to an Apple Orchard Project in Sherkhum Delekling Settlement to increase resources and improve living conditions in the settlement.

Irrigation Project in Ladakh and Nepal
In response to a proposal from the Central Tibetan Relief Committee, TTF underwrote the construction of a water tank to provide mere water for the residents of Nyoma Tibetan Refugee Camp and Sonamling Settlement. This helped irrigate 28 acres of land, which has made a tremendous difference to the 251 residents of the camp.

TTF also funded in the renovation of a canal to divert water from Khola River into Jampaling Tibetan Settlement in Nepal to irrigate community and individual vegetable gardens.

Yak Semen Project in Tibet
Yaks are an important aspect of life in Tibet as they are a source of livelihood, food and wool for clothing. State-of-the-art semen stations with advanced semen-freezing technologies were urgently needed in Tibet. The Damshiong Yak Semen Station had been researching yak semen freezing technology since 1984. KAP provided $30,000 in funding to install electrical facilities, automatic powerless water turbine, liquid nitrogen devices, and diesel generators needed for this research.

THE YAK KHULU PROJECT
In May 1998, KAP provided a grant of $50,000 to an international NGO working to promote sustainable development in Tibet in partnership with local communities. These funds were placed in revolving loan fund established by Gongtang Rinpoche Charitable Organization and used by a small Yak Khulu facility in Machu County to purchase yak wool at fair prices and implement a wool collection program. The project enabled nomad families to increase the income from their wool. Since 1997, TTF provided a total of $118,000 for similar projects.

In recognition of its outstanding support to the Tibetan community over many years and specifically for co-funding the First Tibetan Entrepreneurs’ Game Changers Conference held at Dharamsala, India, from August 31st to September 1, 2015.

– CTA’s Plaque of Appreciation to The Tibet Fund

The Yak Khulu Project
As creating safe communities and safe housing are considered as key strategic elements for community development, TTF has helped in the provision of infrastructural facilities and social amenities including proper housing for the CTA staff, Tibetan veterans and others, and community centers and assembly halls as gathering places for cultural expression and social cohesion as well as guest-house for visiting Tibetan officials and Tibet friends in the Tibetan settlements. Additionally, TTF has funded to rebuild, renovate and repair many dilapidated Tibetan houses and buildings that were built in the 1970’s.

CTA STAFF QUARTERS
The CTA has faced financial challenges in providing staff quarters to all its 500 employees, who were largely affected by the exorbitant rent in the touristic area of Dharamsala. To alleviate the problem, TTF donated more than $44,000 for the construction of a two-story building for 14 families.

HOUSING FOR RETIRED CTA OFFICIALS
Housing for retired employees who have served the CTA for more than 30 years, has been one of the highest and immediate priorities of the CTA. TTF provided $57,674 in 2005 and 2006 for the construction of four units at Dekyiling Tibetan Settlement in Dehradun.

HOUSING PROJECT IN BHUTAN
Approximately 1,450 Tibetan refugees reside in seven settlements scattered across Bhutan. The settlers are very poor and live in dilapidated housing from the 1940s. TTF provided $22,260 to replace the roofs of 90 old houses belonging to the poorest families in these settlements.

HOUSING PROJECT IN NEPAL
In order to address the shortage of housing facilities for the Tibetan veterans who fought in a guerilla movement against the Chinese occupation of Tibet, TTF supported the construction of four family houses at Tashi Gang, Hyjanja in Pokhara and another four family units at Jampa Ling Settlement, Helitar, Nepal.

DALHOUSIE HOUSING PROJECT
TTF supported the construction of 52 housing units for 52 refugee families in Dalhousie with a grant of $77,687.95. These Tibetans are mainly painters, weavers and small retailers who face problems in paying rent increases and arbitrary evictions.

