

All About the Girl

The Work of Captivating in China
July to December 2020



A young girl with a joyful expression is the central focus. She wears a brown knit beanie and a vibrant purple quilted jacket. In her arms, she cradles a small, fluffy black and tan puppy. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene. On the left side of the page, there are decorative blue line-art illustrations of leafy branches and small berries.

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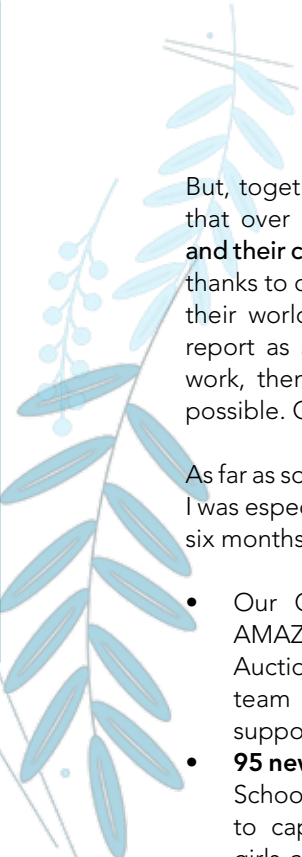
Message from the CEO

Dear Supporters of Captivating China,

Firstly, a belated happy new year to all of you, and thanks for your support through a challenging 2020. WE MADE IT, and I hope you did as well. Fingers crossed 2021 is a year of great progress for all of us.

In China, Feb 12th marks the beginning of the Year of the Ox, denoting the hard work, positivity and honesty that will [we hope] be characterised in all of us this coming 12 months. Others say the ox is “grounded, loyal, gentle and trustworthy”. Those are great qualities and words we will work hard to see at Captivating in 2021.

The report you are about to read is a snapshot of our Captivating China world for the second half of 2020. We are INCREDIBLY proud of what was accomplished in a year of low expectations. Our battle-cry in March with COVID bringing everything to a halt around the world was “Brace. Survive to fight another day”. Instead we ended the year very close to our original 2020 impact goals. Amazing. There were of course some holdups, hiccups. You will read about some of these. Regular creative solutions were constantly required to meet our project goals while still complying with Covid restrictions.



But, together, we can proudly look back and know that over **1,000 young women, struggling moms and their children** are today in more stable situations thanks to our purpose and passion being to change their world for the better. If you are reading this report as someone who financially supported our work, then it's you who helped make this impact possible. Give yourself a pat on the back.

As far as some of the highlights from my perspective, I was especially thrilled with the following these past six months:

- Our Captivating China team pulled off an AMAZING annual October Shenzhen Charity Auction without many of the regular foreigner team on-the-ground. And, they were so well supported by the local Shenzhen population;
- **95 new girls** started in the three-year Vocational School Scholarship program, bringing us close to capacity in this project (277 girls). These girls are from extremely remote locations and it's credit to the hard work of our program managers and coordinators who continued to work tirelessly to make education dreams come true;
- **150 largely uneducated women** went through intensive training to fast-track them to becoming professional assistant chefs and tailors. These programs are just concluding and the success rates have been phenomenal in such a challenging year;
- the ongoing commitment by our staff and volunteers through a difficult year is something words are inadequate to express. Stress levels have been high, and all staff shared in salary reductions through our most difficult quarters. But, we made it. We are stronger, leaner, better.



We hope you enjoy reading all that has been possible these past six months. Our thanks especially to our core sponsors who underwrite everything we do. You have been rock solid through a year we know was difficult for you also.

Welcome to our **All About The Girl** update for Captivating China, for that, quite literally, is what we're all about. Thanks for journeying with us and trusting us with your financial support.



