



At the bottom of the thangka, there is a small plaque with text in Tibetan and English. The English text reads: "This thangka was painted by a Tibetan artist in the 19th century. It is a very fine example of the traditional Tibetan style." The Tibetan text is also present but not legible.



བོད་ཀྱི་ཐེབས་ཆ
THE TIBET FUND

Annual Report
2024



“Since its establishment in 1981, The Tibet Fund 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 and 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.”

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama
Honorary Patron



CONTENTS

President's Message	1
Educating the Next Generation	2
Empowering Women and Girls	8
Empowering Social Entrepreneurs	10
Safeguarding Cultural Heritage	14
Strengthening Livelihoods	20
Building Healthy Communities	24
Rehabilitating New Refugees	28
Event Highlights	29
Financial Statements	30
Our Donors	31
Our Supporters and Partners	32
Sponsoring Vulnerable Refugees	33



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Dear Friends,

In 2024, with your generous support, The Tibet Fund continued preserving Tibetan culture and served more than 68,000 Tibetans with education, health, women empowerment, livelihood development, and humanitarian assistance. As ongoing federal funding becomes less certain, we are deeply grateful to the many friends and supporters who continue to support our work.

All our work is inspired by His Holiness the Dalai Lama's third principal commitment: to preserve Tibet's distinct language, religion, and culture for future generations, both for the Tibetan people and for all humanity. In Tibet, young children are being separated from their parents and compelled to attend Chinese language boarding schools in an alarming attempt to sever the next generation from its own language and, ultimately, erase Tibetan culture from the Tibetan plateau. Sustaining the vitality of Tibetan culture in exile is now more critical than ever.

We believe investing in people is the most effective way to achieve this, because it empowers Tibetans themselves to ensure their culture thrives and flourishes for future generations. Of the many Tibetans we support, four groups merit special focus. First and foremost, we invest in **Tibetan children** aged 0-12, to give them a strong foundation of early cognitive growth and mother tongue literacy. In 2024, our early childhood literacy program strengthened Tibetan reading skills for more than 6,000 children at primary schools, kindergartens, and daycare centers across India and Nepal. Tibetan reading competency has more than doubled among primary school children since we began this initiative, about which you can read more on page three of this report.

Second, we invest in **Tibetan women and girls**. Global evidence shows that, when empowered to reach their full potential, women are most likely to act in ways that improve the lives of their families, communities, and the next generation. In 2024, our education, health, and livelihood programs reached 10,115 vulnerable women and girls. We also worked to protect against gender-based violence through initiatives like the Tibetan Women Helpline. More about this important work is on page eight.

Third, we invest in **Tibetan social entrepreneurs**: extraordinary individuals who dedicate themselves to making positive change in their communities. Over the years we have nurtured dozens of grassroots organizations led by young Tibetans working on local community and culture preservation challenges. Twenty of these social impact partners received funding for their projects in 2024, about which you can read more on page ten.

Finally, we launched a new initiative to invest in **Tibetan contemporary artists**, because we believe that art, literature, film, and music are crucial for Tibetans around the world, especially youth, to maintain strong cultural and community cohesion. More information about this new initiative is on page 15.

I hope you are inspired by the work described in this report and feel proud to be a part of the Tibetan people's struggle to preserve their cultural and national identity. Your support is vital as we advance our mission, and we are deeply grateful to all those who stand with Tibet.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bob'.

Bob Ankerson
President

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION

The Tibet Fund is a proud partner in the transformative journey of literacy and education that Tibetans embarked on soon after reaching exile. We team with the Central Tibetan Administration, U.S. Government, Tibetan Children's Villages, Tibetan Homes Foundation, Manjushri Educational Services, Nyugsar, Shatsa, and Snow Lion Foundation to create the largest educational footprint in exile, serving more than 14,000 students across India and Nepal.

With our support, foundational literacy and early cognitive growth were strengthened for more than 6,000 children at daycare centers, kindergartens, and primary schools in 2024. More than 1,000 Tibetan students received higher education scholarships, enabling them to study at colleges and graduate schools they would not have been able to attend otherwise. Of these, 22 were graduate students pursuing master's degrees in the U.S.

The quality of teaching and learning improved for more than 14,000 K-12 students across 61 Tibetan schools in India and Nepal, with more than 1,200 teachers and librarians receiving training and professional development. Fifty-five schools received improved science centers, educational technology, library collections, and teaching aids, and inclusive education practices were strengthened at 37 schools.





Early Childhood Literacy Program

Mother tongue literacy is crucial for the next generation of Tibetan children in exile to maintain their cultural identity and values. Studies show it also leads to better learning outcomes for multilingual students throughout their education. Just as importantly, healthy brain development in early childhood is crucial for lifelong learning. By supporting Tibetan language literacy and healthy cognitive growth for children aged 0-12, this program ensures they begin their education with confidence, curiosity, and a strong sense of who they are, equipping them to thrive academically, preserve their heritage, and contribute to community resilience later in life.

In 2024, we partnered with three grassroots Tibetan organizations dedicated to these goals, each of which runs a community library for local children and parents. In Ladakh, India, Shatsa conducted regular reading programs at its community library and organized mobile library visits for children in remote nomad camps. Eighty parents received training in the importance of reading, and 124 children received reading kits.

Caregivers at Nyugsar in Kathmandu, Nepal, received training in early child care and education, and an average of 25 school children visited the center's library each weekend. Regular reading programs were held at Manjushri children's library in Dharamsala, and 181 parents received training and baby bags with board books, sensory toys, and hygiene products. Manjushri also published five new Tibetan language children's books, bringing its total number of new books supported by The Tibet Fund to 58.

Tibetan foundational literacy and early child development were also strengthened at 83 daycare centers, kindergartens, and primary schools across India and Nepal, benefiting 6,189 children. Teachers and caregivers received training and language learning aids to improve early reading skills, and school librarians received training in strategies to promote good reading habits. New Tibetan children's storybooks were published and distributed to libraries, classrooms, and families, and parents attended workshops on the importance of reading at home.

Since we began this initiative in 2017, Tibetan reading comprehension has more than doubled among primary children in Tibetan schools, where 72 percent of those surveyed in 2024 were competent readers.



Access to Higher Education

The Tibet Fund supports multiple scholarship programs for Tibetans to pursue higher education at colleges, universities, and institutes. Different programs are designed for students with varying financial needs, academic goals, and career aspirations.

Recognizing the importance of girls' education, our Girls Scholarship Program ensures girls from low-income families have the opportunity to attend college. In 2024, we provided scholarships to 224 young women, of which the most vulnerable received full financial support. Students pursued degrees in medicine, computer science, engineering, and psychology, among other fields.