CONSTRUCTION OF GUESTHOUSE, COMMUNITY HALL AND ASSEMBLY HALL
TTF funded construction of a guesthouse and a community hall in Mainpat Phendeling Settlement, and a guesthouse in Tezu. Both these Tibetan settlements are located in remote areas deemed as protected areas by the Indian Government. A multi-purpose community hall was constructed in Lingtsang Settlement and an assembly hall was constructed in Sakya Tibetan Settlement of Puruwa. TTF also funded the construction of an office and guest quarters in the Bonpo Tibetan settlement, which remains one of the poorest Tibetan settlements in exile.
TF funded three Tibetan nomadic communities in Sonamling Settlement in Ladakh, India, towards the purchase of electricity generators that enabled 127 families to organize public gatherings such as prayer services, educational and vocational workshops, community meetings and social events. TTF renovated 80 dilapidated houses in Ravangla Settlement; constructed bridge-ways at Khasoda camp in Orissa and Miao settlements in Arunachal Pradesh; constructed a retaining wall and renovated weaver quarter’s roof at the Tibetan Self-Help Center, Simla; constructed irrigation check dam at Nyema Camp in Ladakh; purchased bus for the Institute for Small Trade Learning (ISTL) in Neela Mangala, South India and a jeep for Phuntsokling Tibetan settlement office in Odisha; installed 538 solar home lighting systems in Tuting Settlement, one of the most remote settlements in Arunachal Pradesh that benefited 1,266 residents; renovated the old building of the ISTL to be used as staff quarters to accommodate the staff as well as the students; implemented a project to improve a public park at Dekyiling Tibetan Settlement in Dehradun and funded to construct a provision store at Helitar Jampaling Tibetan refugee settlement in Nepal; another grant towards construction of a store in Tashiling Settlement, Himachal Pradesh and made a grant towards renovation and furnishing at Gangkyi staff mess.

“...The Tibet Fund has always been a pillar and backbone of development and sustainability for the Tibetan community in exile and has provided facilities resources and opportunities over the years from health care, education and cultural preservation, to social and economic development. The Lha Charitable Trust has been able to make immense progress and provide service to the Tibetan community in India through a number of programs and projects. We also understand and applaud the fact that The Tibet Fund is one of the most generous and substantial sources of funding for Tibetans in exile, the Central Tibetan Administration, Institutes and many NGOs and individuals in Tibetan communities.”

– Ngawang Rabgyal, Director, Lha Charitable Trust, India
19 April 2016
The Tibet Fund believes in the safety, dignity and quality of life for our vulnerable population including the elders, disabled and the destitute. In addressing their concerns, TTF has funded various projects that ensure social protection mechanism and an enabling environment to include their needs. Some of our micro-intervention approach in caring for the elderly and the disabled include provision of social and welfare services that support capacities and resources at both individual and community levels. TTF has funded in the construction of elderly homes and Tibetan School for the Handicapped in Dharamsala. Besides other support that helps build social capital and community-based rehabilitation, TTF also render individual help through our sponsorship program. Through private donations, TTF supported 28 individual Tibetan elders, providing them with food, shelter, medical care and other basic necessities at Jwalakhel Elder’s Home and Tsering Elders Home.

### CARE FOR THE TIBETAN ELDERLY

#### Tsering Elders Home:
With the seed money provided by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, The Tibet Fund made a grant of $85,000 for the construction of Tsering Elders Home in Kathmandu, which was inaugurated in November 2003. Since 2004, TTF has transferred $99,941.24 in sponsorship money to Tsering Elder’s Home, which has provided home for 66 Tibetan elders with no family to care for them. In addition to the sponsorship funds, TTF continues to assist the home to meet expenses for clothing, food and bedding for the residents, as well as salary and housing costs for six staff and transportation to bring senior Tibetans from remote areas of Nepal to Kathmandu.

#### OTHER SUPPORT IN ELDERLY CARE
- TTF provides monthly financial assistance to 25 elders in Nepal residing outside their homes.
- In 1991, TTF funded the construction of an Old People’s Home in Mundgod Settlement in South India.
- TTF also helped install solar lighting at Tsering Elders Home to reduce accidents and make a more secure and accessible environments for the elders.
- In 2015, TTF supported a prayer wheel project for the Tibetan Home’s Foundation’s Elder People Home in Rajpur.
- With a grant of $11,220, TTF helped build a butter lamp hall at the Elder People’s Home run by Tibetan Women’s Association of Nepal.