Andrew Colquhoun
CEO & CO-FOUNDER | Captivating

It's All About the Girl

THE NUMBERS



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE GIRL

The Numbers

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	notes
Vocational School Scholarship (VSS) - 3 year program						
Class of Sept 2016	60	54	46			76% of original class graduated July 2019
Class of Sept 2017		73	72	62		85% of original class graduated July 2020
Class of Sept 2018			103	98		90 88% of original class still in the program
Class of Sept 2019				105		92 88% of original class still in the program
Class of Sept 2020						95 # of girls joined the program in September 2020
TOTAL	60	127	221	265	277	
The impact						
# of girls who graduated				46	62	
# of girls employed				27	54	updated with a 12 month post graduation review
# of girls furthering their education				17	2	updated with a 12 month post graduation review
% of graduates employed or in advanced studies				96%	90%	
MY FIRST JOB (MFJ) - 6 month program						
Started MFJ training	10	40	30	120	120	
The impact						
# of women who graduated	9	33	30	103	113	
# of women employed	9	23	26	91		updated with a 12 month review
% of graduates now with jobs	100%	70%	87%	88%		
HUSKY ENERGY TAILORING SKILLS FOR WOMEN PROGRAM (HET) - 6 month program						
Started HET training			44	30	30	
The impact						
# of women who graduated			43	24	27	
# of women employed			33	19	27	updated with a 12 month post graduation review
% of graduates now with jobs			77%	79%	100%	
TOTAL GIRLS HELPED IN THE YEAR	70	167	295	415	427	

THE NARRATIVE

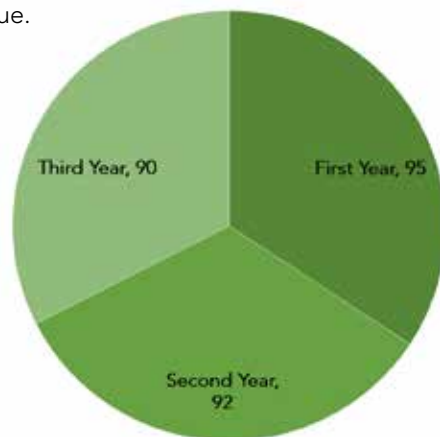
- **62 girls graduated** from the Vocational School Scholarship program in July 2020. We are excited that **90 girls** from our 2018 intake **will start their internships** in March 2021. Every school has a different internship schedule but this is when the majority of girls will start.
- **113 women completed the My First Job Assistant Chef Program** in December 2020. Some women are still completing their internships which are scheduled to end by April 2021. We look forward to reporting on the graduating women and their job outcomes in our next update in mid 2021.
- **27 women graduated** from the Husky Energy Tailoring Skills for Women program in November 2020. 100% of them have been consistently earning tailoring-based incomes which we are thrilled to see. We will review again in 12 months.
- Realistically, we have been hoping to see a 70% or more success rate for graduates from all programs, and it's thrilling to see **85% for the VSS program and 88% graduation rate of the MFJ program**.
- Because we specifically look for girls who have already dropped out of school, the VSS program will be challenging for some girls because of stress from catching up, and/or family issues to deal with. But this result is exceeding our expectations.

Vocational School Scholarship Program

The Vocational School Scholarship program is a 3-year vocational schooling program where girls, mostly from agricultural and pastoral areas in Qinghai region, are no longer in school. These girls have had to drop school because of (1) prejudice, of (2) their families are not able to financially support their education or sometimes, (3) because of the old traditional view that educating girls is not worthwhile. Whatever their reason, they are not in school, and this program makes a way for them to complete their education.

Thanks to the amazing support of **ZURU** who fund 50% of this life-changing program, a total of **277 girls** are studying in a field of their choice, growing in confidence and independence. A dream most thought would never come true.

Thank you to our Sponsorship Family for sponsoring these girls, and several other key companies who get behind this program (see logos). Together, we are making dreams come true.



Number of girls per year level

ZURU

Captivating Sponsorship Family

Shenzhen Charity Federation 第十一屆
CAPTIVATING 深圳市慈善會·开普威汀基金
ANNUAL CHARITY AUCTION 年度慈善拍卖会

