



ANNUAL REPORT

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FIGHTING APATHY

Nothing really has changed that much, either in Tibet or for the Tibetans in exile. Yet with every passing year, I sense us fading slowly away from global consciousness - to the point of people just not caring - or not caring enough to do anything about it.

I think I understand, I really do. People here, like anywhere else in the world have their own problems to solve, their own lives to lead and even their own causes to fight for. Sometimes in winters of Montana, people struggle just to cope with the cold and gloom around them - and at such times who can blame

anyone for not having Tibet on their minds.

But if you are a Tibetan or work for Tibet, our very life's work is to make Tibet and the issues of the Tibetan people alive and relevant. Tibet is not the first country to lose its independence and it probably won't be the last. But we did lose it at a really bad time. When many countries were waking up to freedom and democracy, we plunged into the gloom of occupation and exile.

No matter how gloomy the situation looks, as a Tibetan, we don't even have the right to give up. Somehow, we have to fight this growing global

apathy and our own pessimism! We have to find ways to educate our children and preserve our culture, till a time comes when the winds change. And, we have to really believe that it will.

In this desert of apathy, the TCEF circle of sponsors and supporters have been an oasis of hope and comfort. Your support not only educates children or comforts elders, you give us hope and send us a message that people still do care. Thank you so much for this hope.

Karma Tensum
Executive Director

TCEF MISSION

TCEF dedicates itself to the preservation of the Tibetan culture through education and assistance, raising awareness of the culture, and by empowering Tibetans to carry out these goals. More information on TCEF philosophy and mission is available at: www.TibetChild.org.

PROGRAM SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014

ZANSKAR SERVICE TRIP

Members of the TCEF 2014 Service Trip to Zanskar returned mid July after an amazing 42 days. The team learned a lot about the needs of the area particularly in education, healthcare and the critical needs of preserving a very rich culture.

We held a medical camp in Anmu village where we also built a room onto an existing teahouse to serve as a dispensary and medical education center. The team purchased both traditional and western medicines, first aid supplies and left the infirmary well stocked.

The team met and worked with many of the Amchis, or local healers from the Lungnak Valley and developed an understanding of the dilemma that they face in preserving the rich tradition of Amchi medicine.



The highlight of the trip was an audience with HH The Dalai Lama. He thanked TCEF for the work we have done to benefit the Tibetan people. He then said, "if the Chinese policy in Tibet continues, Zanskar will be the last authentic Buddhist culture to survive and YOU must continue to work here"

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION PROJECT

The most important phase of this project - giving training to Tibetan teachers to help students acquire English faster concluded successfully this year. In April, Sara Buckerfield traveled to Dharamsala to conduct an amazing workshop for 25 Tibetan teachers who taught English at the middle school level.

The workshop was an enormous success. Sara herself described it as "a high point in my educational and personal journey." The Education Secretary of the Tibetan Govt. in exile e mailed to thank us for this great workshop. But most importantly the feed back from the teachers who attended the workshop was amazing.



Dorjee Youdon (2nd row, right - below), one of the teachers who attended the training wrote to Sara to say:

As soon as I got back from the workshop I assigned permanent partners. At first I was a bit confused about the pairing but I figured it out and all is working well. Students are excited about the new change. I also let them make a vocabulary notebook. We add a new word to it everyday. I let them write down the meaning and make sentence and I also ask them to draw a picture related to that word. It was such a joy to check their notebooks because some of the pictures were hilarious. All in all just saying that whatever I learned from the workshop was a great hit. I want to thank you for your hard work and dedication towards this project. I learned so much and I think I am better teacher because of that.



This project was possible with a generous grant from Ann Down and the Good Works Institute, Sun Valley, ID and the collaboration of the Tibetan Department of Education, Dharamsala, N India. Special thanks to Sara Buckerfield for traveling all the way to Dharamsala, India to train the teachers.