The Tibetan Scholarship Program awards full scholarships to pursue professional master's degrees in the United States. In 2024, twenty-two students received awards to study public health, education, neuroscience, and computer science, among other fields. Over the years, this program has trained 496 Tibetans at U.S. universities including Columbia, Georgia Tech, Harvard, and U.C. Berkeley. Alumni have returned to India and Nepal to serve the Central Tibetan Administration as ministers,

parliamentarians, settlement officers, civil servants, and cyber security experts.

In addition to full scholarships, we provide partial awards to help students afford tuition and living expenses at universities, colleges, and vocational institutes in India and Nepal. In 2024, more than 900 undergraduate, graduate, and pre-med students received partial scholarships, of which 63 percent were women and 30 percent were graduate students pursuing professional and other advanced degrees.





Advancing Quality Education

We worked to improve the quality of education in Tibetan schools through teacher professional development, STEM education, educational technology, and counseling.

Teacher professional development programs benefited over 1,200 teachers across 61 Tibetan schools in 2024. Teacher-led book discussions, lesson study groups, peer observations, seminars, and expert talks were held, and teachers received training in student assessment, lesson planning, and higher order thinking skills. More than 350 teachers and staff participated in Social, Emotional, and Ethical (SEE) learning activities. Inspired by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Emory University's SEE Learning curriculum fosters compassion and mindfulness in schools through compassion-in-action activities.

STEM education in Tibetan schools was strengthened through training, science exhibitions, and student research internships. Twenty-four science educators received training in activity-based instruction and science lab management, and 1,115 students from 21 schools attended STEM excursion visits to nearby science centers and research institutes. Thirty-two schools organized

natural science exhibitions, and 35 students participated in national science competitions. Ten college students completed research internships at the National Center of Biological Sciences and the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research.

Educational technology was improved in 22 schools across India and Nepal through classroom technology corners and teacher training. Technology corners provided students with access to connectivity and equipment for group projects and presentations, including laptops, scanners, projectors, printers, digital video cameras, and audio recorders. 89 teachers received training in technology-based teaching and digital literacy, and students in Nepal received access to courses in advanced software, cybersecurity, and coding.

School-based counseling was strengthened in six schools in Nepal, with sessions covering time management, interpersonal skills, and anti-bullying. School counselors conducted group and individual counseling sessions supported by a professional psychologist. College exposure visits and career workshops were organized for high school students applying to college, including school tours and mock interviews.



Tenzin Lhadon's Journey of Education and Teaching in the Tibetan Community

Tenzin Lhadon was raised by her father alongside three younger siblings. Inspired by her aunt and mentor, she grew up with a strong desire to serve the Tibetan community in exile. From a young age, she knew she wanted to help shape young minds and contribute to preserving Tibetan identity through education.

With support from The Tibet Fund, Tenzin received a scholarship to pursue a Bachelor of Education, building on her earlier Bachelor of Science degree. This opportunity helped her fulfill her dream of becoming a

teacher. After graduation, she began her career as a middle school science teacher in a Tibetan school. Along the way, she received a range of in-service teacher trainings including STEM and educational technology workshops. This training helped her integrate technology into the classroom, a skill that became especially important during the pandemic. It also encouraged her to use inquiry-based teaching methods, to set clear goals and improve her teaching each year.

Now with nearly a decade of experience, Tenzin continues to live her dream. She blends modern teaching methods with traditional Tibetan values, helping students think critically while staying connected to their roots. She is one of more than 1,500 teachers who have benefited from in-service professional development programs supported by The Tibet Fund over the years.

"I am grateful for the many educational programs supported by The Tibet Fund. These have enabled me to receive a quality education, given me confidence in my teaching methods and helped me promote critical thinking among my students. They have inspired me to improve myself every day and give back to my community. I aspire to become a dynamic teacher and facilitate learning for the next generation of Tibetans."

Tenzin's story is one among many. Through scholarships and training programs, over the years thousands of Tibetan students have pursued higher education and gone on to become educators, health professionals, and community leaders. By investing in education, we are helping create a strong and self-reliant future for the Tibetan people.





Ripples of Change **Transforming Tibetan Early Childhood Education**

When Gyaltzen and a small group of educators founded Manjushri Educational Services (MES), they set out with a clear vision, to connect modern research on early childhood development with traditional Tibetan parenting practices. “Research shows that the first five years of life have a profound, lifelong impact on a child’s overall well-being,” says Gyaltzen, now Director of MES. “But in our community, awareness was minimal. We knew we had to change that.”

With support from The Tibet Fund, Manjushri began reaching out to new parents across India and Nepal. In just a few years, they have trained 1,377 parents of newborns, published 58 Tibetan language children’s books, and created a vibrant children’s library that now serves about 1,500 children in the Dharamsala area.

“The Tibet Fund has played an instrumental role, not only in helping us conceive MES in 2017 but in sustaining our programs for more than eight years.”

Reaching families in widely scattered settlements came with challenges. Manjushri’s small team initially struggled with logistics and outreach. But with growing collaboration from the Department of Education of the Central Tibetan Administration, it expanded its work across India and Nepal, bringing parenting resources to communities that previously had little access.

The results have been deeply encouraging. A recent survey showed a 19 percent increase in parents reading daily with their children, a 41 percent increase in parents responding to their child’s emotions before correcting behavior, and a nine percent drop in children’s screen time at home. Many parents now say they are replacing physical punishment with storytelling and quality time, pointing to a clear shift in parenting culture.

Manjushri’s success shows that long-term change comes not only from starting new programs, but from building trust, shifting perspectives, and showing what is possible. As more Tibetan families embrace early childhood care and mother tongue literacy, Gyaltzen and his team are nurturing a generation grounded in Tibetan language and the joy of learning.



EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS

We invest in Tibetan women and girls because we believe they deserve equal opportunities and because they are most likely to act in ways that improve the lives of their families, communities, and the next generation. We empower them by investing in their education, health, and livelihoods, and protect them from sexual and gender-based violence. Key partners are the Central Tibetan Administration, U.S. Government, Snow Lion Foundation, Hope and Challenge, Drokpo, and Drokmo.

Thousands of vulnerable Tibetan women and girls were empowered through education, health, and livelihood support in 2024. 224 girls received financial support for higher education, of which the most vulnerable received full ride scholarships. 308 women microentrepreneurs received support to grow their businesses, and 196 unemployed young women received job-focused skills training. 1,711 breastfeeding and pregnant mothers received nutritional support, hygiene supplies, baby

books and sensory toys. 5,767 vulnerable women and girls received subsidized health and hospitalization insurance, 994 women were screened for cervical infections, and 960 girls were vaccinated to prevent cervical cancer. 550 girls and nuns were screened for anemia, and the women's wellness initiative, Achala, benefited more than 520 women through exercise, yoga, and zumba classes. Below is a case study of how this support is changing lives.



