

All About the Girl

The Work of Captivating in China
July to December 2019



CAPTIVATING



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*you
are
loved*



Andrew's CEO Letter

Welcome to another edition of our ALL ABOUT THE GIRL update. What a busy year 2019 has been - we have so much to report.

You'll notice a few significant changes with this edition (if you've been a regular follower of our AATG update). Firstly, we will be updating you with 6 monthly AATG updates (rather than annual). This, we hope, will make it easier for you to feel a bit closer and more involved with our programs and the stories of the amazing transformations taking place for the many that we are collectively helping together. Secondly, we have expanded the reach of the AATG update to include ALL the work Captivating does in China. Again, we hope this helps you understand your "Captivating" partnership and journey. It certainly assists us in being more efficient and consistent with our various program updates.

I say this in most updates, but it's so important to us. Captivating is able to do all we do because of amazing partnerships. All our work comes under the umbrella of the Shenzhen Charity Federation which audits and approves funding allocations to our projects in China. We have amazing implementing partners: Carrie and her hard working team at Shamtse Charity; The team at LOVEQTRA; and Li Yang and her team at House of Love. Of course, none of this work could happen without the financial partnership of so many. We can't thank you enough and we hope you are enjoying your partnership with us. We are changing lives together. Please tell us how we're going and how we can improve.

You will read in this report that 2019 saw us reach our goal of impacting the lives of collectively over 1,000 young women, single moms and their children in remote locations of China.

Our Impact in 2019

Young women currently enrolled in The VSS program	264
My First Job Program	120
Lives improved through the Pigs for Poverty Program	600
Husky Energy Tailoring Program	24
SGVTS	60
TOTAL	1,068

This isn't just providing food or some training, it's about creating lasting and transformational change to each of these lives. We truly believe that these 1,000 are genuinely "reaching out for a better tomorrow" thanks to our combined efforts in 2019. In addition, we believe that close to 5,000 people have benefitted indirectly from our work. Thanks again for making this possible.



You will also read that during this next six month period, Captivating will conclude our partnership with the amazing Seng Girls Vocational Training School program after 10 years of working together. This is both a happy and sad development - happy, because the SGVTS program no longer requires our support from the beginning of the next school year, but sad because all the memories and associations this program has created over the years.

We will miss them, but thankful we have been an important part of the lives of so many girls who have come through this program. If you've been a partner with us in this work, we send a massive "thank you" to you.

As I write this letter, China is uniting together in a fight against a faceless enemy - CoronaVirus. Our thoughts and prayers are with China and all of her people. This will bring many challenges but with it also amazing unity of spirit. China is an amazing nation. China and her people will prevail. Keep safe everyone.



