

Dear friends, students, and fellow meditators,

In the few years since I returned from my retreat, I've been delighted to see how many of you are deeply committed to your meditation practice and to supporting each other along the path. I myself continue to benefit from the practices we do in the Tergar community. These are the lifeblood of our lineage and our gift to the world in these troubled times.

We've learned a lot in the years since our community began. Although the essence of meditation does not change, how we bring it into our lives and express the teachings needs to be adapted to different times, places, and cultures.

This coming year will be a time to step back and take a fresh look at our programs, path, and community. It will be a time to incorporate all that we've learned together and refine how we present the teachings and practices in the modern world.

In particular, we will focus on re-inventing the way we present the Joy of Living. Don't worry. We won't

lose all the wonderful teachings and practices from this path, but we will explore how we can make use of technology and online programs, without losing what can only come through friendship, conversation, and shared practice.

We will also envision how to present the most essential Buddhist teachings and practices in a fresh way. As always, our focus will be on distilling the essence of the teachings and exploring ways to apply our practice in everyday life. Here too we are planning on bringing together the best aspects of community, friendship, and deep practice, supported by technology and online programs and resources.

This is no small endeavor. We are creating this vision together, and this year will be a time for the entire community to share its collective wisdom and experience.

I look forward to sharing the path with you in the months and years to come.



Yongey Mingyur Rinpoche



“We are creating this vision together, and this year will be a time for the entire community to share its collective wisdom and experience.”



Tergar Management team with Mingyur Rinpoche on the stairway to Tergar Ösel Ling monastery, Nepal. Top row: Cortland Dahl, Cindy Ahlberg, Beth Korczynski, Isboset Amador. Bottom row: Edwin Kelley, Franka Cordua-von Specht, Antonia Sumbundu, Myoshin Kelley, David Fey, Maya Sepulchre, Tim Olmsted.

The Leadership and Community team supports and develops the leadership of Tergar Practice Groups and Meditation Communities. Recently, more than 200 Tergar leaders from all over the world gathered in Kathmandu, Nepal for meetings and training. Our team also supports the mentoring and training of a growing team of facilitators to lead Joy of Living workshops. The community support aspect includes webinars and training calls, sending out resources, supporting group activities, and communicating program and curriculum updates. Team members: Franka Cordua-von Specht (Canada), Myoshin Kelley (Canada/USA), Ditta Ódor (Hungary), Tim Olmsted (USA), and Antonia Sumbundu (Denmark).

Tergar Team Updates

As the Tergar Community grows and develops, Tergar International has created staff teams around the main areas of the organization's work. These are the teams that keep Tergar running smoothly in its efforts to bring Mingyur Rinpoche's teachings to the world. As Rinpoche mentioned in his opening letter, 2018 is a year of development and investment for Tergar, and we wanted to let you know more about what's going on "behind the scenes."

The Program Development team designs new courses and programs, creates resources to support practices, and translates Tergar materials into multiple languages. 2018 is a big year for the team. We are now developing new Vajrayana Online courses and updates to practice guides, and working with Mingyur Rinpoche and other Tergar teams to redesign the Joy of Living and Path of Liberation programs, including producing new videos and materials for use next year. The new programs will integrate online and app-based resources with live events and programs, making them more accessible to Rinpoche's students. Team members: Cortland Dahl (USA), Lucas Henriksson (Sweden), and Maya Sepulchre (Belgium/México).



Small group discussion session at the recent Tergar Community Leadership Gathering. The program attendees engaged in exercises to envision the future of Tergar, and presented their ideas directly to Mingyur Rinpoche.

The Program Delivery team schedules and delivers all in-person and online programs and events by Mingyur Rinpoche, Khenpo Kunga, Tergar instructors and facilitators, and guest speakers. We work closely with local Tergar communities on budgeting, registration, and customer service. We are currently coordinating efforts with other Tergar teams and a host of volunteers to support Mingyur Rinpoche's 2018 teaching tour to the Americas, Europe, and Russia. Team members: Cindy Ahlberg (USA), Franka Cordua-von Specht (Canada), Edwin Kelley (Australia/USA), Beth Korczynski (USA), Max Maksimik (USA), and Ditta Ódor (Hungary)

The Fundraising team engages the community to financially support Tergar efforts and activities in our mission to bring the teachings of Mingyur Rinpoche to the world. We work with generous patrons and grant-making organizations whose support helps us invest in the training of our staff and community and in the development of new programs and resources, based on a foundation of monthly recurring donations. We are also exploring the creation of new membership benefits for the Tergar community. Team members: Cortland Dahl (USA), Edwin Kelley (Australia/USA), and Beth Korczynski (USA).