### CARE FOR THE DISABLED

#### Ngoenga School for Tibetan Handicapped Children:
With the seed money donated by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Ngoenga School for Tibetan Handicapped Children was opened in 2000 to provide education and care to the disabled Tibetan children. The school has 50 students from India, Nepal and Bhutan with disabilities ranging from autism, dyslexia, epilepsy, polio, Down syndrome, mental retardation and cerebral palsy. Over the years, TTF has supported over 60 children at this special needs school. Currently, TTF supports 41 children through financial support from our sponsorship program. From 2011-2015, TTF transferred over $151,085.62 to the school in sponsorship money.

In order to maximize comfort and minimize potential for injuries for these physically challenged children, TTF funded $25,000 to build footpaths with covered roof at the school which helped facilitate greater accessibility, movement and safety for the wheelchair-bound children. An additional $45,000 was given for the construction of staff quarters and a dining hall. TTF also funded the school with renovation and improvement of all the buildings. A complete set of custom-made Tibetan clothing was given for each child at the school.

### CARE FOR TIBETAN ORPHANS IN TIBET

#### Tibet Assistance Program:
In 1994, The Tibet Fund established Tibet Assistance Program (TAP) to address neglected medical, educational and economic needs of the Tibetan people. Working primarily with local NGOs in Tibet, the program has launched small-scale, well-managed programs to educate and care for poor children including orphans and semi-orphans.

#### Chushul Orphanage Home:
In 1999, KAP provided funding for the construction of an orphanage in Chushul, outside Lhasa. The orphanage houses 25 children who attend a nearby local school. TTF has provided $100,000 in maintenance support and $70,000 to build a new kitchen, bathroom and dining room in the orphanage. Ms. Peggy Day, former Executive Director of American Himalayan Foundation, was instrumental in raising the much-needed fund for the orphanage.

#### Poor Snow Land School in Golok:
Later renamed as Sengcham Drukmo Girls’ Home, this orphanage cares for 62 orphans, most of whom are girls from impoverished families that cannot care for their children. Golok is a remote county officially recognized as being the poorest in Tibet. Since 2001, TTF has sponsored 15 orphans with a grant of $480 per child per year, and also gave grants to the area health clinics.

#### ORPHANS IN TIBET

- Through the generous support of Susan Willey, who has given a total of $70,000 over 14 years, TTF has been able to provide funding to the Elder Home in Mundgod Settlement in South India.
- TTF also helped install solar lighting at Tsering Elders Home to reduce accidents and make a more secure and accessible environments for the elders.
- In 2015, TTF supported a prayer wheel project for the Tibetan Home’s Foundation’s Elder People Home in Rajpur.
- With a grant of $11,220, TTF helped build a butter lamp hall at the Elder People’s Home run by Tibetan Women’s Association of Nepal.
ASSISTING IN
DISASTER RELIEF
AND RECOVERY

Whenever a major disaster or a humanitarian catastrophe strikes Tibetans living in India, Nepal and Bhutan, The Tibet Fund has been on the frontline providing support and assistance in relief and recovery. Some of the major disasters where TTF has provided assistance include the devastating earthquake of Nepal, Gujarat Earthquake in India, Yushu Earthquake in Tibet and others. TTF identify and meet vital recovery needs, as well as support disaster preparedness needs of the Tibetan communities. Our efforts in this area have been targeted at strengthening resilience of the affected community and to accelerate durable recovery through reconstruction of property and infrastructure.

SNOWSTORM EMERGENCY RELIEF IN TIBET AND LADAKH

In the winter of 1995 and 1996, many areas of Tibet especially in Nyam, Ngari and Yushu experienced devastating snowstorms that killed a large number of livestock and impacted the lives of thousands of Tibetans. Khawachen Assistance Program of TTF conducted an emergency relief campaign and donated nearly $500,000 to help the nomads to rebuild their lives.

In 1997 and 2001, the Changthang region of Ladakh experienced unseasonably severe snowstorms, which stranded 2,500 Tibetan nomads, many Ladakhi families and thousands of animals in the mountains where they were taken for grazing. TTF organized an urgent public appeal and raised more than $20,000 to aid the snowstorm victims.