Andrew Colquhoun
CEO, CO-FOUNDER | CAPTIVATING

Vocational School Scholarship Program



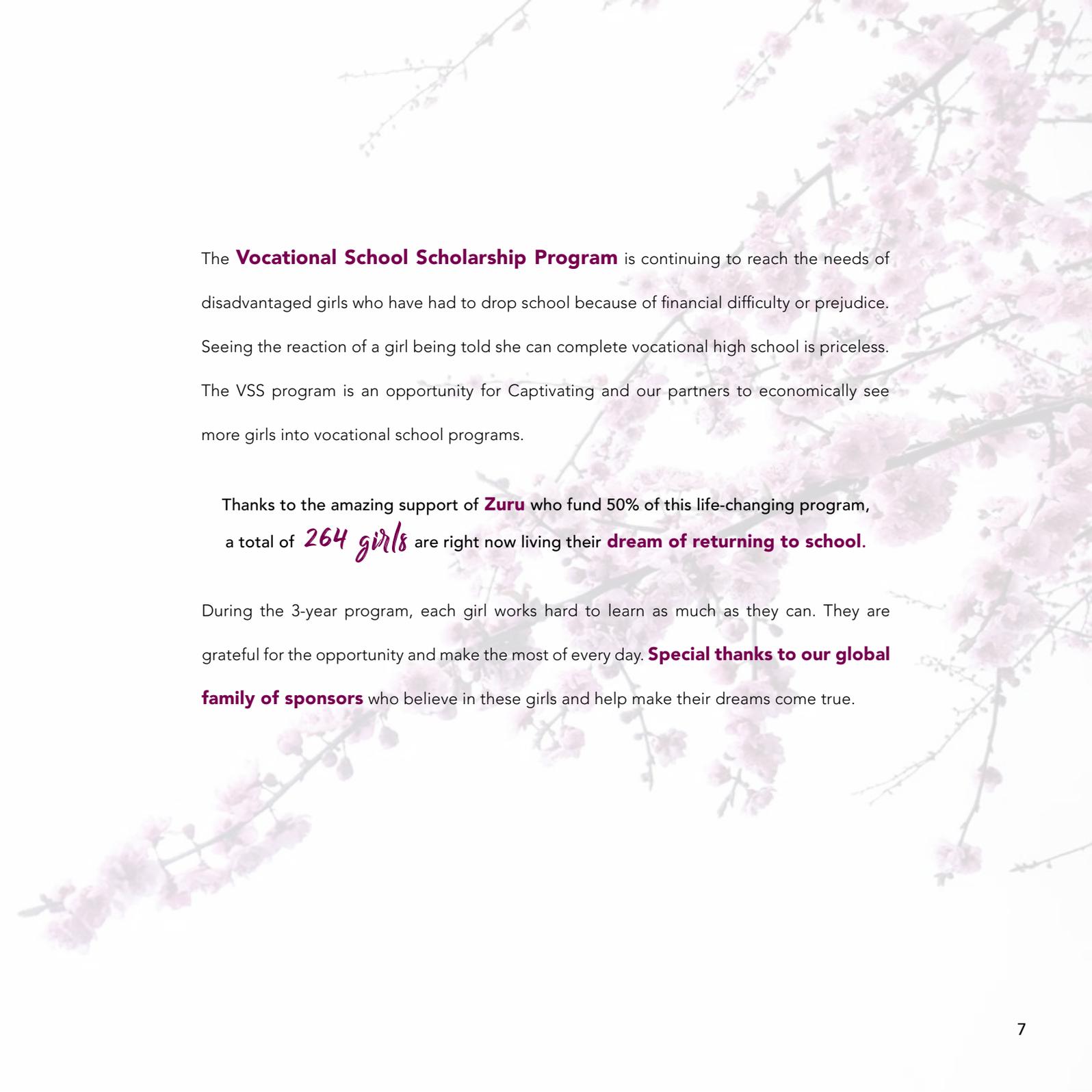
ZURUTM

pch
we make

 **Husky**

11th Shenzhen Charity Federation 第十一屆
CAPTIVATING 深圳慈善聯合會·開曼威汀基金
ANNUAL CHARITY AUCTION 年度慈善拍賣會

Captivating Sponsorship Family

The background of the page is a soft-focus image of pink cherry blossoms on dark branches, set against a light, hazy sky. The blossoms are in various stages of bloom, with some showing distinct petals and centers. The overall tone is gentle and hopeful.

The **Vocational School Scholarship Program** is continuing to reach the needs of disadvantaged girls who have had to drop school because of financial difficulty or prejudice. Seeing the reaction of a girl being told she can complete vocational high school is priceless. The VSS program is an opportunity for Captivating and our partners to economically see more girls into vocational school programs.

Thanks to the amazing support of **Zuru** who fund 50% of this life-changing program, a total of *264 girls* are right now living their **dream of returning to school**.

During the 3-year program, each girl works hard to learn as much as they can. They are grateful for the opportunity and make the most of every day. **Special thanks to our global family of sponsors** who believe in these girls and help make their dreams come true.

The first cohort of *46 graduates* completed their courses in July 2019

- *27 girls* have jobs (including teachers, accountants, medical assistants, administration officers, and pharmacy staff)
- *17 girls* are furthering their education in their field of interest
- *2 girls* are unable to be contacted due mainly to changed phone and WeChat numbers

7 girls left the program during 2019 due to health or family issues

64 girls are about to begin their internship and will graduate in July 2020

The girls travel from different places throughout Qinghai Province and are attending wonderful schools where they are studying:

- Nursing
- Tibetan Medicine
- Accounting
- Business Management
- Preschool Education
- Computer and Architecture
- Applied Chemical Engineering (specialised design and construction of production plants for innovative chemical processes)

We are very proud of each of *these girls*
and the positive steps they are taking *for their future.*

Kanre's Story

When I dropped out of school because of financial difficulties, I thought I was the most unfortunate person. I envied other girls my age who went to school. I felt left out whenever they started talking about stuff at school. I badly wished I could study again but the circumstances at that time made it impossible.

