

25

ANNIVERSARY

— 1995 TO 2020 —



TIBETAN
children's
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION



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.



Drawing Hope From Your Compassion



Hope is a scarce commodity for Tibetans who have been in exile for over half a century. Yet, the message behind the survival of a small Tibetan nonprofit for 25 years is that there are still people who feel love & empathy for the Tibetans, who love our culture, love HH The Dalai Lama, and feel good about supporting a Tibetan nonprofit. This realization is enormous because it is easy to think that the Tibetan cause and our struggle to keep our culture have faded from global consciousness. I know I've felt that way. I know many Tibetans have of late felt this way.

I had to flee Tibet when I was only a small child, and I've never been able to return home. But, from all accounts, the Tibetans in Tibet still fiercely care about the Tibetan identity and culture, even if they cannot express any form of political dissent. In exile, whether it be in our settlements in India or among the Tibetans scattered across Europe and America, we still care passionately about all things Tibetan. It may not be so apparent to a casual observer. Here in the West, be it in a busy city like New York or a quieter place like Montana, outwardly, we are no different from any other immigrant community. We are focused on securing jobs, housing, and some form of security and stability for our families. But just underneath that facade is an inner layer of us as Tibetans caring deeply for everything Tibetan, straining for any news on Tibet, and always hoping for better things.

And so, this message of hope from TCEF tucked away in a small town in Montana can be inspirational. TCEF sponsors and supporters' circle has redefined the meaning of compassion, support, and giving to Tibetans. Their support has been sustained, constant, and steady. It is not like a random act of kindness or even an instant emotional rush. We have founders who have supported this work from the very get-go, so they have been involved for a quarter of a century, and then we have about 50 sponsors who've supported Tibetan elders or children for over ten years. So again, it is not like we have one or two devoted supporters. For a small nonprofit like us, 50 is a significant number! They've invested their time and money with no other reason than simply wanting to help the Tibetans. Viewed from that lens, the support we've received offers immense hope and inspiration to us as Tibetans. And, that is the message I most want to share as we move into our 25th year.



Hands folded in gratitude,

Karma Tensum
Executive Director



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PRESERVING TIBETAN CULTURE: OUR WORK

The situation for Tibetans – both in Tibet and in exile is not improving. The economic boom in China has not trickled down to Tibetans in Tibet who continue to be marginalized. News of oppressions, crackdowns and Tibetan discontent continue. The spate of self immolations in Tibet show how desperate the Tibetans are.

With each passing year more ethnic Han Chinese are pushed into the plateau and Tibetans continue to be marginalized in their own country. Also, with every passing year, Tibet and its culture fade just that much away from global consciousness and that is a real concern.

His Holiness The Dalai Lama makes a huge difference. His incessant travels is the biggest source of strength for Tibetans. Single handedly, his teachings and talks do more to keep Tibet and its culture in people's consciousness than all the rest of the world put together. No matter, how bleak the situation looks at the present, as long as Tibet remain alive in people's hearts and minds there is hope that future favorable winds may light up the embers of hope.



HELPING TO PRESERVE TIBETAN CULTURE

TCEF believes we can help preserve Tibetan culture by raising awareness of it here in the West.

We've toured 25 states and done over a hundred presentations on Tibet with various Tibetan cultural ambassadors like Tibetan thangka artists, sand mandala creators, a butter sculptor and performance artists.

Through our cultural tours, we've shared the Tibetan culture with Western audiences and highlighted what an oasis of spirituality Tibet was, how unique the culture is and how it is truly worth sharing and preserving.



CULTURAL TOURS HERE IN THE US

As a US nonprofit, we believe that the best way can help preserve Tibetan culture is by facilitating and providing platforms for Tibetans to share their unique culture with the people in the West, thereby educating and raising awareness of it. Our overall goal is to keep the Tibetan people and culture fresh in people's consciousness.

One of the best ways we do this is to organize and invite the visit of Tibetan artists to share their art and culture with interested audiences here in the United States. Over the past decade, we've facilitated the visit of Tibetan monks, Thangka artists, folk dancers, sand mandala and butter sculpture artists.

These tours provide the artists and our foundation wonderful platforms to share Tibetan culture and to talk about all things Tibetan – including the education needs of Tibetan children in exile.



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Our cultural tours have been very well received. We've toured seven states and shared our art and culture at very close quarters to at least twenty five thousand very interested persons. It has truly been a joy and privilege to engage audiences of all ages, to field questions that relate to all aspects of Tibet, to see children draw Tibetan prayer flags and auspicious symbols and over all just to see so much appreciation and interest in the Tibetan culture.

CULTURAL TOURS TO INDIA

More recently, we've started sharing the Tibetan, Himalayan and Buddhist cultures through guided tours to India. The tours, called the In the Footsteps of the Buddha, take TCEF sponsors, donors and other interested persons from the West to TCEF program sites, Tibetan communities in exile, sacred sites related the life of the Buddha and other Himalayan sites. These tours provide a closer view, a clearer insight and a better understanding of the endangered Tibetan culture.

FOOTSTEPS OF THE BUDDHA TOUR - BODH GAYA

TCEF shares the best of Tibetan, Himalayan and Buddhist cultures through guided tours to special sites in India and Nepal.

The heart of the tour explores sacred sites related to the life of the Buddha.

Bodh Gaya is the place where the Buddha received Enlightenment some 2500 years ago.