NEPAL EMERGENCY EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Considered as the worst disaster in more than 80 years, the 7.8 magnitude earthquake reportedly claimed more than 8,000 fatalities, affecting Tibetan communities settled in the areas of Rasuwa, Sindhupalchowk, Solukhumbu, Swayambhu and Boudha. With the PRM grant of $347,000, TTF has played a crucial role in their rehabilitation and recovery process through rebuilding and repairing the homes of 560 Tibetan victims and providing training on disaster preparedness and prevention to 10 Tibetan schools that benefited 1,859 students. Apart from the emergency relief need assessment that was already conducted, the grant funded emergency assistance and reconstruction of schools, nunneries and monasteries. Beginning April 2015, TTF has raised private donations in the amount of $286,976 and also reallocated PRM grant balance of $88,000 from previous year for emergency relief through the Snow Lion Foundation.

YUSHU EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

In April 2010, an earthquake measuring 6.9 struck a town of Jyekundo in Chinese-designated area of Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (TAP), resulting in the death of 2,698 people and an estimated injury of 12,178 including 1,424 severely. TTF has raised a total of $122,875 for both short-term and long-term recovery efforts. In addition to providing $20,000 for immediate relief, TTF implemented several important projects through The Bridge Fund and Tibetan Village Project on emergency relief, microfinance program and construction and reconstruction of school of flour mill and school respectively.

GUJARAT EARTHQUAKE

A devastating earthquake occurred in Gujarat State of India on January 26, 2001. The quake killed around 20,000 people, injured another 167,000 and destroyed nearly 400,000 homes and 600,000 people were left homeless. TTF donated to the Office of Tibet who in turn raised an additional $18,000 from different Tibetan Associations, and presented a total of $20,000 to the Indian Consulate General in New York to help the victims of the earthquake.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO SWEATER SELLERS

In November 2007, an intense fire gutted the shops of 42 Tibetan refugee families in the city of Mathura, India, entirely destroying their merchandise and belongings. TTF was able to raise funds to help the victims and transferred funds to the CTA’s Department of Home in January 2008.

DROUGHT RELIEF FOR TWO TIBETAN SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA

A devastating drought destroyed most of the crops at two Tibetan agricultural settlements in Hunsur and Bylakuppe, undermining the livelihood of over 4,500 farmers and burdening them with potentially unbearable debt. TTF set up a special relief fund and donated $10,000 towards drought relief.
Preserving Tibetan Religious and Cultural Heritage
Tibetan cultural heritage includes tangible culture including monasteries, religious manuscripts, works of arts and artifacts as well as intangible culture such as Tibetan Buddhism, folklore, traditions, language, social practices and festive events. For centuries, Buddhism has been such an integral part of Tibetan culture, philosophy, and identity that Tibetans recognize their Buddhist cultural heritage as a traditional custom and a way of life. Besides being a connection to Tibetan social values and beliefs, culture gives a sense of unity and affinity within the Tibetan community.

With the massive destruction of Tibet’s religious culture during the Cultural Revolution and the ongoing sinicization process enforced in Tibet, the refugee community-in-exile offers principal hope for the preservation of Tibet’s great spiritual heritage. Protection of indigenous culture and its transmission to the new generation of Tibetans in exile faces different kind of challenges in terms of lack of resources, scattered physical location of the Tibetan community in the West, and general conflict with the negative forces of globalization.

The Tibet Fund considers it essential to sustain the rich historical legacy and religious culture of Tibet. Therefore, we have been dedicated to support and fund monastic institutions and programs that preserve traditional religion and culture, and provide housing and sponsorship for monks and nuns. Over the past 35 years, TTF has funded resources to empower cultural organizations, activities and assets that has not only played a large role in the sustainability of Tibetan culture but also enabled in the sharing of our rich heritage around the world.