Case Study *From Setback to Strength*

As a hotel cook in Gangtok, Chokyi had always loved baking, and dreamed of one day opening a bakery of her own. But when her second child was born with a fragile immune system, she left her job and returned home to her settlement, where she was compelled to focus on her son's health for the next five years.

When the pandemic hit, her husband lost his job, and she turned to baking from home to make ends meet. A family health insurance package, subsidized with support from The Tibet Fund, was a crucial source of relief during this difficult time.

Determined to rebuild after the pandemic, Chokyi received funding to renovate a space in the settlement to open a bakery, along with training in business skills, marketing, and licensing. This support, also from The Tibet Fund, marked a turning point. With new skills

Protecting Against Violence

A study by The Tibet Fund in 2021 found that 40 percent of 1,487 Tibetan women surveyed had experienced sexual and gender-based violence. In 2024, with our support the Tibetan Women Helpline continued operating a safe space offering confidential counseling, legal aid, and emergency support. Public awareness drives were conducted, and 27 cases of gender-based violence were reported; of these, six survivors received medical, legal, and shelter assistance.



Internal Complaint Committees were established in 12 settlements and seven schools in India and Nepal, and 166 committee members received training on safety, redressal, and prevention protocols. Gender-based violence awareness sessions reached more than 1,000 students, youth, community leaders, and women's group members, and 150 settlement residents received home-based counseling from barefoot counselors. Camp leaders received training to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, and safety audits were conducted to address security risks in schools and settlements.



and equipment, she launched Kunwang Bakes, which quickly became a favorite in the community. The bakery's income now sustains her family and brings her personal pride and purpose.

Chokyi's success has also opened doors for her daughter. Now studying psychology at college with a scholarship

from The Tibet Fund, she dreams of becoming a health professional, and helps her mother during holidays. Chokyi hopes to one day teach baking to others, especially women and young people looking for a fresh start, just like she was. "No matter what challenges you face, if you stay passionate and keep working hard, you can achieve your dreams," she says.



EMPOWERING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

We empower young Tibetans to make positive change in their communities. Since 2017, we have nurtured dozens of grassroots organizations led by committed social entrepreneurs working on local community and culture preservation challenges. In 2024, twenty social impact partners received funding for their projects, several of which are described below.



Khadhok Tibetan Artists Collective

Khadhok promotes contemporary Tibetan visual art and supports emerging artists. In 2024, it organized two public exhibitions featuring emerging contemporary artists. Participating artists explored themes of exile, identity, and Tibetan futures through live painting, collaborative performances with musicians, and children's art workshops. Khadhok also organized school art workshops for 180 students.

TibetWrites

TibetWrites supports Tibetan writers and publishes their fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. In 2024, it released two new titles: *Young Days in Tibet* and *Forty-Nine Days*, a poetry collection exploring themes of life, loss, and remembrance. It also organized a reading retreat and a writing residency for emerging Tibetan writers, led by the award-winning Tibetan author of *We Measure the Earth with Our Bodies*.



Tibet Theatre

Tibet Theatre creates original plays that explore identity, culture, and social justice. In 2024, it toured Tibetan schools in northern India, staging performances on topics such as youth and social media, vocational training opportunities, and colonial boarding schools in Tibet. It also produced digital storytelling and nursery rhyme videos to promote Tibetan language among children.

Tenzin Talkies

Tenzin Talkies trains young Tibetans in filmmaking, from storytelling and screenwriting to production and editing. In 2024, it ran a summer workshop for 20 students at TCV school in Ladakh. Two short student films produced during the workshop—*The Last Nomad* and *That Morning*—were screened for more than 600 students and teachers.

Sangay Cultural Services

Sangay connects Tibetans with their language, culture, and history through audiobooks on its YouTube channel. In 2024, it released 40 new episodes on topics including Tibetan palaces, military history, and traditional Tibetan scripts originating in India.

Drung Tibetan Filmmakers Collective

Drung works to advance Tibetan filmmaking and inspire collaboration among diaspora filmmakers. In 2024, it completed *State of Statelessness*, a four-part film anthology exploring statelessness and migration in exile. The films were created by more than 150 Tibetan filmmakers, actors, and cinematographers, and premiered at the Busan International Film Festival in Seoul.

Stories of Tibetans

Stories of Tibetans documents the oral histories of ordinary Tibetans to preserve collective memory and promote civic dialogue. In 2024, it produced a Tibetan language podcast series featuring interviews with community leaders on themes including education, health, and gender equality. The episodes were shared widely on social media platforms.

Rabten Cultural Centre

Rabten promotes Tibetan language and literature. In 2024, it completed a project to preserve oral traditions by collecting and publishing folktales narrated by elder storytellers. 6,000 copies of the folktales were distributed to Tibetan schools and libraries.



Manjushri Educational Services

Manjushri works to strengthen mother tongue literacy for early grade learners and promote healthy cognitive, social, and emotional development for children under age five. In 2024, it hosted regular reading activities at its children's library in Dharamsala, organized arts and library sessions at local schools, and conducted early child parenting workshops in Tibetan settlements of South India. It also published five new Tibetan children's books and distributed them to schools and community libraries.

Reimagining Doeguling Tibetan Settlement

Reimagining Doeguling Tibetan Settlement focuses on water conservation, community development, and health education. In 2024, it installed eleven borewell recharge pits and nine farm ponds in partnership with local farmers and the Central Tibetan Administration. It also hosted a health education fair for around 1,000 settlement residents featuring a marathon, basketball matches, circle dances, free health screenings, and wellness talks.

Shatsa Organization

Shatsa works to promote reading habits among Tibetan children in the remote Ladakh region of India. In 2024, Shatsa organized parenting workshops, mobile library visits, and reading camps for 124 children in nomad areas, and about 20 children daily visited its community library in Leh for storytelling and reading programs.





Hope & Challenge and Drokpo

Hope & Challenge collaborates with Drokpo to help vulnerable Tibetans in Nepal start their own businesses. In 2024, thirteen microentrepreneurs received seed funding, mentoring, and training in financial literacy and communications. New ventures included restaurants, retail shops, a traditional food stall, a dharma center, and a *dranyen* (Tibetan lute) workshop.

Tibetan Legal Association

Tibetan Legal Association promotes legal literacy and provides legal representation and counseling to Tibetans in India. In 2024, it assisted 271 individuals, families, and organizations with civil and criminal cases, and offered pro bono services for vulnerable Tibetans.

Weekly legal aid clinics were held in Dharamsala, along with awareness sessions and workshops for NGOs and settlement officers to strengthen their understanding of legal frameworks.

Tibetan Centre for Conflict Resolution

Tibetan Centre for Conflict Resolution promotes nonviolence, compassion, and democratic values by equipping community members with conflict resolution tools and inclusive dialogue skills. In 2024, it organized a civil society roundtable with participants from 18 organizations, and conducted workshops on nonviolent parenting. A training equipped 23 students with empathy and communication techniques for conflict resolution.



SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL HERITAGE

Tibetan cultural heritage and national identity are the fabric that binds the Tibetan people together and gives enduring momentum to their struggle for freedom and justice. The Tibet Fund works to preserve Tibetan language, promote Tibetan arts, and sustain Tibetan traditions. Key partners are the Central Tibetan Administration, U.S. Government, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts, Monlam AI, TibetWrites, Drung, Tibet Theatre, and Khadhok.

Our culture preservation work in 2024 focused on three priorities: Tibetan language, contemporary arts, and traditional cultural heritage. More than 5,800 Tibetans studied and practiced traditional Tibetan arts, attended cultural programs, conducted research, and published books on cultural topics. More than 476,600 rare manuscripts, historical documents, publications, and recordings were digitized and safely archived for future generations, and 53,000 copies of new Tibetan language children's books were published. Tibetan language apps and online tools reached tens of thousands of users, and development of Tibetan language AI models continued to advance. More than 500 youth attended immersion programs to study Tibetan language and culture, and dozens of Tibetan filmmakers, writers, artists and performers created new work.

Tibetan Language Preservation

To advance Tibetan language learning we supported publication of new children's books; production of animation videos, podcasts, audiobooks, and documentaries; immersive language courses and literacy classes; and Tibetan artificial intelligence (AI) development.

53,000 copies of new children's literature and Tibetan folktales were published with age-appropriate, culturally relevant content for children aged 4–12. Dozens of new children's animation videos, culture-related podcasts, audiobooks, and documentaries on history and living culture were produced, uploaded on YouTube, and viewed more than 675,000 times.





More than 500 youth in India attended immersive courses in Tibetan language, literature, history, dialectics, and philosophy with our support. Adult literacy classes were conducted in remote areas of Nepal, where more than 270 participants, mostly women, learned to read Tibetan Buddhist texts.

We continued supporting Monlam AI to develop Tibetan language tools and resources. Tibetan AI models for machine translation, optical character recognition, speech-to-text and text-to-speech were successfully integrated into a single application. Work advanced on an illustrated online dictionary for children featuring sentence and pronunciation examples. Work also progressed on a Tibetan spelling and grammar checker, integrated into Monlam AI's broader suite of tools. More than 275 college students, recent graduates, and monastic scholars contributed to Tibetan AI development from locations across India.

Empowering Tibetan Artists

We believe that contemporary art, literature, film, and music are crucial vehicles of cultural cohesion and shared identity for Tibetans around the world, especially youth, and will be increasingly critical for future generations. In 2024, our Contemporary Arts Program supported dozens of Tibetan filmmakers, writers, painters, musicians, and performers.

We funded the Tibetan Artists Festival in Dharamsala, which brought together 30 contemporary artists, writers, and musicians from around the world. Participants engaged in public performances and panel discussions for three days, and led to formation of the Tibetan Arts Council, a new initiative to connect, support, and promote Tibetan artists worldwide.

Production of *State of Statelessness*, an independent film about migration and identity in exile, was completed. More than 150 Tibetan filmmakers and actors collaborated to make this four-part anthology, which premiered at the 2024 Busan International Film Festival. We also supported the production of *My Sweet Pala* and *Next Life*, films about Tibetan families in the U.S.

Twenty young Tibetans in Ladakh, India, attended a summer filmmaking course to learn basic scriptwriting, direction, sound mixing, editing, and post-production. Led by Tibetan filmmakers, the course culminated in two student films, *The Last Nomad* and *That Morning*, which were screened at Tibetan Children's Village in Leh.

A collective of contemporary Tibetan painters organized an exhibit showcasing the work of 15 emerging artists in Dharamsala. The collective also organized a series of art workshops at nearby Tibetan schools, culminating in an exhibit of 50 student paintings at the Kangra Art Museum.

A weeklong residency for young Tibetan writers in India was led by an award-winning Tibetan author from Canada. The residency offered an immersive exploration of plot and narrative development, character building, and creative storytelling. We also supported a reading retreat for Tibetan youth, and publication of two new books of poetry.

Sustaining Traditions

Rare cultural resources were digitized for preservation and public access. More than 476,000 pages of documents and 50 out-of-print publications were digitized, and 20 traditional performances were video recorded. More than 100 oral history interviews with Tibetan elders were completed, generating over 450 hours of recordings. A field study on the ancient *Lingdrung* tradition was conducted, and a new Tibetan opera performance manual was completed and distributed to cultural institutions in India and Nepal.

Tibet's centuries-old performing arts traditions were strengthened. 43 youth received training to perform traditional songs, dances, and *Ache Lhamo*, the age-old tradition of Tibetan opera. New performance costumes and instruments were provided to schools and community cultural associations, and a weeklong opera festival was held in Dharamsala, where performers from India, Nepal, and the U.S. gathered to perform for thousands of attendees.

Traditional artists, artisans, and practitioners received support for more than 40 small-scale cultural initiatives in India and Nepal, including online language tutorials, translations, children's books, and a study of physiology in *Soma Rigpa*. A cultural festival in Delhi featured





performances, seminars, and film screenings, and showcased traditional Tibetan art including *thangka* paintings, attire, stone craft, musical instruments, and sand mandalas.

Exhibits at the Tibet Museum in Dharamsala attracted

over 2,500 visitors, and curation work began for a new museum at the Dalai Lama Centre for Tibetan and Indian Ancient Wisdom in Bodh Gaya. A multilingual handbook featuring 108 quotations from His Holiness the Dalai Lama's teachings was published, and technology was upgraded at the Dalai Lama Library and Archive.





A Young Voice Strengthening Tibetan Language and Identity

At just 11 years old, Rangdol discovered the power of storytelling as a means to celebrate his Tibetan heritage. Born to a father who fled to India from Tibet and raised in a household where Tibetan identity was deeply cherished, he developed a profound love for Tibetan language and literature. Yet, he observed a concerning gap. With few Tibetan comic books available, children like him naturally gravitated toward English books.

Encouraged by his father and fuelled by his love for reading, Rangdol translated 11 children's stories and 25 tales of Suppandi, a beloved Indian comic character,

into Tibetan during the pandemic. He didn't stop at translation, and created his own illustrations for each story, making them more engaging for young readers. When copies were shared with a small group of his peers, the response was positive.

Inspired by this enthusiasm, Rangdol's father was determined to share his son's work with a wider audience. With support from The Tibet Fund, they published five collections of stories and distributed more than 2,500 copies across Tibetan settlements in India, Nepal, the U.S., Australia, Switzerland, and Belgium.