The Mahabodhi temple is a UNESCO heritage site.

This temple complex conveys an amazing atmosphere of peace and spirituality all around the sacred bodhi tree.

LOOKING AHEAD:

TIBETAN CULTURE TRANSMISSION PROJECT

At TCEF we believe that the Tibetan culture is unique, precious and worth preserving. One of the best ways to preserve it is by helping to transmit it to future generations of Tibetans. We need to teach Tibetan culture to the children - but in a really fun and interesting way. At this time, the trend is towards short and interesting videos. This project will create a series of videos on various facets of Tibetan culture helping Tibetan (and other) children to learn about their endangered culture.

IMPACT OF OUR WORK

Preserving Tibetan Culture



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7 Major Cultural Tours

12 States

50 + Events

Reached 25,000 People

\$173,000 spent



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In this conceptualization of using videos to help transmit culture, we were inspired by KarmaTube, <http://www.karmatube.org/>. Just as KarmaTube uses the power of online video to express and multiply acts of kindness, beauty, and generosity, we hope a collection of fun and interesting videos on important aspects of Tibetan culture can help its children learn their culture and also be a huge resource for anyone else wanting to learn something about Tibet and its culture.

Our best hope is that we can open this project to the rest of the community. So this project will help create the first set of videos on various facets of Tibetan culture. Once that is in place, we can open it up to the community where anyone can contribute.

We see an opportunity to gather an entire community around this project. We see the potential to go beyond videos on Tibetan culture. It can grow and expand to include videos that underline all that is good and worth sharing about our culture on topics like compassion, altruism, and mindfulness and thereby contribute something for the good of all humanity.



VOICES FOR TIBET VIDEO SERIES

It is now over sixty years since the dramatic escape of HH The Dalai Lama from Tibet in 1959. With every passing year, Tibet and the occupation of Tibet is fading from global consciousness. TCEF is starting a new video series titled Voices for Tibet that capture the voices of people who still love Tibet and support the cause and culture of Tibetans. Our best hope is that it will inspire others to support, and also give renewed hope to Tibetans in our efforts to preserve our culture and fight for our just cause.





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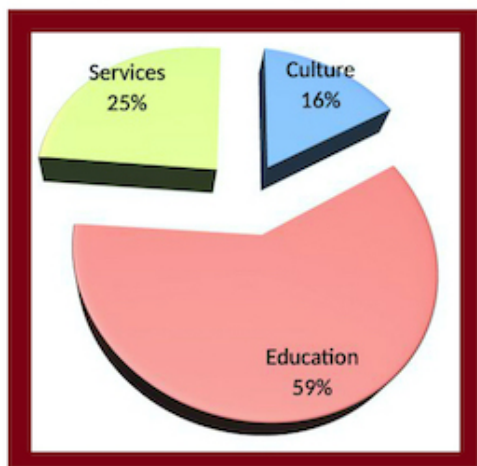
"Nothing transforms the lives of Tibetan children in exile more than education."



TCEF believes that nothing transforms the lives of people disadvantaged by birth more than education. We believe that the gift of education is universal, that it does not matter if you are a Tibetan, an African, or from anywhere else.

From the very beginning, we've always believed in education, which is reflected in the allocation of our resources. Over the last 20 years, we've spent close to 60% of all program expenses on education.

Major Program Areas Fund Allocation

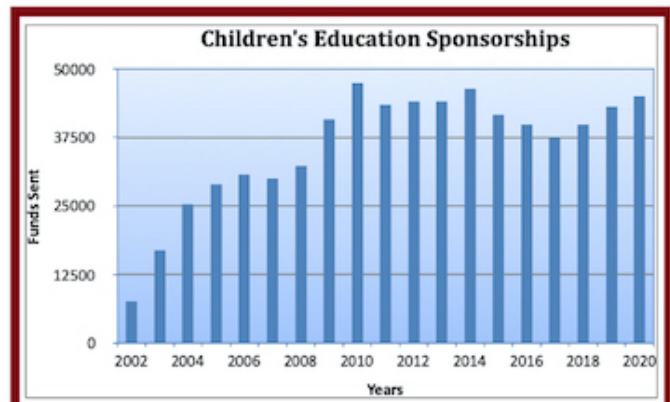


Sponsorship of Children's Education

Ever since Tibetans first arrived in exile, we've used this model of finding individual sponsors to help with our children's education. In this model, we connect children who need help with kind people who can sponsor their education. This has been one of our core programs, and we've helped to educate hundreds of children through our sponsorship program.

Over the past five years, we are able to send an average of \$40,000 as sponsorship funds to help with children's education.

- Children's Education Sponsorships have always been the core of our work
- We're helped over 500 students through this program
- Over the past 10 years, annually we send more than \$40,000 for this program





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EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

TCEF supports the belief of the Tibetans in exile that their children must combine a cultural transmission curriculum with an excellent modern education so that their children can be successful and comfortable in today's world.

Towards this aim, TCEF has funded educational projects that we believe can make a real difference for them, including several Computer Education projects in Clement Town and Sikkim, Teachers Training in Dharamshala and in several places infrastructure repair and modernization including Arunachal Pradesh school



Over the years, TCEF has undertaken several projects which we felt had the potential to make a difference for Tibetan education in exile. Some of them helped build educational infrastructure while others were targeted at specific needs like introducing computers or helping Tibetan culture classrooms succeed.



EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

2003: Computer Project, TNMF School, Clement Town

This project funded 20 computers for the school and helped to start Computer Education in this school. Computer Education has been a part of this school's curriculum since the implementation of this project.

2008: Library Books, TNMF School, Clement Town

This school was beginning the work of adding books to its library. We helped to add both reference and children's story books.

2008: Lunch Project for Monks, Yuksom, Sikkim

TCEF began a hot lunch program for young monks at the Dubdi Monastery in Sikkim. The young monks were in school six days a week from 8 am – 4 pm with no meal or snacks. With this program, 36 monks at this monastery were able to have a whole lunch.



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2010: Adding the Third Floor to Sukhavati Hostel, Pademchen, Sikkim

The Sukhavati Hostel in Pademchen enabled children from the surrounding rural areas of Zuluk and Nagthang to have a shot at education. The children could stay at this hostel and then attend the government school or the Pema Tsal Academy. TCEF helped to increase and improve facilities at this hostel by providing funds to build an additional floor.

2010: Kitchen Remodel, Kyitsel-ling, Clement Town

Initially built for 50 children, Kyitsel-ling had slowly expanded to around 100 students. This project provided funds to develop and update the kitchen.

2011: Tibetan Dance & Drama Clothing, Kyitsel-ling, Clement Town

Tibetan Music, Dance, and Drama are a core curriculum at Tibetan schools in India. For these cultural programs to succeed, the hostel needed traditional musical instruments, costumes, and other props. This project funded the purchase of all the required materials to help these cultural classes succeed.

2012: Computers Project, Kyitsel-ling, Clement Town

The computers at Kyitsel-ling were now ancient, and they needed to be updated. This project purchased several new machines, updated others, and equipped the hostel with good learning facilities.

2012: Computer Project, TNMF School, Clement Town

The first set of computers TCEF helped to provide this school were now almost ten years old. At the same time, Computer Education was now an integral part of the school's curriculum. This year we again raised funds to purchase new computers and update the school's computer lab.



2014: English Acquisition Project, Tibetan DOE, Dharamsala

This project was implemented in collaboration with the Tibetan Department of Education, Dharamsala. The project provided in-service training in the best methods of English Acquisition to 25 Tibetan teachers from several Tibetan schools in India.



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2014: Computer Project, Pema Tsal Academy, Sikkim

This project purchased computers and related equipment to introduce Computer Education in the Pema Tsal Academy in Sikkim.

2015: Teacher Sponsorship Project, TNMF School, Clement Town

For several years, we were able to sponsor a star teacher's salary at the Tibetan School, Clement Town.

2016: Washroom Repairs and Renovations, Ramdha Buddhist Hostel, Sidhpur

The Ramdha Buddhist Society runs an educational hostel at Sidhpur, just outside of Dharamsala. This hostel enables students from Lahaul, Spiti, and other remote Himalayan areas to have a 'home' when studying in the Dharamsala area. Their resources were limited, and the hostel facilities needed repairs and renovations. TCEF helped to remodel their washroom facilities, including the installation of solar-powered panels for hot water.



2016: Whiteboards Project, TNMF School, Clement Town

A group of TCEF sponsors and supporters led by board member Jennifer Prugh did a hands-on project of procuring whiteboards and then physically installing them in all the classrooms at the Tibetan school in Clement Town. This was part of an effort to transform some of the Tibetan classrooms in exile.

2016: Renovating the Children's Park, Kyitsel-ling, Clement Town

When HH The Dalai Lama laid the foundation stone of Kyitsel-ling, he had encouraged the founders to keep the children happy. In 2016 we were able to procure and install new playground equipment. We know this gave much happiness to the younger children.

2017: Teaching Aids for Pre Primary Section: Sambhota School, Miao, Arunachal Pradesh

The Sambhota Tibetan School in Miao in Arunachal Pradesh is located in a remote area. A request was received from the school for funds to procure teaching aids for its pre-primary section. TCEF was able to raise this modest amount primarily through the fundraising effort of sponsor Karen Cooper of Helena, MT

2017: Major Repairs and Renovations: Sambhota School, Miao, Arunachal Pradesh

Following a significant policy decision, it was decided to hand over many of the residential Tibetan schools formerly administered by the Indian government directly to the Tibetans themselves. The Tibetan school at Miao, in Arunachal Pradesh, was one of them. This school badly needed all-round repairs and renovations. This project funded the renovation and repairs of classrooms, washrooms, the kitchen, and staff quarters.