The Communication team is responsible for getting the word out about Tergar programs, events, policies, and news. We work closely with local Tergar groups and communities to ensure timely and accurate information is available, coordinate newsletters, and manage social media. We are also working to ensure Tergar is compliant with international laws and regulations related to data privacy and communication. The plan for 2018 is to create communication toolkits to support local Tergar groups and communities around the globe, while expanding our multilingual social media presence. Team members: Cindy Ahlberg (USA), Franka Cordua-von Specht (Canada), Cortland Dahl (USA), Beth Korczynski (USA), Max Maksimik (USA), and Ditta Ódor (Hungary)



Rinpoche scans group feedback at the Tergar Community Leadership Gathering, held within the gompa (shrine room) at Tergar Ösel Ling Monastery in Kathmandu.



The Tergar Community Leadership Gathering was a unique opportunity for leadership from both Tergar Asia and Tergar International to meet together with Mingyur Rinpoche. Over 200 Tergar Community Leaders – practice leaders and coordinators, administrators, facilitators, instructors, and staff – from around the world attended.

The Technology team works with all the Tergar teams on organizational technological needs, and to support program development and delivery, both in-person and online. The team is developing a practice-tracking app for IOS and Android to be released later this year. We are also planning a new Learning Management System for launch in 2019 to provide multilingual content, online progress tracking, course plans, and other new interactive features. Team members: Isboset Amador (México), Hector Escobar (México), Robert Glasmann (USA), Kevin Gordillo (México), Max Maksimik (USA)

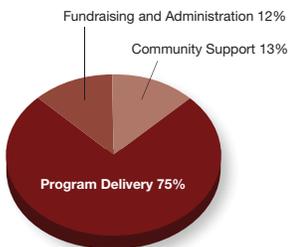
If you have any comments or questions relating to Tergar activities, or if you are interested in volunteering with Tergar, please email info@tergar.org.

Tergar International Operating Budget

People around the world rely on Tergar International for access to teachings and practice materials, many of whom provide financial support to make this possible, including direct donations (about one-quarter of our operating budget), retreat fees, and course subscriptions. In the interest of transparency and accountability, here is a summary of the funds we receive and how we use them. If at any time you have questions about Tergar's financial situation, you are welcome to email us at info@tergar.org.

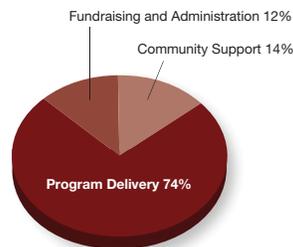
Expenses

2017 Actual



\$1,794,000

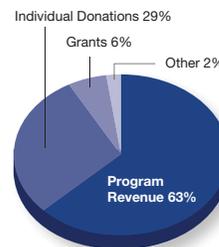
2018 Budget



\$1,939,000

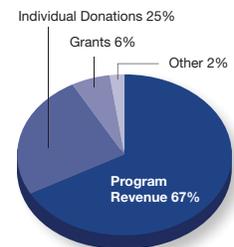
Revenue

2017 Actual



\$1,802,000

2018 Budget



\$1,974,000

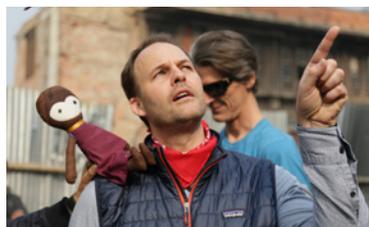


Photo credits: Anna Dunne, Nathalie Eno, Atsushi Koda, Franka Cordua-von Specht, Maya Sepulchre, Molly Swisher, Liam Tata