What began as a young boy's passion has grown into a cultural preservation initiative, empowering Tibetan children to embrace their language, identity and creativity. As his books reach new readers, Rangdol's work continues to inspire children across the Tibetan exile community.



On his 14th birthday, Rangdol donated two sets of his books to his former kindergarten and they became part of the school library. Reflecting on his impact, the kindergarten teacher shared her appreciation: "What makes this donation truly special is that these books were both authored and illustrated by Rangdol himself. Seeing a former student achieve such creative success sets a powerful example, inspiring other children to believe that they, too, can pursue their dreams."



Creating Space for Innovation **Tenzin Geche's Journey in Tibetan AI**

Tenzin Geche's fascination with technology began early in life. While studying science, he was drawn to computers not just as tools but as a way to create, innovate, and eventually give back to his community. This passion led him to pursue a degree in computer engineering, where he went beyond textbooks, enrolling in additional courses and designing websites.

In his third year, instead of taking a corporate internship in Chandigarh, Geche chose to intern at the Tibetan Computer Resource Center at the Central Tibetan Administration. There, he developed a digital archive for the Tibet Museum—his first opportunity to use technology in service of his community.

As Geche's skills developed, he began to see the lack of opportunities to apply them within the Tibetan context. He also noticed the absence of Tibetan role models in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning. That changed when he came across the pioneering work of Geshe Monlam and Monlam AI. Turning down a corporate job offer, Geche joined Monlam AI as a

machine learning engineer, working on Tibetan speech-to-text and text-to-speech tools and machine translation models.

What motivates Geche most is the chance to apply his tech skills directly to Tibetan language and culture preservation. He has also found a community of young Tibetan tech professionals and strong mentorship from global experts, including researchers from UC Berkeley. Today, Monlam AI employs more than 20 Tibetan staff and conducts internship programs that have created meaningful opportunities for over 300 monks, nuns, graduates, and unemployed youth across the Tibetan exile community.

"At Monlam, ideas don't just stay ideas. They're nurtured into impact. It's a space where Tibetan talent can return home and shape the future of our language and culture through technology. In a small community like ours, that space is everything."

Much of this has been made possible with support from The Tibet Fund. By investing in Monlam AI, we are not only preserving language and culture through Tibetan technology, but empowering a new generation of Tibetan engineers and developers, and nurturing a community where young talents like Geche can grow and lead.

STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOODS

We work to increase income, employment, and self-reliance for Tibetans in India and Nepal, in particular vulnerable women. We support microentrepreneurs, unemployed youth, and farming households with microloans, business development services, vocational skills training, and agriculture development. Key partners are the Central Tibetan Administration, U.S. Government, Hope and Challenge, Drokpo, Lha Charitable Trust, Lodrik Welfare Fund, and Tibetan Medical and Astrological Institute.

Our livelihood programs focused on three strategies in 2024: microenterprise development, vocational skills training, and agriculture development. 624 microentrepreneurs received access to finance, savings, training, equipment, and marketing support. 458 unemployed youth received job-focused skills training, internships, and placement support. 877 farmers received assistance to improve crop productivity and income, and our initiative to cultivate medicinal plants on settlement farms continued to make steady progress. A new initiative was launched to develop sustainable tourism in rural settlements, beginning with a strategic road map and *Neykor*, a multilingual app with information on settlement monasteries.

Microenterprise Development

The Tibetan Women Microentrepreneurship Program supported 89 vulnerable women in India and Nepal to grow their businesses. Participants included street vendors, small restaurant owners, and artisans producing *thangka* paintings, prayer flags, and traditional textiles. Women received seed funds and training to develop business plans, improve product quality, and use digital platforms to reach new customers. In Ladakh and Nepal, women's groups received training in tailoring and improved the quality and design of traditional dresses, rugs, and nomad textiles. In Dehradun, women received hands-on mentoring to grow their businesses, including





assistance with branding, digital marketing, and product packaging.

The Community Managed Revolving Fund Program provides microloans, basic business training, and financial literacy to Tibetan microenterprises in South Asia. In 2024, the program expanded to Ladakh, India, building on successful implementation across twelve settlements in Nepal. 504 microenterprises received low-interest loans, pooled their savings, and managed their own loan repayments. Of these, 308 were led by vulnerable women. Designed by The Tibet Fund in 2017, this program promotes financial inclusion and women empowerment in underserved communities, and continues to maintain repayment rates above 95 percent.

Vocational Skills Training

We provided vocational skills training to 458 Tibetan youth in India and Nepal. Trainees attended long

and short-term courses in vocations including food production, hairdressing, electronics repair, sound engineering, and information technology. Digital skills courses included cloud computing, full-stack application development, digital marketing, and graphic design. Digital skills training was paired with employability coaching and internships leading to entry-level jobs at Amazon Web Services and tech companies in Bangalore, India's leading IT hub.

We supported Lha Charitable Trust to provide vocational training to unemployed youth in India, especially those without school diplomas, including former monks and nuns. 109 participants received skills training in baking, barista, nail art, yoga teacher training, wood carving, and carpentry courses. Industry talks introduced participants to small-scale business development and growth strategies. In Nepal, we assisted 22 youth to enroll in training programs of their own choice, including baking, barista, cinematography, spa therapy, and tattoo art.



Agriculture Development

877 farmers in India and Nepal received support to increase their crop productivity and income. Past investments in high-value citrus farming began to bear fruit, and cultivation of medicinal plants expanded.

In India, farmers received training in modern farming practices, soil treatment, cash crop inputs, and extension services. Soil testing was conducted for over 1,000 acres, resulting in customized treatment plans for 347 farmers across eight settlements. Citrus farmers began selling produce from more than 80 acres of orange, lemon, and grapefruit orchards across Bylakuppe, Hunsur, and Kollegal settlements.

We supported medicinal plant cultivation in three settlements with the goal of linking farmers to markets for the ingredients used in traditional Tibetan *Sorig* and Ayurvedic medicines. Farmers in Himachal, Karnataka, Ladakh, Mainpat, and Odisha grew 14 varieties of native medicinal herbs and plants, with supervision from specialists at the Tibetan Medical and Astrological Institute.



In Nepal, Tserok farmers received mini-tillers and support for apple orchard maintenance, and Jampaling farming households earned income from vegetable sales. Dhorpatan farmers received tools to improve potato and oat cultivation and greenhouse upkeep. In Delekling, farming households harvested 1,600 kilograms of potatoes and received supplies for greenhouse installation and kitchen gardening.

Community Matching Grants

The Settlement Matching Grants Program encourages Tibetans living overseas to support their original refugee settlements in India and Nepal. Funds raised by Tibetans in the West are matched by The Tibet Fund and Central Tibetan Administration. In 2024, ten matching grants were awarded to enhance settlement quality of life through construction and renovation of daycare centers, elder homes, community centers, footpaths, a footbridge and a settlement boundary wall. Participating settlements were Ladakh Sonamling, Sikkim Ravangla, Miao Choepelling, Bylakuppe Dekyi Larsoe, Bir Chaurtra and Hunsur Rabgayling.