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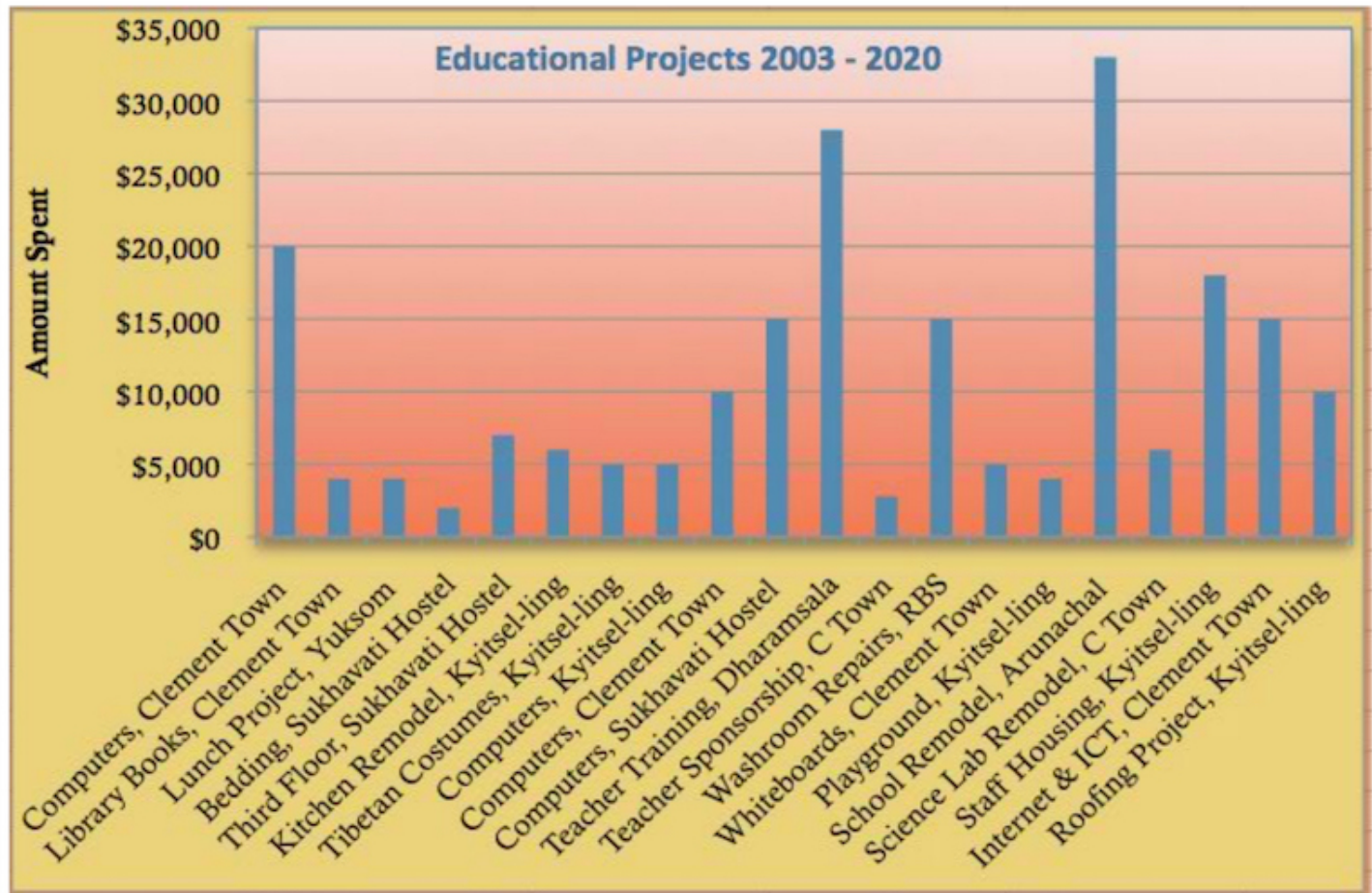
2017: Renovating and Expanding the Science Laboratory, TNMF School, Clement Town
 TNMF School had slowly upgraded to include classes up to grade 12. The school urgently needed to renovate and develop their Science laboratory. This project helped to transform that facility.

2018: Internet & Computer Project, TNMF School, Clement Town

TCEF hopes to transform Tibetan classrooms by providing internet access and education technologies. Using this school as a pilot project, we helped to upgrade the school's internet and computer facilities.

2019: Classroom Repairs & Renovations, TNMF School, Clement Town

Most of the Tibetan schools in exile were built in the early sixties and now need repairs. This project helped to repair most of the classrooms in this school.





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LOOKING AHEAD

Transforming Tibetan Classrooms - Bringing the Internet & Education Technologies.

We believe we can help Tibetan education in exile greatly by bringing the internet and computers into Tibetan classrooms.

TCEF will partner with select schools to implement this. Participating schools will commit to this program, offer relevant training to teachers, explore available Open Education Resources (OERs) and procure 'smart classroom' software developed specifically for the Tibetan schools' curriculum in exile.

TCEF's role will help build the schools' ICT infrastructure - procuring laptops, tablets, internet access, projectors, printers, and digital cameras. We have our work cut out.

At this time, we have identified two schools to work with - The Sambhota Tibetan School at Chauntra in Himachal Pradesh and the Tibetan Nehru Memorial Foundation School at Clement Town in Uttarakhand.



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IMPACT

- * Helped educated over 500 students through the educational sponsorship program
- * Impacted the quality of education for hundreds of children through educational projects
- * Transformed the lives of children as reflected in the following messages:



CHIME YOUDON - staff nurse

I was in Kyitsel-ling hostel for many years and I was sponsored by the late Bill Wilmot through TCEF. I am always grateful for the difference it made in my life. Today I have done my General Nursing Degree, and after that also did my post Bachelor degree. Today I'm working as a staff nurse in India's finest hospital called the Apollo Hospital. Working there as a team leader is a great experience, and if there is something I can do for other children in need, I would be glad to help.

