



Dear Friend,

The year of the Fire-dog has seen Kham Aid dive headlong into sustainable development programs, mainly job training. We added three full-time and one part-time staff in Kham – all of them local Tibetans who are receiving on-the-job training in program management. With their help we're able to broaden our range of programs even while we continue and expand our core activities in education, health, and cultural heritage.

Vocational skills training

This year we established a Handicraft Training Center in Tagong, where training programs are held and artisans can directly market their wares to tourists. At this and other sites we held seven separate courses aimed at providing skills to Tibetan herdsmen that will provide income while they preserve Tibetan culture:



<u>Course title</u>	<u>No. of students</u>
Drawing and painting	22 students
Clay roof construction.....	22 students
Fine carpentry for picture frames.....	8 students
Carpentry for home construction.....	2 one-year apprenticeships
Hand-dyed textile weaving.....	8 students

We performed a follow-up survey of 52 herdsmen who learned masonry, stone quarrying, and carpentry in our training program last year and found that most of them have found construction jobs and are earning a greater income than before.

Education

During the 2005-2006 academic year our scholarship program helped a total of 285 children who otherwise would not have had a chance to study. We saw 19 of our sponsored students graduate from grade 9 we were able to find sponsors to help all of them go on to high school. Eleven girls graduated from grade 12 and of these four entered college or junior college with the help of their sponsors.



Kham Aid designed a new education program this year, the Community Education Initiative (CEI), a program that will recruit parents and community leaders to help design a flexible, tailored education strategy.



We recruited twenty energetic volunteers who overhauled decrepit teacher quarters at Tangman Primary School in Shangrila County.



Two Kham Aid volunteers taught English at the Geza Primary School for a combined total of nine months.

We built a new greenhouse at the Mengsha Primary School in Sershul County.



Seven cyclists participating in the "Ride for Green" raised more than \$50,000 for student nutrition. We selected Litang County as the program site and are now making plans to build 5-10 greenhouses at remote rural primary schools so that young children can eat fresh vegetables.

This year we awarded a total of US\$3,656 in small grants to the Eastern Tibetan Language Institute for improvements to their physical infrastructure, to Tagong Hope Primary School for blankets, and to Xinduqiao Middle School for four washing machines to be used by students.

Health

We delivered \$5,665 worth of medicines and equipment to the Shang-ye Charity Hospital, Gyalten Li-le Charity Clinic, Shechen Charity Clinic, and the Xinlong Le-an Clinic where they will be used by low-income patients. Volunteer and sponsor support helped one very ill student get life-saving treatment for lupus.



Cultural Heritage

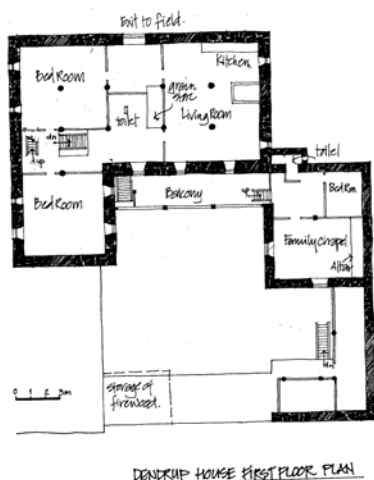
In July Kham Aid Foundation president Pam Logan gave an invited lecture at a conference on preservation of cultural heritage, held in Kangding. Her speech on the process of conservation and Kham Aid's work at Baiya (Pewar) Monastery in Dege inspired several monastery leaders to step forward and ask for help with preserving their own architecture and art.

Our architectural conservators assessed and documented the condition of eight different structures ranging from 100 to 800 years old in the Minyak area.



We rescued a historic 700-year-old house from disintegration by making emergency repairs to one unstable wall. At the same time, we taught local Tibetan builders how to insert temporary supports in an endangered structure and how to repair random stone walls when the two sides separate.

To protect this house and four other historic structures from fire we provided new electrical wiring, fire extinguishers,



and fire safety training to the residents.

At the same time, our wall paintings conservators consolidated four sets of rare ancient Buddhist paintings, thus protecting them from vibration-induced damage.

In six weeks the conservators also performed about one-third of the cleaning that will be needed to uncover centuries of grime.

We trained eleven art conservation apprentices, all from Wayao village in Minyak, in the process of consolidating and cleaning wall paintings. We and others will employ these apprentices again in future wall paintings conservation efforts.

Outlook for 2007

In 2007 we will continue our cultural heritage and job training programs, many of which are supported by USAID through our partnership with Winrock International. We will help one village transform an ancient house into a center for tourism enterprise and cultural preservation. Thanks to matching grants from other sources, we will complete conservation of all of the ancient paintings in Wayao village, thus ensuring that these rare Minyak treasures survive for generations to come.

Meanwhile we are gradually revamping other programs to make them more sustainable and to allow Tibetan stakeholders a greater voice in program design. The Community Education Initiative will be our flagship in this new approach. In the health area, our wheelchair program will deliver at least forty wheelchairs to Dege and Sershul counties, and we are now exploring partnership with the Health Bureau to combat HIV/AIDs, a growing threat.

In all, it's been an exciting year, and 2007 will be even better. Thanks for your support!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pamela Logan'.

Pamela Logan
President



For the latest program news and Kham travel information, visit our website at www.khamaid.org. You can receive regular updates by email by sending a message to subscribe@khamaid.org.

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