 **LI & FUNG**

pch
we make

 **Husky**

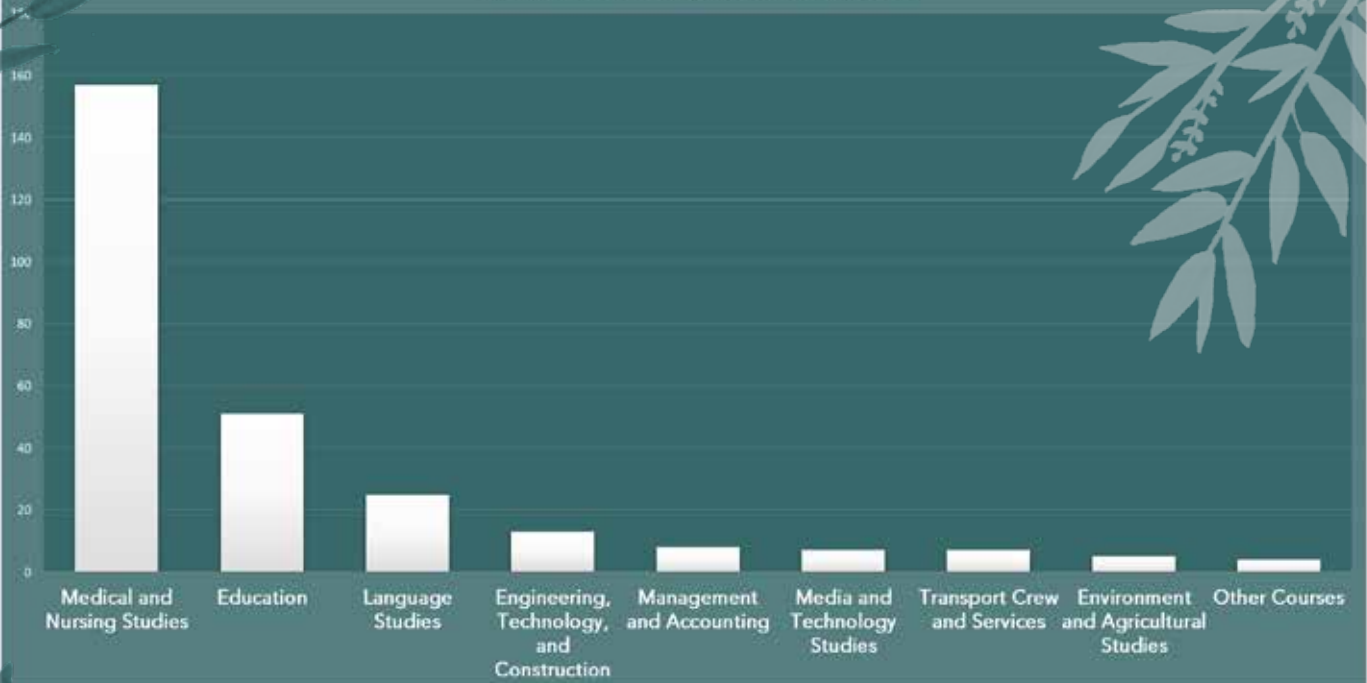
W.K.



 **BASIS**
INTERNATIONALSM
SCHOOL
Park Lane Harbour

Kenneth Whalen
Family Foundation

Number of Girls Studying Different Courses



Heartwarming Job for Rinchen

My name is Rinchen. I was so lucky to go back to school in 2017 and study nursing. I had to drop out of school because my parents weren't able to afford to keep sending me.

When I first came to the school, I was very excited. I was happy for this opportunity to learn nursing. It has been a shining part of my life. I have learned about quality patient care, how to care for sick children, and how to assist patients after surgery.

Over the past 3 years, I have changed and grown so much. In the blink of an eye, I was completing my internship in a public hospital. The theory I had learned all started to make sense and the nurses department helped me master the art on injections and drawing blood. Nursing is hard work and I am usually very physically and mentally tired. But the trust that patients and their families place on me warms my heart that I am making a difference in the world. Thank you to Peter & Elaine for sponsoring me through this program. I can't believe you did this for me.