TIBETAN NEHRU MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SCHOOL LIBRARY PROJECT

The children at Kyitsel-ling attend the Tibetan school at Clement Town called the Tibetan Nehru Memorial Foundation School (TNMFS). In the Fall of 2013, Sara Buckerfield and TCEF program manager Valerie Hellermann visited several Tibetan schools in exile in preparation for the English Acquisition Project. Following their visits, Sara submitted a consultant's report that identified TNMFS as really lacking in library books. This year TCEF funded the purchase of much needed books for this school.



Special thanks to TCEF sponsors Tshering Doma Shakya and Nancy Copeland Payton for their help with this project

SPONSORSHIP OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

This is one of our oldest and most successful programs to date. We continue to believe that education is key to transforming the lives of Tibetans in exile and work to connect interested sponsors with children that need help. This year we found over fifty new sponsors for children's education.



Special thanks to Jennifer Prugh and her circle of friends for many new sponsorships.



SPONSORSHIP OF COLLEGE EDUCATION

Our college sponsorship is still in its infancy, but it took big strides this year. We were able to find sponsors for all six Kyitsel-ling students who graduated school in 2014. Our support for Lhamo the Tibetan student at Carroll College continued and culminated in her graduation with a major in International Business.

Special thanks to Jill Paley for her donation & matching grant that helped Lhamo graduate

SPONSORSHIP OF TIBETAN ELDERS

TCEF continued our support for Tibetan elders in need. We received messages from our elders testifying how the sponsorships are touching their lives. We also received messages and encouragements from our sponsors. Here is a message from Linda Andreassen, long time sponsor of a Tibetan grandma that inspired us this year and helped us to feel good about the work that we do:

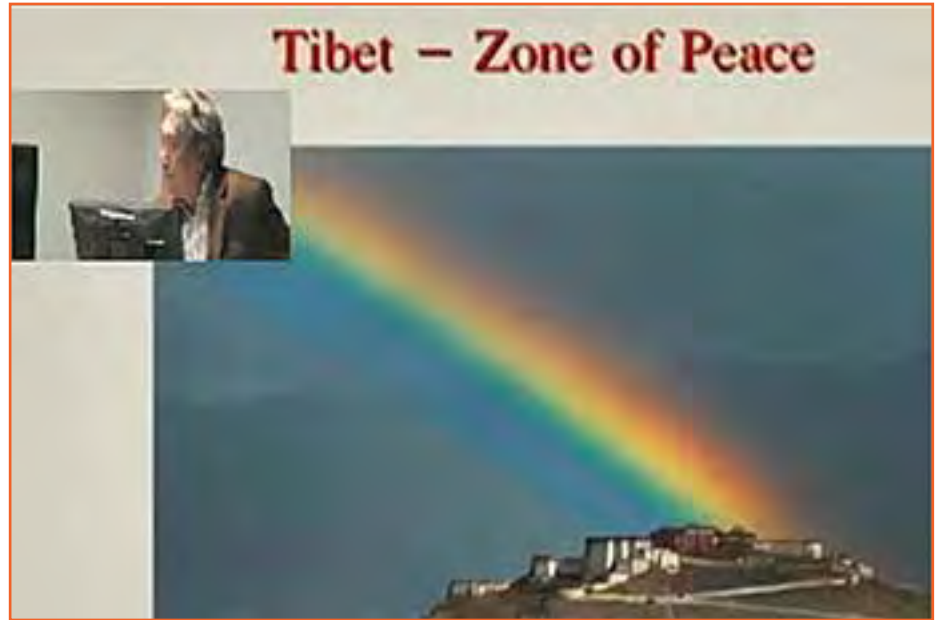
Thank you TCEF for making it possible for sponsors and Tibetans to join together and do this cultural exchange. Please understand that by no means is TCEF a one way aid organization. Over the years, I have learned and received a lot of wisdom and compassion from my Tibetan brothers and sisters, and my life would have been so much poorer and lost without Buddhism. So please remember that most of all, TCEF is an organization for cultural exchange for both sponsors and receivers.