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RELIGIOUS PRESERVATION: MONASTIC EDUCATION AND INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT

SPECIAL FUNDING FOR RELIGIOUS PRESERVATION

In 1991, TTF granted a total of $80,000 in grants to the CTA’s Department of Religion and Culture, out of which $50,000 was awarded to construct a nunnery accommodating 200 nuns in Sidhpur near Dharamsala. A special funding of $15,000 was granted for the general support of old monks within the monasteries, $10,000 was given for maintenance of recently arrived monks and nuns from Tibet until they were placed in monasteries and nunneries in India and Nepal, and another $5000 for their emergency medical assistance.

SPONSORSHIPS FOR MONKS AND NUNS

In 2015, more than 3,120 monks and nuns received financial support to pursue studies at monasteries and nunneries in India and Nepal through the generous funding from the US State Department. Private donations supported an additional 252 individual monks and 102 nuns with a total amount of $59,105.

JAMYANG CHOLING INSTITUTE

Established in 1988 specifically to educate Himalayan Buddhist women, Jamyang Choling Nunnery currently has 70 nuns including Tibetan refugees and women from all over the Himalayan region. TTF made a grant of $44,622 towards the construction of a library and six classrooms for this nunnery. In 2004, TTF provided an additional grant of $52,500 towards the purchase of a 24-room, four-storied building that houses offices, storeroom, and a prayer hall.

GESHEMA EXAMINATION

With a bequest from Kristin Lisa Johansen, TTF provided $20,000 for examination expenses of Geshema degree, the equivalent of a doctorate in Buddhist philosophy, which was held in India in May 2013. This historically is an unprecedented process that provides nuns with special opportunities to pursue a monastic doctoral degree in philosophy, which otherwise was reserved only for monks.

TASHI LHUNPO MONASTERY

As one of the poorest of the rebuilt monasteries in India, Tashi Lhunpo Monastery is a special sponsorship project. At the request of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, TTF provided monthly stipends to 85 monks for three years and continue to help the monastery by finding sponsors for the monks.

In 2015, TTF administered the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery Fund at the request of Khun Rinpoche Lobzang Tsetan, who frequently visits the US to raise fund for his monastery.

RELIGIOUS PRESERVATION IN MONGOLIA

TTF has administered Professor Glenn Mullin’s cultural preservation work in Mongolia by facilitating donations for several projects including the
These images have been posted on a collection of 10,000 Buddhist items. Fine Arts Museum, which has a more than 500 art pieces in Zanabazar that enabled taking photograph of Buddhist ritual arts. TTF made a grant to receive authentic training in traditional women who meet to practice and a hermitage for thirty Mongolian Tibetan Classics in editing, annotating help support the work of Institute of $58,200 was passed through TTF to Robert Scull’s generous grant of the world.

The Meridian Trust maintains the world’s foremost film archive of Tibetan Buddhist culture, with over 2,500 hours of unique and rare recordings. With support from the Hershey Family Foundation and The Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation, TTF provided $53,350 for the Open the Vaults project, which is constructing an open resource website to make the trust’s archive accessible online.

The Meridian Trust Archive Project
The Meridian Trust maintains the world’s foremost film archive of Tibetan Buddhist culture, with over 2500 hours of unique and rare recordings. With support from the Hershey Family Foundation and The Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation, TTF provided $53,350 for the Open the Vaults project, which is constructing an open resource website to make the trust’s archive accessible online.

Book on Tibetan Architecture
In 2015, TTF provided $30,774 to support publication of a book on Tibetan architecture and conservation of wall paintings at Thupten Choling Monastery in Ladakh.

Archival Film Project
TTF supported the plan of an archive of Tibetan and Buddhist-related films with a grant of $10,000 to be made accessible to researchers, educators, filmmakers and the general public.

Safeguarding Rare Digital Archives
The Library of Tibetan Works and Archives (LTWA) in Dharamsala has around 35,000 hours of recordings on audio and videotape including many rare and rare recordings. As tape recordings lose their quality with the passage of time, TTF made a grant to the Library to digitize their archives. The Library used this funding to buy two iMac27” Quad-Core i5 computers and accessories for digital recording. TTF also provided $10,000 in general support to the Library.

Lama Mani Project
The Lama Mani tradition of oral storytelling has been part of the Tibetan culture for over 700 years. These storytellers play a vital role in the transmission of traditional wisdom on Buddhist principles and values.