In 2017, with the help of my sponsor at Captivating and Shamtse Charity, I have successfully returned to school to study Nursing. In a span of two years, I have mastered the basic theoretical knowledge of nursing, including obstetrics and gynecology, surgery, pediatrics, anatomy, internal medicine and other subjects.

In December, I entered a seven-month internship where we rotate within three departments and come into contact with different environments. Over time, I grew to like my job more and more. In the future, I aspire to be a competent nurse and serve my patients wholeheartedly, fighting all kinds of illnesses and helping people - young and old - grow healthy and live longer.

After my internship, I will have successfully completed my three-year study and will graduate in July. How time flies!

I only had the opportunity to learn and experience all these in school with the help of kind people like you. You changed my destiny.

I am very grateful for your support and help, making me more patient and caring to serve others. Thank you for your help, I will never forget it.

Thank you Glenn E. for sponsoring Kanre and helping to make it possible for her dreams to come true.





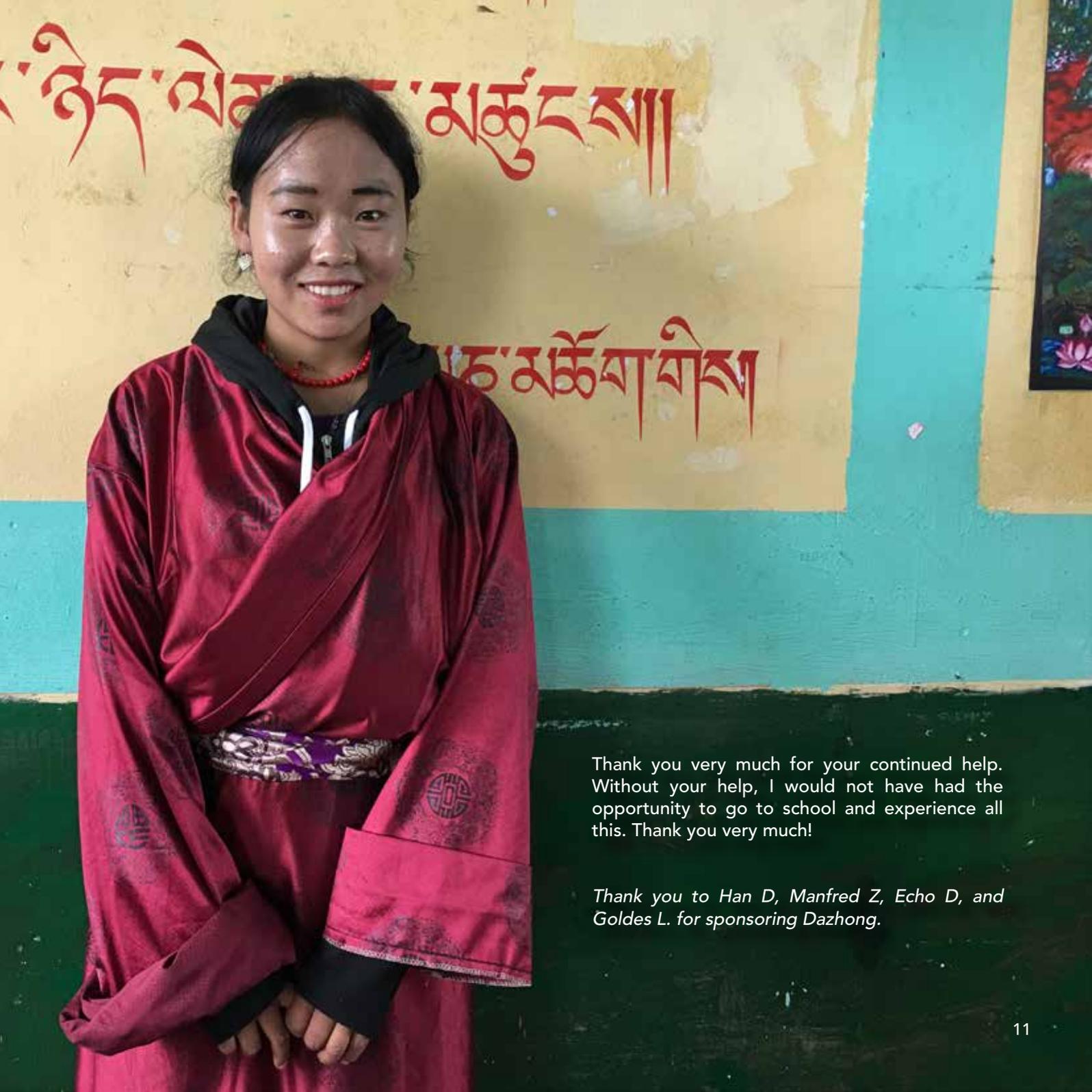
Dazhong's Story

I come from a poor and illiterate family in a small village in Qinghai. My father died when I was just 4 years old and my mother took on all the responsibility of taking care of me and my brother.

When she got sick, I had to drop out of school to help with the housework. I would see other girls my age return to our village during school vacations, and I always wondered what new things they had learned at school, how many new friends they made, and how engaging the learning environment was. I would imagine myself in the classroom reading a textbook, or in the school grounds playing with my classmates.

In 2017, I had the opportunity to enter the VSS Program and return to school. I took up Tibetan Medicine. I promised myself that if I had the opportunity to study, I would make good use of it and work hard to learn, with the hopes of one day curing my mother's illness and help those who cannot afford access to health care services.

I started my internship in December at a local hospital, and will graduate in July next year. After graduation, I aim to find a good and stable job and carry on the good work.



Thank you very much for your continued help. Without your help, I would not have had the opportunity to go to school and experience all this. Thank you very much!

Thank you to Han D, Manfred Z, Echo D, and Goldes L. for sponsoring Dazhong.

The VSS Program has been helpful in all aspects of my life - both at home and in school. The sponsorship has allowed me to go back to school and continue my studies.