The Elders Sponsorship program touches the lives of about one hundred Tibetans. Grandma Donkar is one of them. Here's what she has to say about this program helping her: <https://vimeo.com/117513187>

RAISING AWARENESS OF TIBETAN CULTURE

TCEF has undertaken seven major tours with various Tibetan cultural ambassadors to raise awareness of Tibetan culture here in the West. This year Executive Director Karma Tensum was invited by Montana World Affairs to address the Council in the classrooms. His talk on the Best Hopes and Worst Fears of Tibetan culture is now available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMXBSD78ofw>



2014 TCEF PROGRAM IMPACTS

SERVICE TRIP TO ZANSKAR: Over 50 villagers from Anmu village were helped at a medical camp. The temporary dispensary/medical education center has the potential to benefit thousands of villagers in that remote location

ENGLISH ACQUISITION PROJECT: 25 Tibetan teachers received training in best practices of English Acquisition

SPONSORSHIP OF SCHOOL EDUCATION: 150 Tibetan students in exile were able to have school education this year with TCEF's sponsorship program

SPONSORSHIP OF COLLEGE EDUCATION: Lhamo graduated Carroll College, Helena, MT with a major in International Business.

Eight Tibetan students received another year of college education through this program

SPONSORSHIP OF TIBETAN ELDERS: Nearly one hundred Tibetan elders received sponsorship funds that helped to provide comfort and dignity in their old age. For some elders, these sponsorship funds are the ONLY means of support. In videos sent from India, the elders offer prayers and gratitude and openly express what a lifeline the sponsorship funds are to them.

YUKSOM MONASTERY LUNCH PROGRAM: 30 monks at this monastery received wholesome lunch for the year through this program.

Our gratitude and thanks to the following Tibetan sponsorship and program partners in India. All our programs in India are possible only with their collaboration and support:

Kyitsel-ling Tibetan Children's Education Center, Clement Town, N India

The Tibetan Department of Education, Dharamsala, N India

Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society, Dharamsala, N India

Lama Paljor & Sukhavati Educational Hostel, Sikkim, NE India

Gu Chu Sum Movement of Tibet, Dharamsala, India

ANNUAL TCEF FUNDRAISER - BOLLYWOOD 2014



TCEF continued with its vision of doing an annual Helena fundraiser. This year we celebrated the popular Indian culture of dance and music with a very successful Bollywood Night fundraiser. We're grateful to Prashant Kakad and his

team of dancers from Bollywood Dreams that drove all the way from Portland to make this event fun and memorable. Among the host of follow up face book posts, one said that this was the most 'fun fundraiser ever!'

This event was also very encouraging for TCEF because of the support from the local business and community. Over 30 Helena businesses extended some form of support.

Special thanks to the following event sponsors:

US Bank, Shanti Boutique, Feathered Pipe Ranch, Search Widens, Asia Garden Restaurant (Butte), Agee Outfitting, Blackfoot River Brewing Company, Real Food Market & Deli

FINANCIALS 2014

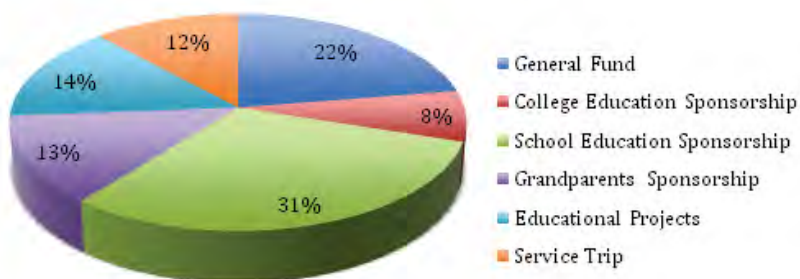
TCEF had another good financial year - thanks mainly to the success of the annual Helena fundraiser and the generous grant from the Good Works Institute for the English Acquisition Project.