Reviving Norzinling A Settlement Reborn

Years of economic struggle and poor harvests forced many residents of Norzinling Tibetan settlement in Dhorpatan, a remote region in western Nepal's Baglung district, to leave in search of better opportunities in nearby towns and cities. Those who stayed behind continued to farm under increasingly difficult conditions. By 2019, the number of households had dropped from 41 to just 16, putting the future of the settlement and the strength of its community at risk.

While those who left worked to rebuild their lives elsewhere, those who remained faced shortages of both labor and resources. Potato farming, once the settlement's backbone, was reduced to a small portion of the available land. Wild boars frequently damaged crops, leaving farmers to spend sleepless nights guarding their fields.

From 2019-24, The Tibet Fund stepped in to help bring Norzinling back to life. The first step was fencing the farmland, a basic but critical need. Farmers received seeds, fertilizers, and modern tools like mini tillers and grass trimmers to boost their capacity. Training followed, introducing them to improved vegetable farming practices and greenhouse cultivation. Kitchen gardens and livestock were added to diversify food and income sources. Abandoned plots left behind by those who had migrated were put to use through collective farming.

With their land protected and better tools in hand, Norzinling's farmers began to see change. Greenhouses now provide fresh vegetables year-round and a steady source of income, even through the cold months. Kitchen gardens and livestock keep households self-sufficient and contribute to local markets. Most encouraging of all, families have gradually begun returning to the settlement, drawn by the possibility of a sustainable future and the quiet strength of a community rebuilding itself, one step at a time.



BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Our health programs save lives, reduce morbidity, and strengthen community health systems. We support TB and Hepatitis prevention, maternal and child health, safe drinking water and sanitation, and essential care for the most vulnerable community members. Key partners are the Central Tibetan Administration, U.S. Government, Altruism in Action, Tibetan Cancer Society, Tibet Heart Foundation, Shenphen Charitable Trust, Snow Lion Foundation, and Tibetan Medical and Astrological Institute.

More than 68,000 Tibetans in India and Nepal benefited from improved health care with our support in 2024. All received access to affordable primary care and preventive health education, 25,340 received insurance coverage for secondary and tertiary care, and more than 920 were treated or protected against life-threatening infectious diseases. More than 5,950 women and children benefited from maternal, child, and adolescent health services, over 4,900 settlement residents gained better access to clean water and sanitation, and more than 2,500 of the most vulnerable refugees received basic subsistence allowances, free medical care and rehabilitation support.

Fighting Communicable Diseases

We continued fighting Tuberculosis (TB) and Hepatitis B, the two most prevalent life-threatening diseases among Tibetans. Active TB case finding was conducted in schools and monasteries for more than 11,550 students, monks, and nuns. Presumptive cases received diagnostic services including X-rays, sputum smears, and GeneXpert testing for rapid and accurate diagnosis. Positive cases received treatment, diagnostics, and nutritional support, and multi-drug resistant patients received second-line medication and targeted care.





3,448 individuals were screened for Hepatitis B, of which 3 percent were found to be infected. Positive cases received consultations, viral load testing, and antiviral medication, while negative cases were vaccinated. Children under five were immunized, and newborns of Hepatitis B-positive mothers received immunoglobulin to prevent mother-to-child transmission.

Preventing Waterborne Diseases

To combat the spread of waterborne diseases, safe water and sanitation facilities were constructed and repaired in settlements, schools, and elder homes. Working with multiple partners, we improved water supply systems, toilets, and drainage infrastructure for more than 4,900 Tibetans in India and Nepal. In remote nomad camps and at Bon Monastery in Ladakh, new solar bathing rooms, borewells, water pumps, and modern toilet and bathing facilities were installed, improving hygiene conditions for residents in these underserved areas.

Reproductive and Child Health

Pregnant women and newborns received essential services including lab tests, safe delivery assistance, micronutrient supplements, and postnatal care. More than 530 pregnant women in India and Nepal accessed





comprehensive antenatal and postnatal services, and 145 children aged 1–3 received dietary supplements to combat malnutrition. Reproductive health awareness campaigns reached more than 1,450 women and girls with sessions on menstrual hygiene, pregnancy, and adolescent health.

Caring for Vulnerable Elders

More than 3,600 vulnerable elders across 31 settlements benefited from improved elder care. Disadvantaged elders in elder homes received shelter, food, and medical care, while those living alone received medical support, housing allowances, and subsistence assistance. New guidelines were introduced to ensure that elders living alone receive regular bi-weekly nurse visits and monthly doctor consultations, and elder homes were upgraded with side railings, improved water and sewage systems, and structural renovations.

2,898 elders were vaccinated to protect against pneumonia, and 264 received flu vaccinations. More than 180 disabled elders received mobility aids such as walking canes and wheelchairs, and more than 500 diabetic elders received blood sugar testing and treatment.

Essential Community Services

68,114 Tibetans received access to affordable health care in India and Nepal through a network of 47 settlement

clinics and hospitals managed by the Central Tibetan Administration and Snow Lion Foundation. These facilities provided essential primary and preventive services, inpatient care, and specialist referrals. Community outreach nurses made home visits to over 10,960 households, where they conducted health check-ups, facilitated referrals, and delivered health education messages, with a focus on elders, pregnant women, and individuals with chronic, infectious, or mental health conditions.





25,340 Tibetans received hospitalization insurance for secondary and tertiary care through the Tibetan Medicare System. 1,228 of the most vulnerable community members—including persons with disabilities, HIV patients, individuals with leprosy or epilepsy, recovering substance abuse patients, and economically disadvantaged elders—received free medical care and rehabilitation support. Telemedicine services were expanded to two additional remote settlements, enabling over 300 patients in five settlements to consult multispecialty doctors online. Eye health camps were conducted in six settlements, where more than 900 Tibetans were screened and 93 received cataract and pterygium surgeries.

Mental health awareness and support services continued to expand. Awareness sessions were held in schools and settlements to reduce stigma, and outdoor therapy sessions were organized for patients and their families. Mental health patients received teleconsultations with qualified psychiatrists, and community nurses provided follow-up counseling, including telepsychiatry for patients in remote settlements.

