



QINGHAI PROVINCE, CHINA

SENG GIRL'S HOME (SGVTS)

2010/2011 Update

WHAT IS THE SENG GIRL'S HOME (SGVTS)

Seng Girls Vocational Training School and Home (SGVTS) is a place of safety and promise for girls rescued from extremely disadvantaged circumstances. Located in the southern part of the Tibet-Qinghai Plateau of China, the SGVTS was established in 2005 by a Tibetan man who had a passion to see girls from 'at-risk' circumstances given the chance to achieve their dreams.

The SGVTS is a **registered vocational training school** and operates with the full cooperation of Local and Provincial Governments of Qinghai. It is central to the vision and dreams of a non-profit organization called LOVEQTRA. **Captivating International**, under the project leadership of Lynn Velez, partners with LOVEQTRA to see impoverished Tibetan girls "*reach out for a better tomorrow*". Captivating fully-funds the operating costs of this program and it's strategic development.

UPDATE

- 2010 to present date has seen the number of girls in the **SGVTS program increase from 57 to 120 girls**.
- In May 2010, Qinghai suffered a major earthquake in Yushu. The government ordered the new dormitory building (completed in 2009) to be demolished and fully rebuilt to meet new/upgraded *post-earthquake* building standards. **All re-building costs were fully funded by the Government**.
- **Twenty girls now reside away from the SGVTS** but are still supported by this program. They are receiving vocational development opportunities as part of their longer term development. Five of these girls competed in a Government organized county based English program and won top place resulting in them having the opportunity to attend an intensive English program in Guangzhou. Five more girls attend another Captivating project in Guangdong where they are learning intensive Chinese and attending better quality schools. 2011 will see more girls given this opportunity as a key part of their progress and development, and SGVTS expansion.
- **More teachers were added** to the school program to cope with the increased girls and different grades of learning (previously four teachers, now there are eight).
- October 2010 saw an **incredibly successful Charity Fund-raising Auction** held in Shenzhen, China. Seventeen of the girls travelled to Shenzhen to perform to 450 captivated guests. This charity fund-raiser has now cemented itself as an annual event in the Shenzhen calendar (with the **next event scheduled for October 22**).
- **Child Sponsorship** – we were thrilled that 2010 brought us close to full sponsorship of the girls (81%). Sponsors come from all over the world. With this program commencing in 2008, most of our initial sponsors came from our Australian support base. The 2010 Shenzhen charity auction saw many more people join the support program from Shenzhen and around the world. Full sponsorship of a child at the girls home is AUD/US\$960 a year. Some girls have one sponsor (who pay \$960 each year) while others have two sponsors (each paying \$480 a year). All sponsors receive an annual update on the progress of their child. To keep things efficient, all progress reports will be completed September of each year from now on.



Summer 2011 – OUR PLANS – OUR WISHLIST – OUR BUDGET:

Now that winter is concluding, summer 2011 will be another year of expansion, process improvement, and a whole lot of construction. Key elements are as follows:



Annual Operating Budget (meeting daily needs for 120 girls)

We will support 120 girls this year (20% growth). We will also increase our number of adult caregivers to improve processes and program quality (winter nurse, teachers, vocational program support). Our costs per child will increase to a total of US\$115 per child per mth as we get these processes in place, improve the program quality, and take into account inflation.



Self-sustainability: Complete SGVTS guest house and future vocational development center US\$12,500

This project, started by LOVEQTRA last year, was not fully completed due to lack of funds. We will help this project move forward. Once operational this guest house aims to fund up to 15% of the Girls Home costs.



Vocational Development US\$49,000

Plans will be implemented for every girl 14yrs and above. A computer room and training program will be established (computers already funded from 2010 donations). We will increase our education investment in girls who will relocate into other provinces/locations offering better vocational solutions (Guangdong, Sichuan, Beijing). We will also Investigate and pilot jewelry making as an income source/home industry solution.



Complete the building of a new Multi-Purpose Hall US\$6,000

This will provide a bigger dining room, training facility, and general meeting area. It will also provide better storage space to preserve the life of food and produce (allowing more food to be bought in bulk at lower cost).



Build three new class-rooms US\$16,000

With 100 girls living on-site and covering a wide variety of grades more class-rooms are needed. Government regulations also require these extra rooms.

Safety wall around perimeter US\$1,320

We need to keep these girls in a safe and access restricted area. A wall is already partially constructed. This will complete it.



Indoor playground US\$18,300

Winter is long and cold, and these girls need areas to play and run. The indoor playground will be 216 sq mtrs of fully enclosed playing area.

Winter heating US\$8,000

Repair and improve the existing infrastructure to keep the school and dormitory rooms warmer in winter.

OUR 3 YEAR PLAN: WHAT DOES “GOOD” LOOK LIKE?

This was a question we recently asked ourselves about the Girls Home. In three years (2014) we aim to see a school and home that:

- Provides well managed and “structured” care (prompt medical attention, acceptable accommodation to a local standard, child safety practices in place, good hygiene & education, nutritionally balanced food, SGVTS seen as an efficient and cost-effective solution);
- SGVTS accommodates 100 girls, but supports an additional 50 girls in other locations (who have come through the SGVTS program);
- The girls are happy, well behaved, thriving; and contributing to the running of the home;
- Every girl 14 years and above has an individual tailored development plan focused on her strengths aimed at opening up job opportunities for her future;
- Girls 18+ years are successfully transitioning from the SGVTS into adulthood and independence;
- 30% of SGVTS budgets are supported by SGVTS run businesses and related activities;
- SGVTS is reaching a wider number of desperate girls within a region wide social/support program of some kind.



A FINAL WORD OF THANKS

Projects like the SGVTS take hours of work, campaigning and presentations. It would not be possible without the generous and ongoing support of our donors. You are receiving this report because you are part of this projects support family. We receive a lot of praise from people about this project and what it is achieving, however, truthfully, we see all of our donors as the real hero's in this story. Without your support, none of this would be possible and most of these girls would not have opportunities to dream. Our desire to make a difference to needy children of this world live or die based on your generosity. 2010 was an incredible year and 2011 is shaping up to be so much more. For this we cannot thank you enough. *Xie Xie Ni.*