I am studying Tibetan Medicine. In just a couple of months, I already learned a lot. When I finish my studies, I aim to find a stable job in a hospital and be a good medical staff helping to save lives.

Thank you for giving me such an opportunity. When I gave up my dream of learning, it was you who helped me. With your help, I saw hope and returned to school to study. Thank you for helping me out in the most difficult time for me and my family.

Thank you to Yvonne L. for sponsoring Drolma's studies.



-Drolma





I dropped out after graduating from middle school in 2017, and had to work to help my single mother provide for me and my sister.

In September 2019, I entered the VSS Program and was sponsored to return to school. I am currently studying Applied Chemical Technology (specialised design and construction of production plants for chemical processes) and I hope to find a stable job in this line of industry after I graduate.

For the past few months, I have already encountered a number of setbacks - failing in assigned tasks in practical classes - but I will not give up on learning. All that I have experienced in the past months have only taught me to become stronger and more responsible.

I sincerely thank my sponsor, Dustin T., and the kind staff for their help. I will cherish this opportunity and maximize it to learn and lead a better life in the future, not only for me but also for my mother who has sacrificed a lot for me. Thank you again for your kind help. I wish you all the best, good health and good luck! Thank you!

-Drugmokyid



8 VSS Graduating Girls

Congratulations to the 46



14

4 VSS Graduating Girls



VSS Graduate



6 VSS Graduating Girls

Graduating Girls of 2019



8 VSS Graduating Girls

It's All About the Girl

THE NUMBERS

	2016	2017	2018	2019	notes
Vocational School Scholarship (VSS) - 3 year program					
Class of Sept 2016	60	54	46	graduated July	77% of original class completed the program (46 girls)
Class of Sept 2017		73	72	64	88% of original class still in the program
Class of Sept 2018			102	98	96% of original class still in the program
Class of Sept 2019				102	started September 2019
TOTAL	60	127	220	264	Currently enrolled in VSS
The impact					
# of girls who graduated	46				
# of girls employed	27				
# of girls furthering their education	17				
% of graduating girls successful	96%				
MY FIRST JOB (MFJ) - 6 month program					
Started MFJ training	10	40	30	120	4 programs started in 2019 due to finish early 2020; impact still to be assessed
The impact					
# of girls who graduated	9	33	30		
# of girls employed	9	23	25		
% of graduates now with jobs	100%	70%	83%		
TOTAL GIRLS HELPED IN THE YEAR	70	167	250	384	

