



Maternal and Child Health Education Activities



Community Midwife Training

Tibetan Maternal and Child Health System Resource Textbooks

There is a lack of maternal and child health care materials written in Tibetan for women and a lack of Tibetan Medicine textbooks for health care providers. In 2004 and 2006, THF sponsored conferences for local health institutions and professionals to develop a solution. 35 Tibetan health experts from across all the Tibetan speaking regions of P.R. China developed a series of four comprehensive and complementary medical textbooks, *Tibetan Maternal and Child Health System Resource Books*: Public Health Perspectives of Maternal and Child Care in Tibetan Context (two volumes) and Maternal Care and Delivery Manual (one volume) and the Maternal and Child Health Education Handbook (pictorial flipchart; THF published in 2005).

The final editing stage is in process and we are now ready to print. \$15,000 is needed to print, publish and distribute 3,000 copies of each of the three textbooks. Once the textbooks are published, they will be recognized as an official publication in P.R. China and will be distributed in all Tibetan speaking regions. The textbooks will be utilized for Tibetan Community Midwifery trainings and as a guide for designing a curriculum for gynecology, obstetrics and pediatrics in Tibetan Medicine at Medical Colleges.

Tibetan Heritage Primer Textbooks

Until THF, many rural Tibetan children did not have any education materials written in their native Tibetan language, only official school textbooks written in Chinese. Tibetan Healing Fund worked with local education bureaus, school principals and teachers to create Tibetan language texts to be used in primary and middle schools. Content is based on both Tibet-wide folklore as well as regionally specific information such as history, legends, characters, sports, entertainment, geography, local customs, culture and art, biographies of well-known scholars, life skills, and significant historical events and sites.

The Tibetan Heritage Primer Textbooks will be a part of the regular school curriculum and serve to educate rural Tibetan children about their heritage locally and across the Tibetan plateau and as a means to motivate and inspire young Tibetans toward further education. *Donations will allow us to print and distribute additional textbooks for Tibetan primary and middle schools and children from three counties.*

Give the Tibetan people something they really need – the gift of a healthier and better educated future.

Rural Tibetans depend on us, and we depend on you. With your continued financial support, the Tibetan Natural Birth and Health Training Center will soon open its doors and we will be able to print and distribute the health and education textbooks and materials critical to improving the health and education of rural Tibetan women and children.

Please consider a year-end gift to THF. It is amazing how far your donation will go. For example, \$50 will allow 20 primary school students to read textbooks in their native language. \$150 will train 2 women as Community Midwives or help rural teachers attend bilingual teacher training. \$250 will help buy the birth center a bed. \$1,000 will provide all the funding necessary to send medical students to rural Tibet, sharing important maternal and child health information with 3,000 women.

On behalf of the Tibetan children and their families, we want to express our deep sense of gratitude for the continued financial support that creates opportunities for hope. Thank you for helping us pave the way for a healthier and better educated Tibet. May there be peace, good fortune and compassion in your families and the world this upcoming year. Happy Holidays and a Blessed New Year!

Dr. Kunchok Gyaltzen
Founder and President
UCLA School of Public Health, PhD student

Board Members of Tibetan Healing Fund