PEMA DEKYI - flight attendant

I want to write to TCEF to express my deepest thanks for your generous support to all the Tibetan children and elderly people. Your support has repeatedly played a key role in our success. I am Pema working as flight attendant and I wouldn't have done this without the TCEF help and support. Your help has been invaluable and thank you so much. I sincerely appreciate your generosity



NAMGYAL WANGMO - Academic Executive

My parents admitted me into Kyitsel-ling hostel when I was only five years hoping for a better life for me. I have been one of the fortunate ones to receive a TCEF sponsorship not only in school but also for college. I have now done my Master's course competing with other Indian students for a spot in the top colleges. Currently I am an Academic Executive in a private university in north India. All these miracles in my life would not have been possible with the support and help of my sponsors. Huge gratitude.



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NGAWANG LHAMO - College Student

For many years TCEF have been helping Tibetans - help for children's education, help for destitute elders in need. They have helped thousands of students like me have a chance at education. I belong to a humble family and did not think I would attend college. I am currently doing my Bachelor's degree and may want to study Law. Thank you for believing in us and giving us the opportunities.

MIGMAR LHAMO - teacher

When I reflect back on my life, I am immensely grateful for the 11 years of education at Kyitsel-ling hostel. Thank you TCEF for sponsoring my education. It's been extremely significant for me. Currently I am working as a teacher in Kathmandu, Nepal. It has been 6 years in this field and I'm loving my job as it gives me so much of joy. Teaching has made me realize how important education is to us and my heart filled with huge gratitude as I received sponsorship and I was able to pursue my career! Whatever I am today, it's all because of you with your great help. Tibetan Children's Education Foundation has helped and make so many students future bright like me.



Tibetan Children's Education Foundation

*"...there is no other alternative but to do something for the growth of kindness.
We have to think and work to make a new world."
H.H. The 14th Dalai Lama from Tibet*



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SERVICE TRIPS

TCEF helped Tibetan and Himalayan communities through direct services. Program Manager Valerie Hellermann planned and led them. These tours were an opportunity to immerse oneself in Tibetan culture and relate directly with the people and particularly the children we serve.

Many beautiful projects such as art exchange projects, photo, construction, music, English literacy, and "world culture" presentations were undertaken through the Service Trips.

A couple of the most significant Service Trips were to Zanskar's remote area in the Ladakh area. There was a real need to offer medical services to the rural and remote communities here. These programs became so big that Valerie eventually incorporated a separate nonprofit dedicated to providing the care needed.

ZANSKAR AND THE SERVICE TRIPS

TCEF has done several Service Trips to our program sites and other areas where help is urgently needed.

For several years, we've helped people in the remote Zanskar region of Ladakh have access to medical needs through this program





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ELDERS' SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

COMPASSION FOR TIBETAN ELDERS IN EXILE

This generation of Tibetans now in their seventies and eighties have suffered great tragedies and survived many challenges. They followed HH The Dalai Lama into exile and started their new lives in exile breaking stones by the roadside at minimum wage. Many of them did not survive, victims either to tuberculosis or their newfound poverty. Through our sponsorship program, you can lend comfort and dignity to a Tibetan elder for as little as \$35 a month



The Elders sponsorship program connects interested sponsors here in the West with elderly Tibetan in exile who need help to survive. While the children are our hope for the future – the elders are our connection to the past.

Tibetan families are close-knit, and children and grandchildren do take care of their parents and grandparents. But, in cases where elderly Tibetans do not have family, they can be very vulnerable. Tibetans in exile do not have social security or a similar old-age pension scheme. That is why we must find support for them. The sponsorship funds will help to purchase food, clothing, medicine, and other essential supplies. It may help the elderly to go on a long wished for pilgrimage.



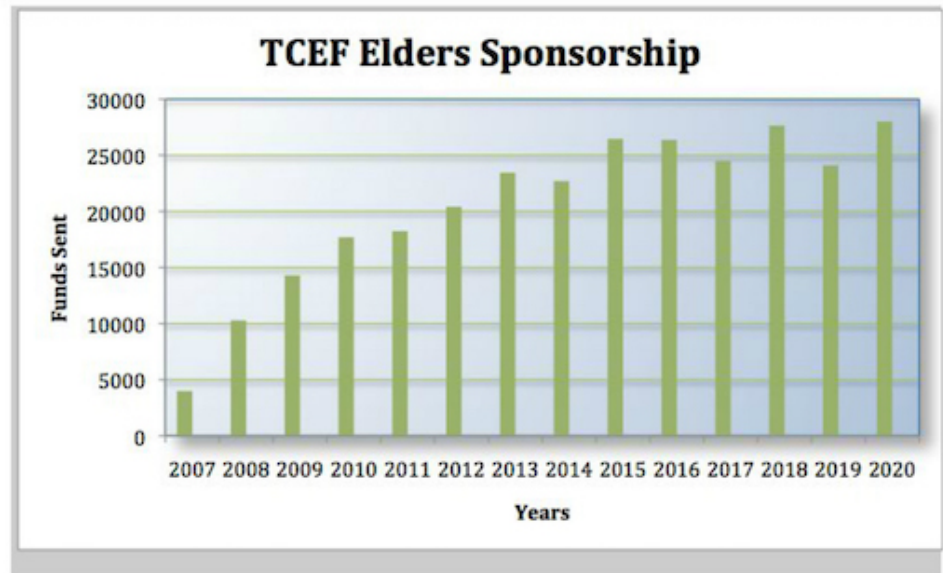
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IMPACT

Thanks to your support the Elders' sponsorship program has slowly grown and expanded. We are able help close to a hundred elders, and over the last ten years, we are able to spend around \$25,000 annually on this program

Again, we've received scores of messages from the elders expressing how the sponsorship funds provide both comfort and even dignity in their old age. We believe these messages more than anything else show the impact of our work with Tibetan elders.