- Total girls in the program **have increased** this year by **134** (65%).
- **46 girls graduated** from the VSS program. 1 girl's schooling and internship was delayed for 1 year because of sickness. We are excited that **64 girls** from our second-year intake (2017) will start or have started their final year internships. Every school has a different internship schedule.
- **120 women** started the My First Job Assistant Chef program during July to December 2019. The program training and internship will conclude between February and April 2020. We look forward to reporting on the graduating women and their job outcomes.
- Realistically, we had been hoping to see 70% or more girls graduate from either program, and it's thrilling to see our **83% graduation rate** of the MFJ program and **77%** of the VSS program. Because we specifically look for girls who have already dropped out of school, both programs will be challenging for some because of stress from catching up, and/or family issues to deal with. But this result has exceeded our expectations.





My First Job



Captivating Sponsorship Family



The **My First Job: Assistant Chef Program** continues to bring skills and new opportunities to women who have missed out on most of their schooling. Between July and December 2019, **4 different classes** began in different locations throughout Western China.

120 women, most of whom have never been to school and are largely illiterate, started the journey to become assistant chefs with 4 months of intensive training and exposure to various ingredients that they have not used before. During the course of the program, each woman will learn how to prepare Chinese and Tibetan cuisine. The program concludes with a 2-month internship which we hope will lead into ongoing employment. Graduation from these 4 programs will be between February and April 2020.

So far, 15 women have dropped out of the program because of health issues or because a family member (grandparent, parent or child) fell ill and they needed to go home to take care of them.

Thank you to **ZURU** for believing in this project and once again, funding half of the program. A special thanks to those at the **11th Annual Charity Auction**, the **Shenzhen Midnight Charity Run**, and our amazing **sponsorship family** who have helped support this project, bringing confidence and skills to these women.



Salhakyid's Story

I am Salhakyid, a mother of three children. Our family is poor and we live a life that seems isolated from the outside world. I've become a full-time housewife in order to take care of the children, while my husband works.

After sending the kids to school and finishing the housework, I try to learn recipes from the Internet. I record and save them, and watch them repeatedly until I learn. I also try to improve my language ability while learning to cook. I am illiterate and I'm very slow at recognizing words, but I repeatedly read and remember the names of the dishes and the seasonings. I feel good about myself and am willing to keep learning. Every time my husband returns home after a long day of working hard, I take out the food I have learned and they all like it very much.

I was so fortunate to be able to join the cooking training to learn cooking professionally so that I could earn money to support my family. I can't describe how happy I was at that time. I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

I always had this idea of opening a restaurant of my own. Although I still lack the capital to start a business, my family remains very supportive. My teacher also recognizes my skills and believes that I can eventually make my dream come true.

Sincere thanks to my sponsors, and thank you for your unconditional help. This has changed my life.



Tserang's Story

I am Tserang and I have a 15-year-old son. Since I injured my foot and leg in an accident, it has been difficult for me to walk. My husband looked down on me because of this, and eventually abandoned us. I didn't give up, instead, worked harder for me and my son to survive.

I tried to participate in a cooking class. However, it was difficult for me to understand since I have never been to school.

In July 2019, I was fortunate to be able to participate in the My First Job Program. When I checked in on the first day, I saw a Tibetan teacher who taught cooking in Tibetan. I was very happy and excited. The desire to cook Tibetan food and learn Chinese food was realized here. I like cooking very much. I hope my father and son can eat delicious food every day. I also hope that I can use this skill to make money and help my family live a better life.

Compared to the other students, my learning pace is a bit slower. The teacher helps me to finish each dish. When I get home, I ask help from my son to read the whole process on the menu. I am determined to study hard.

I completed my training and am about to finish my internship. I am looking forward to a good future for me and my son.