PHOTO: Rinchen (left) with her family

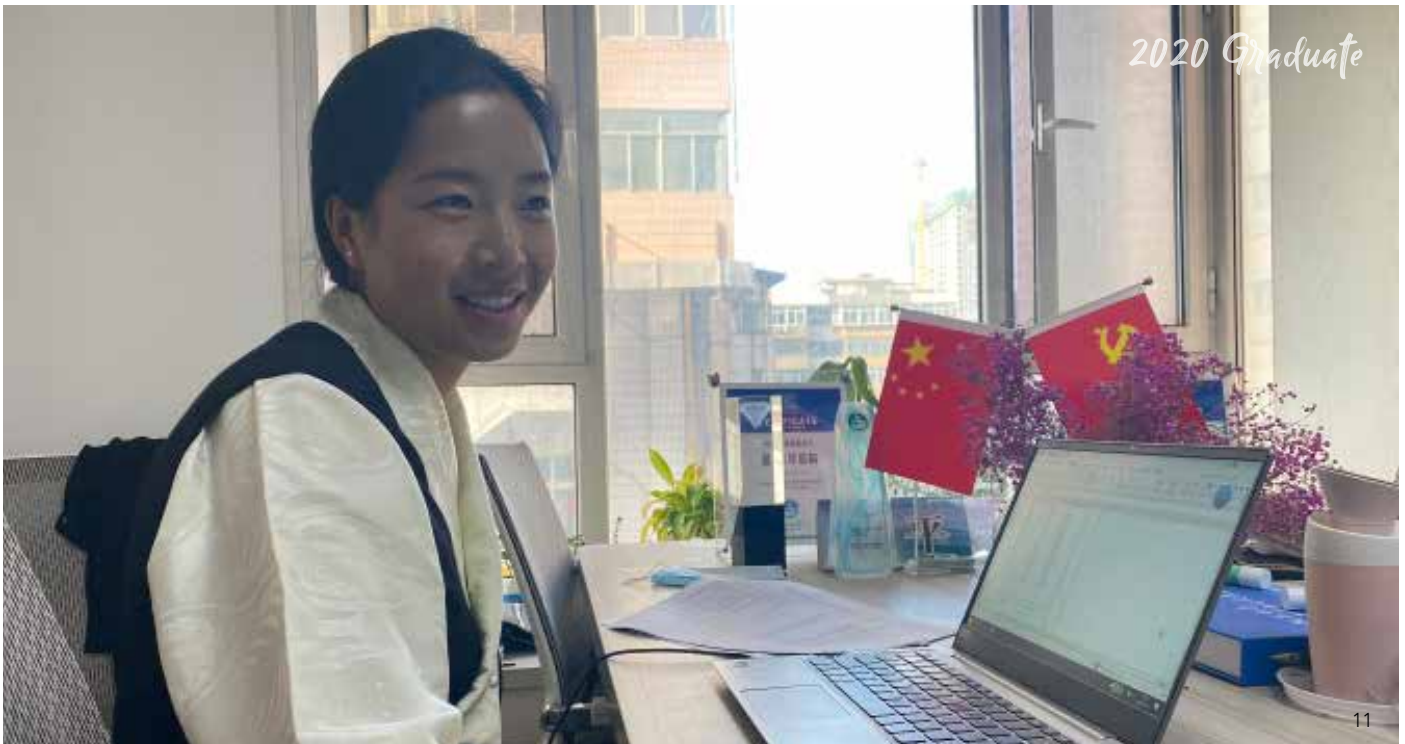
A Better Person

My name is Dolmatar and I had to drop school after I finished primary school. We had a very happy life but my father became seriously ill and now he is disabled. My mother now has to provide for the family including my aging grandparents. Because of all this, I knew my mother couldn't afford to keep sending me to school.

I was honored to be able to go back to school in September 2017 and study Computer Science. At first, I was very confused but I soon got used to life in school and learning my major. I have discovered a love for reading and read as much as I can.

During my internship, I learned much about money related data entry and making sure I do not make mistakes. I believe I have become a better person than before. I have met my dearest friends who have accompanied me through these 3 years of study. I will never forget my classmates and beloved teachers.

Thank you to ZURU for making my dreams come true.



2020 Graduate

The Best Learning Experience for Serab

My name is Serab. I am part of a large family who all live together. I had to drop school because my family couldn't afford to keep sending me along with my brothers and sister, as well as pay for the medical bills of my sick mother. I was jealous every day when I saw the other children go to school. I wished I could go with them.

My dream came true in September 2017 when I was able to go back to school. My major is Tibetan Pharmaceutical which matches my dream to help other people like my mother receive the medical treatment and help they need.

When I first entered school, I felt that 3 years was such a long time. Before I knew it, I was beginning my internship in a local hospital. The staff there were outstanding and my time there was filled with wonderful memories. We all took good care of the patients and documented everything correctly. I made a lot of progress through my internship. Now that I've graduated, I look back on the past 3 years and know that I have had the best learning experience and ready to start the career of my dreams.

Thank you to ZURU for sponsoring me and making my dreams come true.



3rd Year

For Riskyid's Grandparents

My name is Riskyid. I love my grandparents for taking me in and raising me when I had no one else. When I got to grade 8, I had to drop out of school because my grandparents were struggling financially. I knew they always wanted more for me.

I was so glad to be able to go back to school in September 2018. I felt very lucky that I had the opportunity to study nursing. I vowed I would cherish it every day. I want to be able to graduate and be able to get a good job so I can support my grandparents who have given so much of themselves for me.

