

Tibetan Children's Education Foundation



CULTURE

EDUCATION

SERVICE

Annual Report 2019



The Inspiration of India Supera

For TCEF, this will go down as the year when we lost something really precious - our founder and inspiration, India Supera.

Her love for the culture and country of India is legendary, but, she also deeply cared for the welfare of the Tibetans, cared for it enough to found TCEF and then to sustain and support it for close to 25

Within the TCEF circle, there is no doubt that she was a huge inspiration and source of strength. At our meetings, she was front and center. Over the years, we must have raised scores of issues at our meetings, and it seemed like she always had something to say, some idea for fundraising, some suggestions to solve problems or to redress something not gone quite right.

Aside from her resourcefulness, I think that one of the reasons why we so admired her and why she was so inspirational is because of the simple purity of her intent. She only wanted to help and nothing beyond that. I've never known her to seek any name or recognition. When I gloss over our foundation photos, I'm struggling to find images of her with the children we helped or the elders we served.

During her last summer with us, my wife Gensang and I are grateful for the many opportunities her family gave us to visit and spend time with her. At these times, our prayers and focus were always on her health, and we hardly ever discussed TCEF. The only one time we did was to convey the good news of a bequeathal... and she smiled and advised me to do something big; a big project is what she said. I feel like we have our work cut out to achieve something BIG for TCEF!



With your help, in 2019 TCEF was able to achieve the following:

- Help educate 100 Tibetan, Himalayan and other needy students
- Offer scholarships to 6 college students
- Increase our Elder Sponsorship Program to now support over 100 Tibetan elders
- Procure funding and start the Kyitsel-ling Roofing Project that will benefit 80 students. Images from this project is part of this report.
- Complete the much needed repairs and renovations at TNMF School to impact 200 students. Images from this project is part of this report.
- Procure the needed funding to bring the internet and education technologies as a pilot project in one Tibetan school.
- Shared the Tibetan and Himalayan culture through the Footsteps of the Buddha Tour with members of the tour. A report on this tour is at: <https://www.tibetchild.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Report-for-TCEF-web-.pdf>
- Generated extra funds for the most needy of the elders on our program through the Prayer Flags to Benefit the Elders campaign. Images of this campaign follows in this report.

**TCEF BOARD
OF
DIRECTORS
AND
STAFF 2019**

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Dave Andersen
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SPECIAL PROJECT 2019

1. Repairs and Renovations at the Tibetan Nehru Memorial Foundation School: This project started in 2018 and was completed this year. Repairs and Renovations include: New flooring, improved lighting, addition of new display boards and repairs of all broken doors and windows in junior school classrooms. See images on page 5

Thank you again Jennifer Prugh and Breathe Together
Yoga for sponsoring this project

2. Kyitsel-ling Roofing Project: The hostel's drinking water storage tanks are on the roof. Also, the girls use the roof to dry their clothes. Monkeys are a constant threat to both! This project built a tin shed above the roof and then securing the whole area with iron mesh panels. The new space complete with new lighting and fans will also become a covered recreational area for the girls. See images on page 6.

Special gratitude to long-time TCEF sponsor Michael
Willing for sponsoring this project

3. Internet and Computers Project: We built on our fundraising efforts of the previous year and secured funding to implement this project in one school as a pilot project. This Spring, a TCEF team will travel to the program site to implement this project.

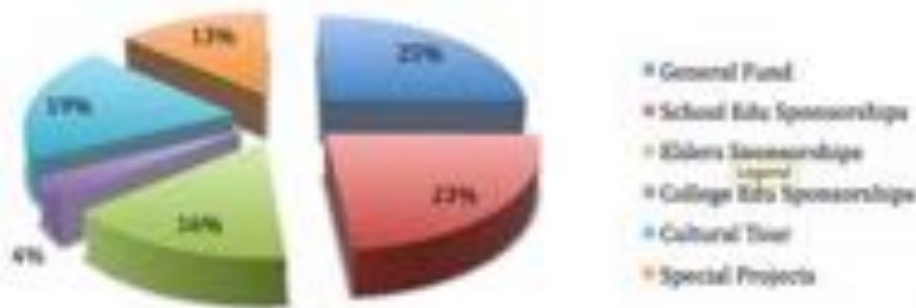
Thank you to everyone who contributed to this project.
Special gratitude to Dori and Greg Garfield

4. Prayer Flags to Benefit the Elders: The Kyitsel-ling children hand-printed Tibetan prayer flags. It was a hands-on learning of their culture. Later, these prayer flags were used in a fundraising campaign to benefit the elders on our program. We love this idea of the children being involved to help the elders! See images on page 7.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this project.
Special thanks to the children at Kyitsel-ling.