- The Elders' Sponsorship Program started in 2007
- It provides needy Tibetan elders funds to meet living, medical and other expenses.
- At this time we help about 100 Tibetan elders
- Over the past 10 years, we are able to spend around \$25,000 annually on this program.



AKU DAKPA

Both my wife and I are very old. We cannot work now, and do not have much income. The sponsorship through TCEF really changed our life. Over many years I've been able to survive because of it. I'd truly grateful and always pray for my sponsor.



BHUSHUK

I am now very old. I cannot even see or hear properly, and I feel very helpless. Every little thing helps me, and so this support money helps me to buy my medicine.



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WANGTHANG

As a Tibetan in exile, I've really lived a difficult life. My life was full of challenges starting from the time we first landed in a foreign country. But when we were younger we could always struggle and find a way to survive. In old age, we have something we cannot overcome. Therefore I'm truly grateful to my sponsor for helping me now when I can no longer help myself very much.



DONKAR

I am now nearing my eighties, and I cannot work or have any good income. The funds that my sponsor sends me is life saving. I am often sick and have medical expenses every month. Much of the funds I receive goes to pay for hospital and medical bills. I use the remaining funds to buy food and other necessities. I always pray for the good health of my dear sponsor.

LOBSANG KALDEN

My sponsor is helping me survive. I don't have any really close family members to fully support me. But I do have living and medical expenses in old age. Now for many years, my kind sponsor has been helping me, and I'm ever so grateful.





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LOOKING AHEAD



TCEF Health and Humanitarian Fund

In 2020, our 25th Anniversary year, we commit to creating a 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 in need whose paths we cross. As with all programs, this can start in a small way, and with dedication, we can make it grow.



GRATITUDE

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Thank
you!



His Holiness The Dalai Lama

For being such a huge source of inspiration and guidance for
the work we do.

* Photo courtesy Sonam Zoksang

Founders and Board of Directors

The TCEF Board of Directors are the backbones of the foundation. Several of them are founders who have been with TCEF from its very inception. Many others serve for upwards of 10 years. They are the ones who invest the most time in nurturing the growth of TCEF and its programs.



File image TCEF board 2016



GRATITUDE

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TCEF Partner Organizations in India over the past 25 years

Dubdi Monastery, Sikkim
Gu Chu Sum, Dharamsala
Kyitsel-ling Tibetan Children's Education Center, Clement Town
Pema Tsal Academy, Sikkim
Ramdha Buddhist Society, Sidhpur
Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society, Dharamsala
Sukhavati Hostel, Sikkim
Tibetan Department of Education in Exile, Dharamsala
Tibetan Nehru Memorial Foundation School, Clement Town

Organizations & Businesses who supported TCEF over the past 25 years

Asia Garden Restaurant, Butte, MT

Family owned restaurant. Current owners Andrew Gilbert and Tenzin Chodon support TCEF's annual fundraiser with major volunteer work and contributions.

Breathe Together Yoga, Los Gatos, CA

Owned by long-time TCEF board member and sponsor Jennifer Prugh, BTY supports TCEF in multiple ways. It networks to find sponsors, organizes fundraisers for special projects and for the TCEF General Fund. It raises awareness of TCEF through its newsletters and by posting case histories of children and elders on its bulletin board. TCEF has found over 50 sponsors through Jennifer Prugh and BTY

Feathered Pipe Foundation, Helena, MT

The Feathered Pipe Foundation was the umbrella organization under which TCEF operated during the first several years. India Supera and the FPF provided TCEF with platforms to talk about the foundation, and the needs of Tibetans. It provided TCEF with both personnel and facilities support over many years.

Good Works Institute, Sun Valley, Idaho

Ann Down and the Good Works Institute, Idaho have been our biggest supporters. Ann is a great friend of Tibet. She and GWI care about the wellbeing of Tibetan children in exile. Over the years, they have funded most of the major projects TCEF has undertaken.



GRATITUDE

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LLCTLC, Helena, MT

Major support from LLCTLC stems from its president Michael Willing who was on the TCEF board for many years and continues to sponsor multiple children and an elder to this day. On top of the sponsorships, Michael and LLCTLC (former Deer Creek Corporation) have funded several TCEF projects over many years.

Otten Foundation, Bozeman, MT

The Henry Charles Otten and Jane Graves Otten Foundation - family based philanthropy has been supporting TCEF for over 15 years. Our primary association with this foundation is through long-time friends Mark and Katie Holiday in Bozeman. Contributes with annual donation.

Quality Inn, Helena, MT

Motel owned by Prakash and Kalpana Gandhi, support TCEF by offering free accommodation to all Bollywood artists and dancers during TCEF's annual fundraiser. On top of that, the business also makes annual donations and contributes to TCEF's giving programs for Tibetan children and elders in exile.

Real Food Market & Deli, Helena, MT

Well known local organic store, owned by Laughing Water, supports TCEF in several years. Allow display of Bollywood posters in its Deli, welcomes Bollywood dancers to its Customer Appreciation Brunch and has in the past subsidized cost of groceries purchased for TCEF fundraisers.

Search Widens, Polson, MT

Wholesale jewelry manufacturers, wholesaler and retailer of fair trade

Owned by long-time TCEF sponsor and board member Roberta Anderson. Supports TCEF as an event coordinator and a contributions to TCEF silent auctions for annual fundraisers.