I love life at my school and have made solid friendships. Together we exercise, help each other with studying and keep each other positive and optimistic. I rank in the top 10 in my classes and was awarded the League Member in the school.

I am about to start my internship in a local hospital. I am a bit nervous but I am looking forward to putting everything that I have learned into practice. I want to be a good nurse and help those who need medical help. Thank you to Nicky Z for sponsoring me and making my dreams come true.

Riskyid with her grandmother

3rd Year

Reignited Hope for Pengmo

Pengmo (right) with Captivating
China Manager Tracy (left)

My name is Pengmo. When I was 5 years old, my father passed away and my mother remarried. I went to live with my grandparents and uncle. Education was not important to them so I dropped school after grade 8. I missed learning and wished I could return.

In September 2018, I was very excited to return to school and study my favorite subject, Teaching. I want to be a teacher so I can teach other girls just like me and inspire them to fight for their dreams.

My subjects are Tibetan calligraphy, grammar, Literature, History, and poetics. I love physical education as well as the Mandarin and Chinese language classes. I am in the top 5 in my class and get good marks on all my subjects. I think my biggest strength is writing. I participate in writing contests and often win prizes.

Thank you to Valerie C for giving me the opportunity to study here and reignite my hope for a successful life.

A Teacher in Her Own Village

My name is Yangkartso. My father was killed when I was a little girl. My mother tried to make ends meet but after my brother was diagnosed with epilepsy, I knew it was difficult for my mother to provide everything for the both of us, so I dropped school.

I am honoured to write to you and tell you that I am back in school majoring in Preschool Education. In the final exam of last semester, I passed all subjects and ranked in the top 10 of my class. I love learning and appreciate this opportunity.

Because of COVID, we couldn't go to school for a while. During that time, I stayed at home. The parents in my village knew that I was studying and sent their children to me and asked me to help them with their learning. At first, I was very shy and embarrassed, but in no time at all, the children were calling me 'teacher'. It was a good opportunity for me to start practicing the things I have been learning. I tutored the children in my village until the schools were open again. I have such wonderful memories.

My dream is to be a kindergarten teacher. Thank you to Regi M and Miao X for sponsoring me and helping my dreams come true.



2nd Year

Not an Ordinary Girl

Hello, my name is Saitsoagal. I had to drop school because my parents couldn't afford to send me and priority was given to my little brother. My mother has poor health and my father tries to find daily laboring work to help us survive.

I returned to school in September 2019 thanks to the Vocational School Scholarship Program. My major is Construction Equipment Engineering.

I like working with my fellow classmates and we help each other out if we don't understand something. My teacher says that this is usually a subject for boys, and as a girl, I need to study well and know as much as there is to know in this subject. I know that even though I am a girl, my dreams and hopes will come true. I want to be able to help my family and have a successful career.

Thank you to Rebecca & Whalen Team and Christina T & Anna M for believing in me and sponsoring me.



Dreams within Reach

Hi my name is Tserang. I had to drop out of school as my single father could not afford to send all 3 of us children to school. He was not able to go to school and he wanted a better life for us, however some things were just out of reach for us.

I am so grateful that I am now back in school studying Nursing. I started back in September 2019.

I have immersed myself in my studies and have learned so many things about nursing already. I needed to work on my handwriting the most so I practiced and practiced. Now, I am a good writer and my teacher is impressed. I have great respect for my teachers.

Thank you to BASIS and Helen Z for sponsoring me to go back to school.

A Second Chance for Tsezing's Dream

My name is Tsezing and I come from a farming family who do our best to live off the land. I had to drop school in 2017 because my family couldn't continue supporting me to go to school. My dreams were shattered. I always dreamed of becoming a doctor or a nurse. I couldn't believe it when I was able to go back to school and learn Tibetan Medicine in September 2019.

I am now in my 2nd year of studies and have learned so much. My teacher is very strict but she is kind and helps me when I am struggling. So far, I have learned how to feel pulses, how to make medicines, and how to identify the many Tibetan herbs used to heal people. I am now among the top 8 students in my class. Thank you Margaret M for sponsoring me so that I can live my dream.

2nd Year



1st Year



Tarshi's Chance of A Lifetime

My name is Tarshi. I had to drop school after grade 7 because of increasing medical bills due to my parents' poor health. My parents struggled to make ends meet. I couldn't believe it when I was given the opportunity to go back to school.