Hardwork is Rewarded

Competition brings growth and learning. During the My First Job program, the winners of a cooking competition won a small prize and a certificate of accomplishment. Well done to these women who are outstanding cooks.





Dorje's Story

My name is Dorje and I am a mother of two children. As a full-time mom and housewife, I spend most of my time at home with my children while my husband is away for work. I figured that I could learn something new that I could enjoy and earn from at the same time. Through the help of technology, I tried learning how to cook new recipes.

When I learned about the My First Job Program, I signed up immediately. I've always enjoyed cooking and I am eager to develop the skill further. I am very happy that there are sponsorships and opportunities like this for people like me who can't afford such trainings.

Our teacher has been very persistent and patient with us, assisting us until we master the technique. He encourages and treats everyone equally.

I aspire to open a restaurant of my own. This way, I can work and still be able to spend quality time with my family. My husband has also been very supportive and we are both saving up so we could make our dream of having our own business come true someday.



Husky Energy Tailoring Skills for Women

Thank you to **Husky Energy** for believing in these women and giving them the chance to develop skills which will open doors for new opportunities.



The **2019 Husky Energy Tailoring Skills for Women Program** started in July 2019 and ended in November 2019. **30 women**, aged between 19 to 37 years, came from various villages in remote Qinghai. Some of them have only studied until primary level, while the majority haven't been to school at all, making it difficult for them to find a decent and stable job. Six of the women had to drop out of the program due to illness and family issues.

During the four-month training, the women learned about the theory of tailoring, how to measure and cut out fabric, and how to operate a sewing machine. They successfully learned how to make traditional Tibetan and Mongolian clothes as well as quality Chinese clothing. In November 2019, **24 women successfully graduated** from the program.

Through this program, *24 women* acquired not only **employable skills** but also the **confidence in themselves** to help support and provide **a better future for their families and children**.



My family used to own cattle and sheep. However we had to sell them in order to provide for the family. We have to rely solely on my husband's meager income.

I joined the Husky Tailoring Skills Training Program in July 2019, I had the opportunity to learn the tailoring trade and earn a skill that will help me get a good job to relieve the financial burden for my family.

It was difficult at first having no educational foundation at all. I didn't know how to read numbers or even use a ruler. After a few days, I felt that I could keep up with the teacher's pace. I learned a lot from the training and I never missed a class.

I graduated the training and internship in November 2019. I look forward to securing a job to provide a better future for my three children.

-Rinchentso

I have never been to school and could only find work here and there as a waitress but because of my poor health, I can't work long hours. I am a single mother with two sons.

Since I was a child, I liked making clothes. My mother can make clothes so I learned a little from her. I was accepted into the Husky Energy Tailoring Skills program in October 2018 and through four months of systematic learning, I learned how to make clothes independently. I can make Mongolian and Tibetan clothes. Tibetan clothes are relatively simple and I'm good at making them. Meanwhile, Mongolian clothes are more challenging to make especially the laces, and usually takes five or six days to finish.

I successfully graduated from the program in July 2019 and began working. I am happy that I can now earn money from something that I enjoy doing. I now earn a good salary with bonus commission for each piece of clothing I finish. I am grateful for this opportunity and I know I will be able to support my family.

-Huadron



My Health, My Family, Our Safety Program



Special thanks to **ASBV Charity** for funding
50% of this project.

Thank you to the following donors for sponsoring a
township presentation: **Bennie M, Greg S, Jason L,
Lynn V, Nicky Z, Shufang S, Yingji J, Jeff O.**



From July to December 2019, **My Health, My Family, Our Safety 2019 Program** was conducted in *5 townships* which was participated in by a total of *976 locals*; among them were *423 women*.

Along with general health education, this program aims to increase awareness and educate women on maternal and child health, and prevention of diseases such as tuberculosis, AIDS, and gynecological problems.

Aside from individual consultations/check-ups and health education, the team distributed medicines and personal hygiene kits.

The remaining *5 townships* will participate in the project throughout January 2020.

Keeping Her Family Safe

When the **My Health, My Family, Our Safety** program came to Gazangji's region, she was hopeful that someone could help her. She had endured poor health for many years because she could not afford to go to the doctors. Gazangji was never able to go to school because of how poor her family was. She got married at the age of 20 but divorced 5 years later. Her husband left and didn't want the children. She couldn't care for them so they are living with her mother.