TCEF Financials 2019

INCOME



SUMMARY

- We had another good sponsorship year and were able to increase our support to the children and the elders.
- Special programs include the classrooms repairs and renovations and bringing the internet and educational technologies to the Tibetan Nehru Memorial Foundation School, Clement Town and the Roofing Project at Kyitseling, Clement Town.
- Our cultural tour was successful. The full group had 25 members and the travels included the Tibetan settlement at Clement Town, other important sites connected to the Buddha in India plus various sites in Kathmandu, Nepal
- In 2019 TCEF spent over \$150,000 on program expenses to support the education of children in schools and colleges, provide living stipends to Tibetan elders, share Tibetan culture and do special projects.

EXPENSES



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.

CLASSROOMS REPAIRS & RENOVATIONS



THIS PROJECT AT THE TNMF SCHOOL, CLEMENT TOWN, IS NOW COMPLETED. REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS INCLUDED: NEW FLOORING, IMPROVED LIGHTING, ADDITION OF NEW DISPLAY BOARDS AND REPAIRS OF ALL BROKEN DOORS AND WINDOWS.

THANK YOU AGAIN TO JENNIFER PRUGH AND BREATHE TOGETHER YOGA!

KYITSEL-LING ROOFING PROJECT



THE DRINKING WATER STORAGE TANKS ARE ON THE ROOF. ALSO THE GIRLS USE THE ROOF TO DRY THEIR CLOTHES. MONKEYS WERE A CONSTANT THREAT TO BOTH!

LONG-TIME TCEF SPONSOR **MICHAEL WILLING** KINDLY SPONSORED THE BUILDING OF A TIN SHED ABOVE THE ROOF AND THEN SECURING THE WHOLE AREA WITH IRON MESH PANELS. THE NEW SPACE COMPLETE WITH LIGHTING AND FANS WILL ALSO BECOME A COVERED RECREATIONAL AREA FOR THE GIRLS.

PRAYER FLAGS TO BENEFIT THE ELDERS



THE KYITSEL-LING CHILDREN HAND-PRINTED TIBETAN PRAYER FLAGS. IT WAS A HANDS-ON LEARNING OF THEIR CULTURE.

LATER, THESE PRAYER FLAGS WERE USED IN A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN TO BENEFIT THE ELDERS ON OUR PROGRAM. WE LOVE THIS IDEA OF THE CHILDREN BEING INVOLVED TO HELP THE ELDERS!

SHARING THE CULTURE



THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE BUDDHA TOUR 2019 ALLOWED US TO SHARE THE TIBETAN AND HIMALAYAN CULTURE WITH SEVERAL TCEF SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS.

SHARING, UNDERSTANDING AND HELPING TO PRESERVE THE TIBETAN CULTURE IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR MISSION.

MAKING MEMORABLE CONNECTIONS



THE TCEF TRAVEL TOURS NOW MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR SPONSORS TO DIRECTLY MEET SPONSORED CHILDREN OR ELDERS.

THIS YEAR TOO, SEVERAL SPONSORS MADE MEMORABLE CONNECTIONS. THE WONDERFUL SMILES SAY IT ALL!

ANNUAL TCEF FUNDRAISER



6th ANNUAL TCEF BOLLYWOOD FUNDRAISER 2019

THIS EVENT HELPS TO MEET MOST OF TCEF'S OPERATIONAL EXPENSES. HUGE GRATITUDE TO VOLUNTEERS, LOCAL BUSINESSES AND EVENT SPONSORS FOR ANOTHER AMAZING EVENT.