The Lama Mani tradition of oral storytelling has been part of the Tibetan culture for over 700 years. These storytellers play a vital role in the transmission of traditional wisdom on Buddhist principles and values.

Institute of Tibetan Classics
Robert Scull’s generous grant of $58,200 was passed through TTF to help support the work of Institute of Tibetan Classics in editing, annotating and reprinting of key classical Tibetan texts. In brief, the aim of this five-year grant is to develop the Tibetan equivalent of Harvard University Press’ Loeb Classical Library. Additionally, with support from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, TTF provided $48,500 in support of the Institute’s mission to preserve, revitalize and disseminate Tibetan culture through open resource sharing.

Ani Payon Library
Ani Pa-Yon Library and Education Center was built in Thukje Choling Nunnery in 2005 to honor the legendary leadership of Ani Pachen, a Tibetan nun who fought against the Chinese occupation of Tibet and was subsequently imprisoned for 21 years. TTF funded to build the library.

Khaw Karpo Tibetan Cultural Center (KKCC)
TTF administered a $16,500 grant from the National Endowment for Democracy for KKCC, a grassroots NGO in Dharamsala dedicated to the preservation of Tibetan identity and culture. Among its many projects are a weekly Tibetan language newspaper, various publications on Tibet and Tibetan history. TTF, through a designated donation of $13,000 by Ann M. Down, continues to provide general support to the center.

Traditional Tibetan Songs in Tipa and Nepal
TTF raised funds to establish a multimedia center at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts to videotape traditional operas, new opera compositions, and other works while the few original opera masters remain alive. TTF supported Nepal Lhama Association to produce Tibetan Opera: Dzholph Thangtong Gyalpo, and underwrote production of DVD about the project. This funding was used for research, rehearsal, costumes and performances of the opera during the Shoton or Annual Curd Festival held in Dharamsala in March 2004.

Tibetan Organizations in US
TTF provided seed money for establishment of important Tibetan organizations in the US such as the International Campaign for Tibet, Tibet House, Tibetan Community of North Americas and events such as Tibetan US Resettlement Project.

Conferences of North American Tibetan Community
At the request of the Office of Tibet, The Tibet Fund provided $15,000 to cover costs of the 6th, 7th, and 8th conferences of the North American Tibetan Community in Washington D.C., Minneapolis and New York between 2003 and 2005. We also provided additional $4,500 for the conference luncheons, including the 9th conference, which took place in 2006.
In order to ensure that the Tibetan children in the West are fully acquainted with Tibetan culture, language and religion, it is imperative that separate classes are held for them. From 1998 to 2001, TTF hosted Tibetan language classes for Tibetan children from New York at our premise on Saturdays and later helped to find other class locations—two times at New York Association for New Americas and two other times at NY Public Schools—and also paid one-time financial support. In 2015, TTF made a total grant of $20,000 to the Tibetan Language School of NY Public Schools—and also paid costs for Saturday classes held for younger Tibetan children from New York at our premise that separate classes are held for language and religion, it is imperative that they are acquainted with Tibetan culture.

In 2006, TTF helped with a $100,000 grant from the Flora publishing resource for the CTA. Press in India to serve as a central establishment of Narthang Printing classes held for younger Tibetan children in India. TTF contributed to support Saturday classes held for younger Tibetan children in the West.

TTF made a total grant of $20,000 to the Tibetan Language School of NY Public Schools—and also paid costs for Saturday classes held for younger Tibetan children from New York at our premise that separate classes are held for language and religion, it is imperative that they are acquainted with Tibetan culture.
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**THE TIBET FUND: YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$2,487,375</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$2,094,421</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and other assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loan receivable</td>
<td>1,580,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed assets - net</td>
<td>691,476</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,375,986</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>$37,431</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refundable advances</td>
<td>682,508</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$639,939</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td>6,736,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>5,552,317</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>1,183,730</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,736,047</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,375,986</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

These statements of financial position and activities were derived from the 2015 financial statements of The Tibet Fund’s independent auditors, Loeb & Troper. A copy of the audited financial statements and Form 990 FY 2015 are available upon request from The Tibet Fund.
## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
### THE TIBET FUND: YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