I only just started in September 2020, but I chose Tibetan Medicine as my major. Because of my parent's health issues, I know there is a need for more doctors and nurses. This is a field that I am passionate about. I like my course very much and work hard every day. Everything is so new to me but I am committed to do my best. My subjects include 4 medical classes, Chinese, Math, and English. I get up early every day and go to bed late. There is so much to learn and I want to be a good medical worker. It is my dream to help people.

Thank you to Tim & Michelle for sponsoring me and giving me this chance of a lifetime.



My First Job Assistant Chef Program

120 women joined the **My First Job Assistant Chef Program** that started in July 2020. There was both excitement and apprehensiveness in the air as the women arrived for the first day of training. Most had never been to school and were not sure if they would be able to keep up with the lessons. The teacher took the time needed to explain measurements, different types of food and different cooking styles. In no time at all, new confidence was building in these women as they worked hard to grow a skill that they can use to support themselves and their families.

The 120 women were spread out across 4 programs held in different areas. Throughout the training, 7 women dropped out for various family reasons. The remaining **113 women successfully graduated** the training. **60 women have concluded their internships** and **53 will conclude their internships in March/April 2021**. We will assess their progress in 2022.

The teacher created a mid-term competition during the course of the program where the women needed to create three dishes and present to the teacher who would score each dish. Daily quizzes were also set to help the women in their learning and also in remembering all the ingredients, the specific steps of cooking, and different measurements.

Our special thanks to **ZURU** for half funding the My First Job programs. Thank you also to **The Shenzhen Midnight Charity Run, WIK**, and to those who purchased a plush toy at the **Annual Charity Auction**.



Shenzhen Charity Federation 第十一屆
CAPTIVATING 深圳市慈善會·開普威汀基金
ANNUAL CHARITY AUCTION 年度慈善拍賣會





Welcomed, Accepted, and Growing

My name is Gazangtso. I have never been to school. I now have two children who I raise on my own. Finding stable work has always been difficult for me as I'm illiterate and no one wants to hire someone who can't read or write.

Joining the My First Job program was daunting for me. I was worried that I would not be accepted by the teacher or the other women in the program because I had never been to school. But this was not the case.

I was welcomed and accepted. There were some women who could read and they taught me basic words. Now I can read menus, ingredients and measurements. This is something I never thought I'd ever be able to do.

I have just started my internship and I am continuing to grow my cooking skills. This has been a life changing experience for me. I am excited about my new horizons.

Single Mom Now Employed

My name is Darekyid. I am a single mom of two children and together, we live with my aging parents. I had to drop school after grade 6. It has been difficult to secure a stable job with my little education. I need to be able to provide for my family. They rely on me as the sole provider.

My dream came true when I was able to join the My First Job Program in July. I can now confidently cook 40 dishes. I learned how to use a lot of different ingredients that I've never used before.

After I completed my internship, the restaurant employed me and now I have a good job. This knowledge and experience makes me confident that I will be able to support my children and parents. I want my children to have dreams that I can provide for and careers in the field of their dreams. Thank you for making this possible for me and my family.



One Year On and Thriving

My name is Sonam. As a little girl, I only went to school for two years. My family are Nomads and so schooling was not important and my parents couldn't afford to send me even if they wanted to.

Now, I am married and have three children. I have experienced how difficult it is to find work with no education and I don't want that for my children. I want to be able to send them to finish school and go on to further education. We are Nomads and work hard to try and earn enough from our pastoral area but it was never enough.

I joined the My First Job program in 2019 and learned so much. I didn't even know there was such an art to cooking. After my graduation, I carried out my internship in a local restaurant. I am very proud to say that I am still working in the same restaurant as an assistant chef. I handle the busy kitchen processes well and I'm now very confident in the kitchen. I enjoy making the customers' meals to order and presenting it on the plate. The customers always enjoy my cooking. This has changed my whole world. I am now a confident woman with a successful career. Thank you for giving me this gift.



New Skills and Confidence

My name is Jorbakyid. I only went to school for three years as a little girl. My parents couldn't afford to send me anymore. I now raise my son on my own. It is my duty to provide for him but it is not easy when I have no education or skills.

When I joined the My First Job program I was worried that I wouldn't be able to understand so much of what the teacher was trying to teach me. But he was very patient and explained things well. The regular quizzes helped me learn and remember important things. My new-found skills have given me confidence that I've never had before.