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2020

In 2020, we celebrate our 25th Anniversary! For TCEF, our best hope is to make it a Tibet Awareness Year and among other things we are excited to introduce a couple of projects:

- **Tibetan Culture Transmission Project:** Our hope is to help Tibetan children in diaspora learn about their wonderful culture in a really fun way. We've had this idea for a long time but we've never found the inertia to start anything. In this special year we are determined to make a beginning by creating a series of fun videos on topics of Tibetan culture.
- **TCEF Health and Humanitarian Fund:** Our cultural tours take us to TCEF program sites and Tibetan communities in exile. During our travels, often, we across people in real need, either with some serious health or financial problems. The needs are stark and they are right there in your face. The creation of this fund will allow TCEF to immediately intervene and help those people in need whose paths we cross. As with all programs, this too, can start in a small way and with dedication, we can make it grow. A good inspiration is our elders sponsorship program. We started this in 2005 with only a few sponsors. Now we help over a hundred.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

At the core of what we do is raise awareness of Tibet, Tibetan issues and Tibetan culture. We would like to make 2020 a Tibet Awareness Year for TCEF. So this year, more than anything else, we are looking for event coordinators. If there is even half a chance you might be able to coordinate a TCEF event in your area, please email tcef@mt.net and we are happy to answer questions and follow all leads.

In Appreciation

Our work is possible only with your support. For TCEF, this is not a cliché, just a simple truth. Huge gratitude to everyone who supported our work in 2019

Donors above \$5000

Karen Davidson
Michael Willing
Jennifer Prugh
Herbert Hevener
Coequantem Fund

Donors above \$1000

Jamie Harmon &
Kelly Cline
Otten Foundation
Carol Ammons
Ann Down
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Patricia Mertens
Gary Sanders
Deirdre Breen & Tom Kelly
Dave Andersen
Tshering Doma Shakya
Sue & Oscar Davis
Lynne Burkhardt
Shelly & Sundar Das Dorai Raj
Janet & Ross Kimmerle
Thomas Ziegler
Roy Andes
Joan Marks
Dr. Mark Ibsen
Melanie Trost
Tessa Wilcox
Robin Fox

Donors above \$1000 contd.

Marc & Amity Cooper
Alan Davis & Karen Cooper
Brenda Blessings & Michael Love
Kimberly Agee

New Sponsorships in 2019

Alan Fanning
Sue & Oscar Davis
Noel Clark
Robin Fox
Joyce Higashi
Roberta Anderson
Michele Potts
Thomas Ziegler
Meena Patel
Jennifer Prugh
Brad & Kelly Drury
Susan Fox
Tessa Wilcox
Thomas Mitchell
Mary Angela Collins
Gay Herrington
Judith Lasater
Curt & Colleen Drake
Dorothy Cline
Jamie Harmon & Kelly Cline
Frances Kinkade
Scott Belair
Lynne Burkhardt
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Dean & Rebecca Lerner
Michael Love & Brenda Blessings
Christopher Weiser
Katharine Weiser
Heath Kalember
Steve Olson
Elizabeth Greenfield
Jane Easton
Jim Patton
Lawrence Munoz

Denise Ginzauskas
Clare Woods
Kimberly Agee
Cora Wen
Kiely Keene & Mike Green
Winter Safronoff & Mike Rudolf
Deirdre Breen

Annual Bollywood Fundraiser

Performing Artists:

Prashant Kakad, Britney Newton &
Dancers from Bollywood Dreams
Auctioneer Jim Davies

Event Sponsors:

Quality Inn, Helena
Feathered Pipe Foundation,
Helena
Asia Garden Restaurant, Butte
Real Food Market & Deli, Helena,
Drake Law Firm, Helena
Deer Creek Corporate Services,
Helena

Live Auction Donors

Alan Davis & Karen Cooper
Roy Andes
Feathered Pipe Ranch
Ishinder Kaur
Don Eisenmenger
Katie Campbell

Silent Auction:

Wintersong Safronoff, Roberta
Anderson, Jane Amdahl and all
donors

2019