Shanti Boutique, Helena, MT

Wholesaler and retailer of fair trade sterling silver jewelry, yoga jewelry, spiritual, chakra jewelry and Om jewelry. Owned by Crystal Water, current Executive Director at the Feathered Pipe Foundation. Donates a small percent of their sales besides Crystal's personal involvement and support to TCEF as a long-time board member and sponsor.





Major Donors

Jane Amdahl, Clancy, MT

Board member, sponsor and donor over many years. Also sponsored the Computer Project.

Mary Jane Davidson & Karen Davidson, Bernice, MT

Their annual stock donations over the past several years laid the foundation for our small portfolio.

Dori Garfield, Harwood, CA

Sponsors multiple children - in school and in college. Her family also helped with several projects - including sponsoring the renovation of the Science Lab at the Clement Town school.

Jamie Harmon & Kelly Cline, Helena, MT

One of the first sponsors for the TCEF college sponsorships. Also supported the Teacher Sponsorship Program for several years.

Herbert Hevener, E Stroudsburg, PA

Sponsored Tashi for over twenty years, and continues to support her to this day. On top of that he sends annual contributions to TCEF over many years.

Sydney Johnson, Boise, ID and Virginia & Frank Unterberger, E Stroudsburg, PA

They were the first major donors for the foundation, and greatly helped TCEF in our initial years. Sydney was among the very first sponsors we ever found. Frank & Virginia sponsored the construction of the library at Kyitsel-ling.

Ross & Janet Kimmerle, Minnesota, MN

Supports TCEF with annual donations

Janice Lowen, Bend, OR

Sponsor of multiple elders, whose estate giving greatly helped TCEF.

Jane Wieland, Helena, MT

Board member, sponsor and one of the our first major individual donors.



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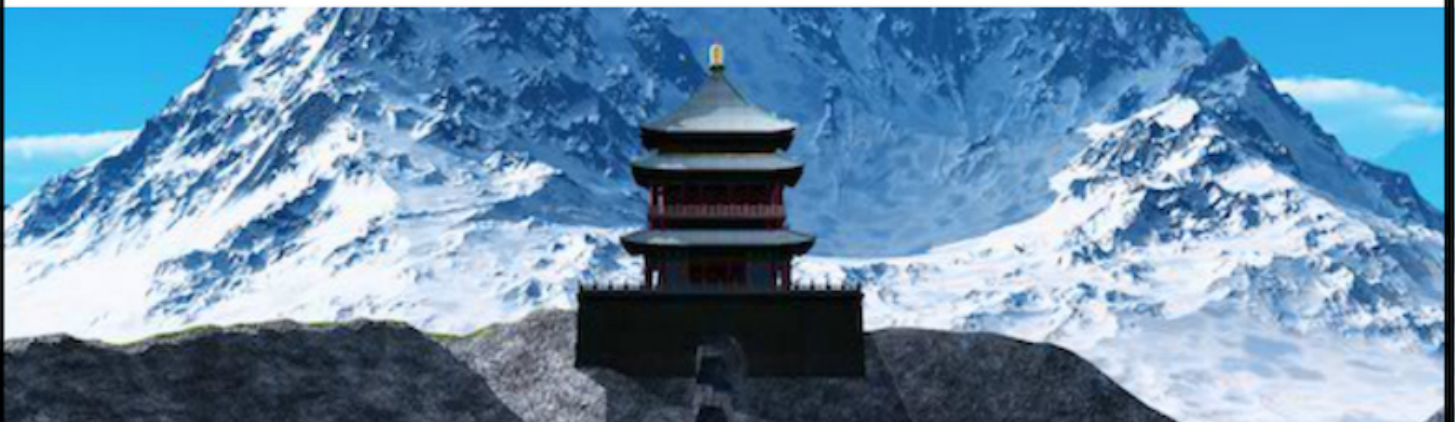
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Event Coordinators

It is difficult to overestimate our debt of gratitude to our event hosts and event coordinators. So much of our work has been possible only with their active help. TCEF would like to thank the following event coordinators who have helped so much with our work:

Mary Ahman, Helena, MT, Karen Allgire, Cleveland Heights, OH, David Andersen, Helena, MT, David & Susan Anderson, Missoula, MT, John Anderson, Missoula, MT, Roberta Anderson, Polson, MT, Roy Andes, Jackson, WY, Sherri Baptiste – Baptiste Power of Yoga, San Francisco, CA, Cathy Bayer, Santa Cruz, CA, JV Bennet & Melissa McNair, Springfield, VA, Ed Bowers, Culbertson, MT, Deirdre Breen, Venice, CA, Joan & Hank Broeckling, Spokane, WA, Marilyn Bruya, Missoula, MT, Sara Buckerfield, Auburn, CA, Vicki Chapman & Dugan Coburn, Great Falls, MT, Katharine Curle, Walla Walla, WA, Karen Davidson, Butte, MT, Allison Smith Estelle, Red Lodge, MT, Wayne Gorski, Bozeman, MT, Allyssa Griskiewicz, Seattle, WA, Diana Hall, Portland, OR, Robert & Martha Hall, Portland, OR, Hannah Hannan, Missoula, MT, Anne Hanenburg, Spokane, WA, Valerie Hellermann, Helena, MT, Kathy Henjum, Bismarck, ND, Carolyn Joslin, Coeur d'Alene, ID, Stu & Sherry Kahn, Staatsburg, NY, Michele and Richard Kaplowitz, Valencia, CA, Murat Karaorman, Santa Barbara, CA, Rhonda Kennedy, Portland, OR, Dean & Rebecca Lerner, Lemont, PA, Cindy Lee, New York, NY, Lori Lindman, Spokane, WA, David & Heidi Long, Kalispell, MT, Sharon Mason, Seattle, WA, Tim & Patty Merrill, Portland, OR, Claudia Montage, Basin, MT, Elizabeth Nelson, Vashon, WA, Jim Nymeyer, Billings, MT, Jena Ponti, Whitefish, MT, Jennifer Prugh, San Jose, CA, Allison Radecki, Nutley, NJ, Ian & Tonya Scott, Emigrant, MT, Kate Scott, Red Lodge, MT, Patricia Seiler, Helena, MT, Susan Star, Highland Park, IL, David Sunshine, Dallas, TX, India Supera, Helena, MT, V J Supera, Helena, MT, Mary Superak, Davis, CA, Sandy Turner, Sydney, MT, Allison Von Halle, Ridgewood, NJ, Sabine Weil, Salt Lake City, UT, Marta Weinstock, San Jose, CA, Jane Wieland, New Smyrna Beach, FL, Michael Willing, Helena, MT.

*plus a few who chose to be anonymous





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Inspirational Sponsors

We've been truly blessed to have crossed paths with some incredibly kind and generous sponsors - sponsors whose support is nothing short of inspirational! Over the past 25 years, hundreds of sponsors have participated in our programs. While we cannot publish all these names, we do want to especially acknowledge exceptional sponsors who have sponsored multiple children/elders, or have been sponsors for over ten years:

Adrien & Constance Heidenreich, Anne Hanenburg, Anne Jablonski, Aretha Blivens, Allison Smith Estelle, Bill Wilmot, Brad & Kelly Drury, Brenda Blessings & Michael Love, Carina Wilmot, Carol Ammons, Catharine Wilson, Cheryl Hart & Dan Fritz, Crystal Water & John Feron, Dave Andersen & Mary Harsh, Dave & Judy Paton, Dean & Rebecca Lerner, Deirdre Breen & Tom Kelly, Dori Garfield, Elinore Evans & John Rampe, Elizabeth Nelson, Frances Barnes, Frances Kinkade, Frank & Virginia Unterberger, Gail Mahnke, Gary Sanders, Heidi Long, Helen Mackay, Herbert Hevener, India Supera, Jamie Harmon & Kelly Cline, Jane Amdahl, Jane Easton, Jane Wieland, Janie Taylor, Jennifer Prugh, Joan Bird & Maxwell Milton, Joan Marks, Joan & Hank Broeckling, Joanne Varni, John & Miriam Vareldzis, Joy Holloway & Terry Mills, Karen Allgire & Group, Kristin Whiteaker, Judith Lasater, Leslie Manes, Linda Barrow & Kip King, Lynne Burkhardt, Marc & Amity Cooper, Mary Jane Davidson, Mary Mosham, Melanie Trost, Michael Willing, Nancy Copeland Payton, Patricia Mertens, Roberta Anderson, Robyn Smith, Sabine Weil, Sara & Ramon Veloz, Sarah Barnes, Scott Belair, Sharon Mason, Sondra Subotnick, Stewart & Sherry Khan, Stan & Treva Voreyer, Stuart & Charlene Blundell, Sue & Oscar Davis, Susan Fox, Sydney Johnson, Tessa Wilcox, Thomas Frentz, Tonya & Ian Scott, Tshering Dolma Shakya, Valerie Hellermann, Vivian Nantel, Zita Xavier

Tibetan Cultural Ambassadors

In our efforts to preserve the endangered Tibetan culture by raising awareness of it here in the West, we're grateful to the following Tibetan cultural ambassadors who shared their art and culture on TCEF events and platforms:

Ani Tsering Wangmo la (singing nun), Pema Lingpa Dancers from Bhutan, Monks from Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, India, late Ven. Ngawang Chojor la (Sand mandala creator), Kushok Paljor la (Butter sculptor and sand mandala creator), Gyurme Sonam la, Ngawang Choephell la and Tseten Dorjee la (Thankga painters), Tsering Lodoe la, Techung la, Ngawang Khechog la, Tsering Wangmo la, Yeshe Khando la and Norbu Lhamo la (performance artists and entertainers)

Tax Preparations & Advice

In Nancy Jardon we have the friendliest and most helpful tax preparer. We're so grateful that over all these years she's always be so readily available to answer and help with all our tax filing requirements.



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TCEF Service Trips

Huge gratitude to Valerie Hellermann for organizing and leading the TCEF service trips for over 10 years. Also want to thank all service trip members for the many hours of dedication and volunteer service

Footsteps of Buddha Tours

We want to thank everyone who took part in our Footsteps of the Buddha Tours. Special thanks to Raj Madaan of MultiVision Tours, New Delhi, India and board member Winter Safronoff for making excellent travel arrangements, and handling all logistic challenges with flair.

Annual Bollywood Night Fundraisers

We simply could not have done these without our wonderful friend DJ Prashant Kakad, and his Bollywood Dance Troupe based out of Portland, OR. Thank you for all fun and joy you brought to TCEF and Montana.

TCEF Staff & Board of Directors 2020

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