I loved every moment of my internship. I felt like I am contributing to society. I am proud of what I have accomplished. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.



Jorbakyid practicing cooking

The Teacher

My name is Wanma Tarshi. I was born in a remote part of Western China. I was one of the lucky ones who got to graduate middle school, and successfully got into a cooking course. I graduated and became a cook in a local restaurant. I thank my parents for giving me the opportunity to learn and let me choose my career.

I have a strong interest in making different kinds of food, including Chinese, Tibetan and Western dishes. Cooking is not just about the dishes but the deeper story behind them. Being willing to listen and try will create amazing results. I am constantly creating new dishes and experimenting with different foods.

I am honored that I can share my love of food with these women. I understand what it's like to not finish school and have many limitations. I also know what hard work and determination can do. I am very lucky to be part of the My First Job Assistant Chef Program.



Teacher Wanma Tarshi

Husky Energy Tailoring Skills for Women

30 women started the Husky Energy* Tailoring Skills for Women Program in July 2020. Most of these women have never been to school and as such, are limited with job opportunities. These women have the capacity for so much, but they just needed to be given the opportunity.

The training continued for 3 months during which time they have learned how to measure and cut various types of fabric to sew Tibetan clothing and Mongolian traditional clothing. They also learned the techniques of using a sewing machine and the best types of thread. This is life changing for these women because they not only learn all this but they also learn the basics of reading and writing which is a massive accomplishment as most have never been to school.

27 women graduated the training phase of the program in September 2020 and commenced their internships in various locations. 3 women dropped out early in the program. This can sometimes occur because of the need for them to remain with their families.

This program has equipped 27 women with confidence in their new-found skills and abilities to be able to earn a steady income to support themselves and their children. The below graph shows the incredible change in their income levels. We could not be more proud of what these women have accomplished in such a short time.



**On January 1, 2021 Cenovus Energy acquired Husky Energy*

Our thanks to **Husky Energy*** for believing in these women and giving them the opportunity of a lifetime. Their whole world has changed not only for them but also for their children.



Proud Moment for Tserang

I joined the tailoring training program in July 2020 and consider myself lucky to be part of it. All the women in the program have become very close throughout the training. I worked hard to master the skill of sewing quality garments. The teacher is so knowledgeable about tailoring and was careful to share as much of his knowledge with us as he could. I didn't miss a single day of the training and I won first prize during one of the assessments. That made me so proud. The teacher affirmed me in my careful cutting and sewing ability.

I now have a sewing machine and I am able to make all kinds of Tibetan clothes and sell locally. I now have a stable income to help support my family. Thank you for a learning opportunity such as this.





A New Life for Jiushi and Her Family

I am a single mother of 3 young children. I never had the opportunity to go to school but I know the value of education and want my children to have a good education. My daughter is in kindergarten and my other 2 children are not yet old enough for school. I live with my 70-year-old grandfather and my uncle who are both paralyzed and can't get out of bed. My aunt takes care of grandfather and uncle plus their 2 children. Sometimes, my aunt will look after my children too while I go out and look for temporary work.

I joined the tailoring program in July 2020. In just 3 short months, I learned so much. In the final assessment, I won 2nd prize. The teacher affirmed me in my sewing skills. This training is precious to me. Because of the situation of my family, I was not able to complete the internship, however I did not give up on my study and the things I learned.

I have a sewing machine at home and I now take orders. At the beginning, people didn't know that I am now a tailor but as soon as word traveled and people saw the quality of my work, my home-based business started growing. Now I work with a businessman in a nearby area. He sells the clothes that I make and I get a regular salary.

I can make a simple garment in 2-3 days and earn between RMB 50-100 (USD7-15). Sometimes, I make lambs-wool clothes. This kind is very expensive and difficult to make, but I have good skills and earn up to RMB 800 (USD123) for one of these garments. I earn about RMB 2000 (USD300) a month now. I am so happy. I am grateful that I can earn a living while being at home to help take care of my family while providing an income to help support us. This program has changed my whole world.

Drolmatso is Now Officially Employed

I am one of the lucky ones in this program because I got to go to primary school as a girl. Because of this, I know basic words and numbers. I have been able to help my fellow students who are illiterate with their measuring and learning letters and numbers. My progress in this tailoring program went better than I expected. The teacher pays close attention to all the students and makes sure we are proficient in our training.