Income to our general fund comes from this annual fundraiser and unrestricted donations

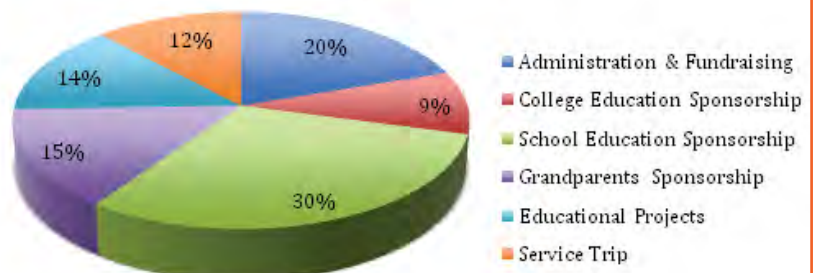
Thanks to the amazing dedication and commitment of our sponsors, our sponsorship programs continued to grow this year.

Our major Educational Project this year was the training of Tibetan teachers in best practices of English Acquisition. Other projects under this heading included the Library Books for TNMF School, Clement Town and projects with Lama Paljor in Sikkim.

TCEF Income 2014



TCEF Expenses 2014



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2015

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS - LIVING MANDALA EXHIBITION

In 2015 we will be celebrating 20 years of service. We're planning a Tibetan cultural exhibition at the Holter Museum, Helena around a Living Mandala presentation and the theme of Healing in the

Tibetan culture. Our very best hope is to have Dr.Lobsang Sangay the Sikyong or the political leader of the Tibetans in exile with us for the celebrations.



HOW YOU CAN HELP IN 2015

EXPAND COLLEGE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

TCEF is excited to see the investment in school education over many years of sponsorships translate into college education

and jobs for Tibetan students. The current trend seems to be Nursing but Tibetans in exile have reached the stage where they are now

entering the mainstream Indian job market as professionals. In 2015, we would like to continue expanding this program with at least 5 more college sponsorships. Please consider sponsoring the college education of a needy and deserving Tibetan student. While it costs thousands of dollars here to send someone to college, you can help a Tibetan student through TCEF for as less as \$100 a month!



100 NEW SPONSORS TO SUPPORT EDUCATION OF TIBETAN CHILDREN

To truly celebrate our 20th year of founding, we hope to embark on our largest sponsorship drive. In 2015, we will aim to find 100 new sponsors to support the education of Tibetan children in exile. Join our efforts to educate Tibetan children knowing that this, more than anything else, will change their lives. For \$45 a month, you can transform someone's life!

KEEP TIBET ALIVE: SHARE ANYTHING TIBETAN ON FACE BOOK

TCEF plans to share Tibetan culture and Tibetan issues on Face book. We invite everyone associated with TCEF to help keep Tibet and Tibetans in people's consciousness by commenting, liking and sharing these posts.





DO SOMETHING FOR TIBET

Keep Tibet and Tibetans in your heart. Your support does not have to be through TCEF. Do whatever you can to help. If you are a student with less in your pockets and more in your heart for activism, check out the federation for Students for a Free Tibet. Here's the website: <https://www.studentsforafreetibet.org/>

If you feel that you can make a bigger difference on a political or awareness platform, consider joining

the International Campaign for Tibet based out of Washington DC. You can find more information about getting involved at: <http://www.savetibet.org/>

Several factors may decide what Tibet organization you support. What is important to the Tibetans is that people in the West care. Let 2015 be a year when you cared for Tibet.

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KARMA TENSUM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

VALERIE HELLERMANN, PROJECT MANAGER

Aside from boxed acknowledgements, TCEF would like to thank all sponsors, donors and volunteers for their support in 2014. Donors and sponsors with contributions of \$1000 and more in 2014:

Otten Foundation, Bozeman, MT
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