Gazangji works hard to support her mother and children by working in restaurants and construction sites during autumn and winter, and dig Cordyceps (caterpillar fungus) in summer.

During the **My Health, My Family, Our Safety** program, Gazangji received a free consultation with the doctor. She could hardly express how much the health training and information meant to her. She was grateful for the opportunity to learn about disease prevention and how she can manage her health better. The best part of this is that she is excited to convey what she learned to her family and friends. Programs like this are successful when the participant start conversations about what they have learned.



Understanding Basic Health Care

The team of doctors and nurses spent time with the villagers at each of the stops during the 2019 program and explained good health practices and provided medical checks for those who needed them. Due to the remoteness of the region and the long and tiring trip it would take to get to the medical centre, many women in this community have never seen a doctor. Lamazhuoma is one of them.

Lamazhuoma, 33 years old, has never been to school. She is now married, and takes care of her two young children and sick mother-in-law, while her husband works at construction sites. Her husband had never been to school either, so he only has limited employment opportunities, while they all have to depend on his small income. She was very grateful for the health training and consultation. The programs helped her understand basic health care and the importance of a healthy lifestyle. She is now teaching her children to develop good habits to protect them from disease.



Pigs for Poverty Program



SHENZHEN CHARITY
FEDERATION
深圳市慈善会



179 families received 2 pigs each during the first half of this year, with the other *21 families* receiving theirs during the latter half of this year. Each family received training from professionals on pig breeding as well as vaccination schedules, providing quality feed and understanding the importance that healthy pigs means more piglets. Each family was very excited to receive their pigs and are confident that they will achieve self-sustainability.

Pig breeding can increase family income as well as allowing moms to stay home and run their small businesses rather than leaving the children at home on their own to go to the city to work.

**We will help another *125 families and single mothers*
in the summer of 2020.**

Our thanks to **GPA Global** for underwriting our 2020 project.

Together, we will **help bring financial independence to those who need help.**

Message from Two Single Moms

I am 48 years old. I am a single mother of three children. We are farmers so our main source of income depends on crops. I had never been to school. My health is not good so it is difficult to find work enough to support my children.



I want my children to go to school and receive a good education. I know that makes a big difference to their future. My older child already has to go out to work to help our family manage.

We grow vegetables and potatoes, but the income we earn by selling them every year is not enough for our family. I'm very lucky to have your support. Now I have started to raise these two pigs. Although I am not good at doing business, I am confident that I can raise pigs because it is not heavy work and I can take care of my family. Thank you!



Thank you for your support and help to me and my family. As a single mother, the local government has given me a lot of help and encouragement but my family is still poor. I work hard to send my children to school.

Thank you very much for your kindness of supporting me with two breeding pigs.

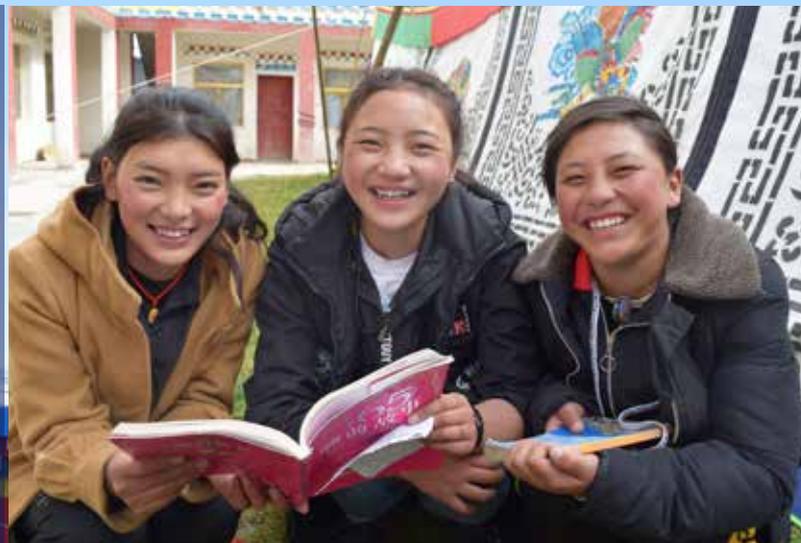
"I know that I can now provide a good future for my children."