Grassroots Health Initiatives

We supported six grassroots initiatives addressing community health challenges in 2024, led by local organizations under our Civil Society Empowerment Program. Awareness and screening camps for cancer

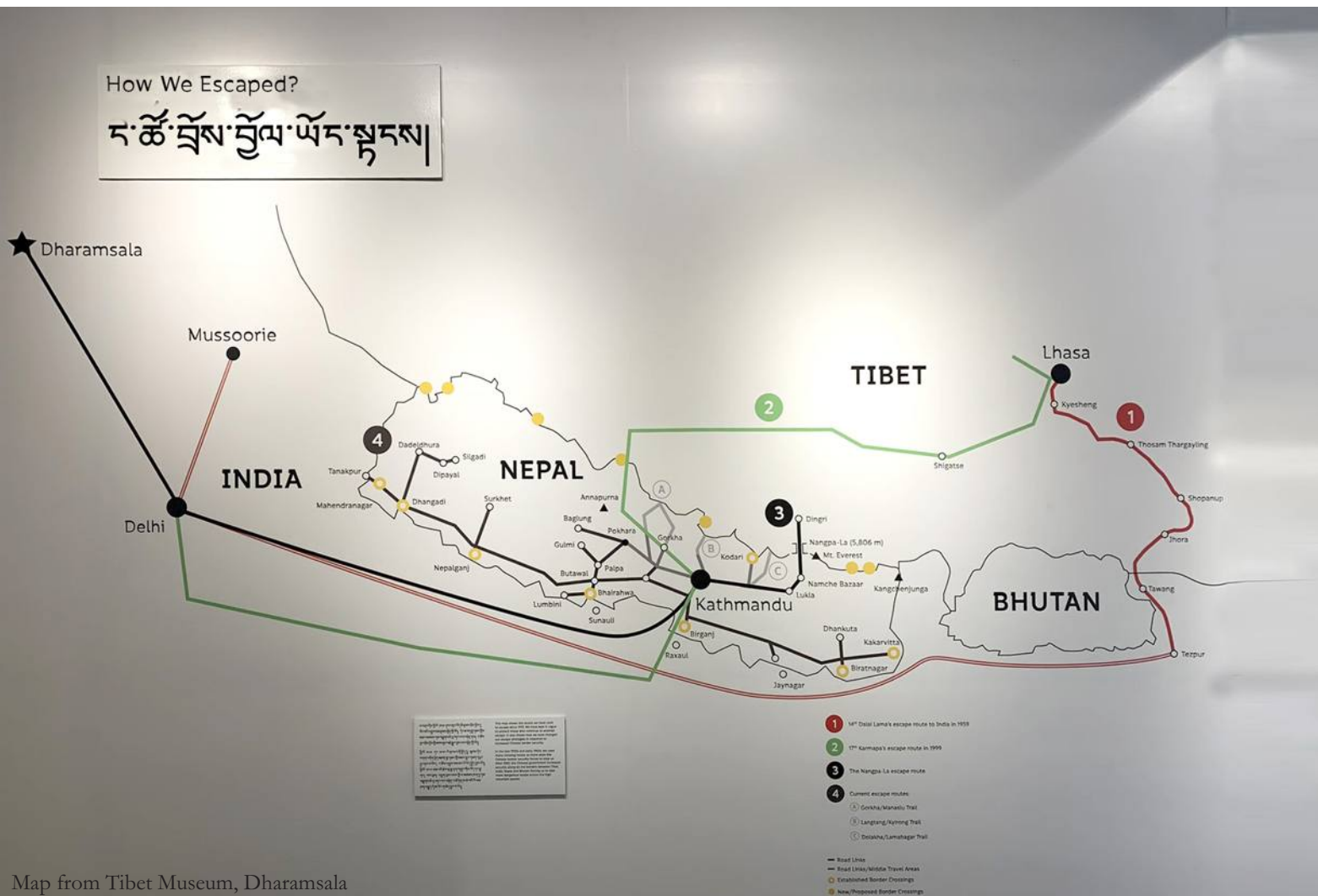
and heart disease reached more than 2,000 Tibetans in settlements and scattered communities, and 59 Hepatitis B patients in Ladakh received diagnostic services and antiviral treatment. More than 880 patients visiting Delhi, Mysore, and Hubli from rural settlements received assistance with hospital appointments and specialist consultations, as well as food and accommodation when undergoing treatment. In Doeguling settlement in Mundgod a community fair engaged more than 1,000 residents through medical check-ups, a marathon race, basketball matches, and health education sessions.



REHABILITATING NEW REFUGEES

The Tibet Fund assists new refugees from Tibet to lead healthy, dignified lives in exile. Since 1991, in collaboration with the Central Tibetan Administration, U.S. State Department, and UNHCR, our humanitarian aid has facilitated safe passage and documentation for tens of thousands of Tibetans arriving in India via Nepal, providing them with food, shelter, clothing, counseling, and essential medical care. Legal protection and access to education at Tibetan schools, monasteries, and nunneries equip them with the tools to rebuild their lives, and additional financial and psychosocial support is provided to former political prisoners, torture victims, and refugees with post-traumatic stress disorder.

In 2024, 25 new refugees received assistance at two reception centers managed by the Central Tibetan Administration in Delhi and Dharamsala. Due to increased border security and harsh punishments for those caught escaping, the number of refugees has declined significantly over the past decade. New refugees received check-ups and tests for infectious diseases, and had the opportunity to have an audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama. All received opportunities to attend schools, monasteries, or nunneries of their choosing, and reported feeling safe and secure after arriving in India.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Annual Gala

The Tibet Fund hosted its 14th annual gala at Chef Eric Ripert's renowned Le Bernardin Prive restaurant in New York. Richard and Alejandra Gere co-chaired the event, which honored Bobby Sager, Daniel Goleman, and Geshe Lobsang Tenzin Negi. Grammy nominee Tenzin Choegyal performed with the Scorchio Quartet, and more than 150 guests attended.



Board Member Visit

Nina Schroeder, a Board member of The Tibet Fund, visited Dharamsala in April and met with several of our civil society partners including Lha Charitable Trust, Manjushri Educational Services, TibetWrites, Drung, and Khadhok. She also engaged with beneficiaries and concluded her visit with a meeting with the field office team to discuss future plans.



Tibetan Youth Summer Immersion Program

Forty Tibetan high school and college students from the U.S., Canada and Europe traveled to India for a month-long cultural program during their summer vacation. The annual program offers an immersive experience in Tibetan culture, history and language at the Center for Higher Tibetan Studies near Dharamsala.



Spirit of Tibet: Celebrating Culture and Compassion

In September, a three-day festival in Delhi celebrated Tibetan culture and compassion, showcasing traditions, spirituality, and life in exile. The event featured seminars, performances, and discussions on Tibetan medicine, Buddhism, and the Dalai Lama's global impact. Film screenings, art exhibits, workshops, and stalls created an immersive cultural experience.



SEE Learning Workshops

Three workshops were organized for Tibetan teachers, parents, and youth at Tibetan community centers in the U.S. Inspired by the Dalai Lama, Social, Emotional, and Ethical (SEE) Learning fosters compassion and mindfulness in education. Workshops were led by Geshe Lobsang Tenzin Negi and other experts from Emory University.