My internship was in an ethnic clothing store. This extended my skills and abilities to creating many different types of garments. After my internship, the store owner hired me as a permanent tailor. I am very grateful for this life changing opportunity. My children have just started their schooling but I know that I will be able to ensure they continue and complete their education. Thank you.



Genjyid's Quality Garments

My parents died when I was a little girl and so I missed the opportunity to go to school. My sister and I took care of each other. I now live with my daughter who has just started kindergarten. I want to give her a better life than I had but I have little job opportunities. When I joined the tailoring program, my life changed.

By the end of the training, I was able to create quality Tibetan clothes. I won second prize in the finished product assessment. I have mastered my skill in this field. This has given me confidence that I've never had before. I now have the ability to support myself and my daughter with my sewing machine and some fabric. I work from home and take orders for various types of garments. I know I can grow my business if I keep working hard and word travels about my quality clothing.





Pigs for Poverty

The Pigs for Poverty program continues to bring economic stability to families who have limited to no income opportunities. It's amazing what 2 pigs can do for a family. Each family receives the latest training and expertise on what it takes to run a successful pig raising small business. They are taught about the breeding cycle of pigs and how to keep them healthy. A healthy sow will produce 2 litters of piglets a year. With hard work and good management, these small, home-based businesses can quickly grow into a steady income stream.

The aim for our 2020 Pigs for Poverty Program was 125 families however, only **118 families** received their 2 piglets. **7 extra families** will be added to the program in 2021.

Along with their 2 piglets, each family received training and expert advice. All are well on their way in establishing their small pig raising businesses.

Our special thanks to **GPA Global** for underwriting this project and to all those who got behind the "sponsor a pig" promotion at our Annual Charity Auction in Shenzhen.

118 families are now in a more financially stable position from which ultimately, their children will benefit.

It has Given Me A New Life

Shiyuehua joined the Pigs for Poverty program in September 2020. Her husband passed away many years ago due to kidney problems and since then, has been living alone with her daughter. Her daughter did not finish high school as she knew it was too difficult for her mother to keep her at school.

Shiyuehua has three grandchildren now and she enjoys helping her daughter by taking care of the children.

The Pigs for Poverty program has been instrumental in helping Shiyuehua establish a small business at home where she can still be a hands-on grandmother to her grandchildren while also growing a business where she can support herself and become financially stable.

"The pigs are at a good price, and I hope I can raise them well. I have been following the trainer and work hard to keep my pigs healthy. I know this is a good opportunity for me. My daughter has noticed the change in my confidence since having this new responsibility. It has given me a new life. I cannot wait to sell my first lot of piglets. Thank you very much for helping me."





Young Single Mom's Story

Dekyid is turning 23 in May 2021. She had to drop school to look after her sick mother while her father takes care of the house chores and farming. She married at an early age to reduce the financial pressure on the family. However, she got separated from her husband a year ago and is now left to take care of her two-year-old daughter.

Young as she is, she could have been in a university and continue her education. But she had to face the harsh realities of life at such an early age.

With the recommendation of our local coordinator, Dekyid was able to purchase two breeding sows in September 2020.

"My family and I are very excited to raise the pigs and have many piglets running around. We have prepared a clear plan on how we can grow this hograising business and we are confident that we'll be able to pay back our loans very soon."

"I also hope that the income we'll generate from this will help us take care of my mother better, as well as send my little girl to school. I now have plenty of time to look after my mother and daughter while raising the pigs so I could also reduce the pressure on my father. Thank you so much for supporting me. I hope to share with you the good news of having many healthy piglets very soon."



Lhamokyid's Hope to Turn their Life Around

Lhamokyid, 42, is a single mom. She lost her husband about 13 years ago, and both her kids had to drop school as the family's financial struggle increased with her husband's medical expenses. In order to pay back their debts, she had to sell everything in their home, but it still wasn't enough.

She has gone through so much. But now, she is very proud with raising two healthy pigs.

"I have gone through so many obstacles in my life and I am not worried of losing anything now."

"Life has been very difficult for me and my kids. I was not able to keep them in school when their father passed away. For this, I feel really guilty."

I wish I could release some of their burden and I hope that breeding these pigs well will help me do that. Thank you so much. I am sure the pigs would be a big help to my family."

Photo above: Lhamokyid (right) with Project Coordinator Carrie (left)



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