### Revenues, gains and other support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>UNRESTRICTED</th>
<th>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED</th>
<th>TOTAL 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public support and revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S Federal grants</td>
<td>$4,702,932</td>
<td>$4,702,932</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>508,639</td>
<td>508,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less direct expenses of special events</td>
<td>(60,947)</td>
<td>(60,947)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>333,387</td>
<td>1,240,194</td>
<td>1,573,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total public support and revenues</strong></td>
<td>5,484,002</td>
<td>1,240,194</td>
<td>6,724,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and dividends</td>
<td>84,196</td>
<td>84,196</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized and unrealized gain</td>
<td>(152,803)</td>
<td>(152,803)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on investments - net</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental income</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>619</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total other revenues</strong></td>
<td>(67,988)</td>
<td>(67,988)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>1,059,287</td>
<td>(1,059,287)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenues and other support</strong></td>
<td>$6,475,301</td>
<td>180,707</td>
<td>$6,656,208</td>
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</table>

### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>UNRESTRICTED</th>
<th>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED</th>
<th>TOTAL 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian assistance</td>
<td>$3,818,532</td>
<td>$3,818,532</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and scholarship</td>
<td>1,055,718</td>
<td>1,055,718</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural and religious preservation</td>
<td>256,094</td>
<td>256,094</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic and community development</td>
<td>124,450</td>
<td>124,450</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs in Tibet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total program services</strong></td>
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<td>5,581,258</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting services</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
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<td>449,703</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund raising</td>
<td>83,784</td>
<td>83,784</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total supporting services</strong></td>
<td>533,487</td>
<td>533,487</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td>6,114,745</td>
<td>6,114,745</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Change in net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>End of Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>340,556</td>
<td>180,907</td>
<td>521,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets - beginning of year</td>
<td>5,191,761</td>
<td>1,002,823</td>
<td>6,194,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets - end of year</td>
<td>$5,552,317</td>
<td>$1,183,730</td>
<td>$6,736,047</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### STATEMENT OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- **Humanitarian Assistance**: 62%
- **Education & Scholarship**: 17%
- **Economic & Community Development**: 2%
- **Tibet Assistance Programs**: 1%
- **Cultural & religious preservation**: 4%
- **Health Care**: 5%
- **Management & General**: 9%

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### THE TIBET FUND STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

**THE TIBET FUND, NEW YORK**

- **Chairman**: Michael Lemle
- **Vice President**: Geoffrey Menin
- **Secretary**: Jessica Brackman
- **Treasurer**: Joseph Wood
- **Executive Director**: Lobsang Nyandak
- **TSP Coordinator**: Tenzin Chephel Chumeego
- **TSP Grants & Finance Administrator**: Lhakpa Tsering

**THE TIBET FUND STAFF, DHARAMSALA, INDIA**

- **Vice President**: Bob Ankerson
- **Consultant**: Tsewang Rigzin
- **Financial and Administration Officer**: Tenzin Jigme
- **TEP Deputy Project Director**: Kelsang Tsero
- **Project Officer**: Kunchok Dolma

**THE TIBET FUND STAFF, (ex-officio)**

- **President**: Rinchen Dharlo
- **Executive Director**: Lobsang Nyandak
- **TSP Coordinator**: Tenzin Chephel Chumeego
- **TSP Grants & Finance Administrator**: Lhakpa Tsering
- **Sponsorship Coordinator and Office Administrator**: Yangzom Shawa
- **Program Associate**: Jeremy Gallion

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**THE TIBET FUND, NEW YORK**

- **President**: Rinchen Dharlo
- **Executive Director**: Lobsang Nyandak
- **TSP Coordinator**: Tenzin Chephel Chumeego
- **TSP Grants & Finance Administrator**: Lhakpa Tsering
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**THE TIBET FUND STAFF, DHARAMSALA, INDIA**

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- **Consultant**: Tsewang Rigzin
- **Financial and Administration Officer**: Tenzin Jigme
- **TEP Deputy Project Director**: Kelsang Tsero
- **Project Officer**: Kunchok Dolma