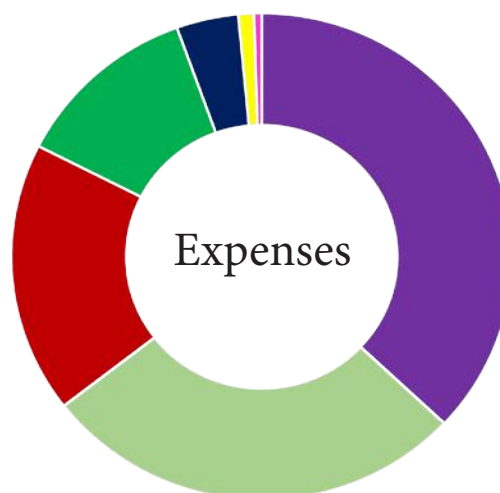
Tibetan Artists Festival: Literature and Music

In November, a three-day festival in Dharamsala brought together artists, writers, and musicians to celebrate Tibetan arts and spark dialogue. The event featured music performances and panel discussions, showcased creative collaboration between traditional and contemporary artists, and addressed opportunities and challenges facing the Tibetan artist community.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF EXPENSES

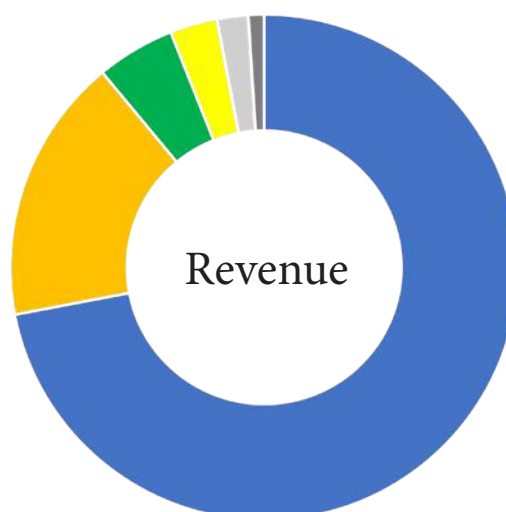
Program Services	Total
Safeguarding Cultural Heritage	\$3,785,511
Educating the Next Generation	\$2,907,946
Building Healthy Communities	\$2,022,984
Livelihoods and Community Empowerment	\$3,236,550
Humanitarian Aid	\$462,987
Supporting Services	
Management and Operating	\$747,039
Fundraising	\$97,167
Total Expenses	\$13,260,184



- Safeguarding Cultural Heritage 29%
- Educating the Next Generation 22%
- Livelihoods and Community Empowerment 24%
- Building Healthy Communities 15%
- Humanitarian Aid 3%
- Management and Operations 6%
- Fundraising 1%

STATEMENT OF REVENUE

Public Support and Revenue	Total
U.S. Federal Grants	\$9,480,765
Contributions - Restricted	\$6,936,394
Contributions - Unrestricted	\$309,148
Private Events	\$320,339
Other Revenue	
Investment Income and Interest	\$618,928
Rental Income	\$91,068
Total Revenue	\$17,756,642



- U.S. Federal Grants 72%
- Contributions - Restricted 17%
- Contributions - Unrestricted 3%
- Private Events 2%
- Investment Income 5%
- Rental Income 1%

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Our Sponsorship Program supports hundreds of vulnerable Tibetan refugees living in schools, monasteries, nunneries, and elder homes across India and Nepal. Your sponsorship helps provide nutritious meals, basic necessities, healthcare, and education to children, monks, nuns, and elders.

In 2024, thanks to the generosity of our donors, The Tibet Fund supported 864 individuals across more than 80 partner institutions. Sponsorships benefited 182 monks, 137 nuns, 420 school children, 52 children with disabilities, 57 elders, and 16 performing arts students.

We invite you to form a meaningful bond that will bring joy and connection to your life. As a sponsor, you'll receive updates, progress reports, and personal letters from your sponsored child, monk, nun, or elder. We ensure that sponsors stay connected with their beneficiaries and are informed about their well-being every step of the way.

🔗 For more information, please visit
www.tibetfund.org/sponsorships

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Atisha Primary School
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STS Kalimpong
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STS Miao
STS Mundgod
STS Mussoorie
STS Nainital
STS Paonta Sahib
STS Puruwala
STS Ravangla
STS Shillong
STS Shimla
STS Sonada
STS Tenzingaoon
STS Tezu
TCV SOS Bylakuppe

TCV Chauntra
TCV Dharamsala
Lower
TCV Dharamsala
Upper
TCV Selakui
TCV SOS Bylakuppe
TCV SOS Ladakh
TCV Suja
Tibetan Homes
Foundation
Tibetan Institute of
Performing Arts
Tibetan Medical and
Astrological Institute
Yongling Creche and
Kindergarten

Monasteries

Chuwar
Drepung Losel Ling

Drepung Gomang
Dzongkar Choede
Gaden Jangtse
Gosok Rinzin Phodang
Gyudmed Tantric
Gyuto Tantric
Institute of Buddhist
Dialectics
Kirti
Samtenling
Sera Jey
Sera Mey
Sera Mey Thoesam
Sera Mey Tsangpa
Shalu
Tashi Lhunpo

Nunneries

Dolma Ling
Geden Choeling
Jamyang Choling

Jangchub Choeling
Keydong Thukche
Choeling
Khari
Ladakh Nuns
Association
Namdroling
Sakya Rinchen Choeling
Samtenling
Shugseb
Tilokpur
Tsogyal Shedupling
Thekchok Namdoling

Elder Homes

Dhondenling Old
People's Home
Jawalakhel Elders
Home
Tsering Elders Home

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How You Can Make a Difference

Your contribution—big or small—will make a lasting impact.
Please consider donating in one of the following ways.

General Donations

General donations contribute to the long-term sustainability of The Tibet Fund and our core initiatives.

Specific Programs

You can direct your donation to specific programs, ensuring your support goes to the initiatives that matter most to you.

Legacy Giving

Remember us in your will. Your planned gift will have a lasting impact on the survival of Tibet's rich cultural heritage and uplift a community of vulnerable refugees.

Monthly Donations

Please consider becoming a monthly donor, allowing you to support The Tibet Fund with a schedule that best aligns with your giving preferences.

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For more information, please contact
Bob Ankerson at (212) 213-5011 or
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The Tibet Fund's mission is to preserve the distinct cultural identity of the Tibetan people. Founded in 1981 under the patronage of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, The Tibet Fund is the leading nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening Tibetan communities and safeguarding Tibet's cultural heritage, both in exile and inside Tibet.

The Tibet Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization registered in New York State.
All donations to The Tibet Fund are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.
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