Seng Girls Vocational Training School

Amazing 10 Years

It's with both a mixture of sadness and joy that we communicate this next bit of news. Since 2009, Captivating has underwritten the wonderful **Seng Girls Vocational Training School (SGVTS)** in Qinghai. It seems just yesterday that we first met the founder of the school, Dockpo, and his team and learning of his desire to provide an education to nomadic and semi-nomadic girls who were missing out on schooling due to a combination of family prejudice and remote hardship of getting to school. Girls were missing out on an education because it was not seen as being a worthwhile family investment.



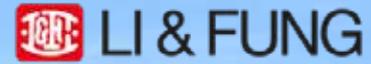
Dockpo wanted to change that, and since our association with him, over 300 girls lives have been impacted giving them genuine choices and making their education dreams come alive again.

A lot has changed over our 10 years of working together, and some amazing developments and improvements have also taken place in more recent times. The great news is that by the commencement of the next school year (September 2020) our financial support of the SGVTS will no longer be required thanks to local government involvement and support of the school. This is wonderful news for Dockpo and the girls currently at the school, and all those that will follow.

We have so many wonderful memories of our time with the SGVTS girls (as can be seen from the pictures shown here) and we are excited for how the girls will impact their communities and families. We will certainly miss being involved ongoing with this project.

Our thanks to all of you who have supported this program over the years. Our special thanks to Paula Whalen who has been with us since the very beginning along with Lynn and Gus Velez; the Li & Fung Foundation and many of it's employees; our Shenzhen school community; the amazing Shenzhen Charity Federation; the Shenzhen Charity Auction and all those who have sponsored girls through the years. You have all truly blessed and sown into many lives (as if they were your own daughters).

Finally, our special thanks and congratulations to Dockpo for all his hard work and effort. We were honored to partner with you.





Over 300 girls...





...educated over *10* years





House of Love



House of Love provides care, ability training, and psychological counseling for orphans and persons with special needs. It also provides services for children with different degrees of mental and physical learning conditions such as painting, reading, writing, jigsaw puzzle, etc., as well as hand-knitting, one-to-one psychological counseling, and healthy habit training. These services aim to stimulate the children's internal potential, enhance their confidence, equip them to help others with disabilities, and help them find value and significance in life while having fun.

Between July and December 2019, we have underwritten the work of HOL supporting a total of *206 orphans and persons with special needs.*

Some of the activities conducted were:

- weaving beaded decorations for the Dongguan and local Christmas charity sale
- treating a total of 67 boys and girls to sumptuous meals at a local restaurant
- inviting an art teacher to conduct a workshop with the children
- training employees and improving their skills in caring for special groups
- gift-giving during the Christmas season



Whenever I see the children's expectant eyes, I remember myself as a child when I used to stand by the door waiting for my mother to come home from work. I feel that I can fully understand how they feel, how they look forward to our arrival every time.

I was deeply moved. In their minds, I am like their mother. These children are very eager for a mother's company. In their hearts, aside from food and clothing, the more important thing is for them to experience love.

Only by experiencing love can these children live with hope and joy. Every time they see us coming, their faces lighten up with their smiles. I also found out that some children can't speak very well. But every time they see us coming, they can't help shouting at us: "Mom, you are coming!" I am grateful for this opportunity to serve and care for these children.

Learning to Care for Others

Today, our job was to accompany the boys. When I arrived, I saw the boys playing in the yard or basking in the sun. They all greeted me warmly. Seeing them is like seeing our own children.

Although they are gathered here because of various physical disabilities, each of them has different characteristics. Let me talk about one of the boys. He is short, but he always keeps himself clean and neat. He has small eyes, and a cute laugh. Because of the lack of hugs and physical contact from family members in his childhood, he loves hugging us when we arrive.

Today, as soon as I arrived, he came straight to me and hugged me. Sometimes, he also hugs other children. I suddenly realized the importance of "hugging" to him.

I taught him that we can show our care for others despite our own physical limitations. It is lovely to see that he cares for others. I realized that when we love others, we also show them how to be more caring of those around them.

- Written by one of the HOL staff



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