

BOULDER-LHASA SISTER CITY PROJECT

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Lhungtse's Checkup & Medicine 7-13 October 2020

In 2013, BLSCP raised \$19,000 to fund brain surgery for Lhungtse, whose eyesight was destroyed at age 11 by neurocysticercosis (NCC), a parasitic brain disease. The brain surgery did not restore any of her eyesight but did relieve many of her other symptoms. For the past seven years, BLSCP has funded her expenses for medical checkups and medicines. Here's the calendar of events for 2020:

- 10/7 Tenpa drove Lhungtse & her mother from their home in Yajiang to Chengdu.
- 10/8 Lhungtse slept late after the road trip, and her mother shopped for some bargains.
- 10/9 Lhungtse was examined by Dr. Zeng, her neurologist, and had her blood drawn for testing.
- 10/10 A CT brain scan was performed on Lhungtse, and Tenpa obtained the blood test results.
- 10/11 Tenpa drove Lhungtse & her mother around Chengdu for further shopping.
- 10/12 Tenpa obtained the CT images, took them and the blood test results to meetings with Dr. Zeng & Dr. Liao, Lhungtse's neurosurgeon, and bought prescribed medicines for Lhungtse.
- 10/13 Tenpa drove Lhungtse & her mother from Chengdu to their home in Yajiang.



Lhungtse & her mother in their Chengdu hotel room.



Dr. Liao, Lhungtse's neurosurgeon, examining her in July 2014.

Good news! Dr. Zeng said that Lhungtse's CT brain scan and blood tests are good. Dr. Liao said that the CT shows that Lhungtse's brain "has improved a lot and is in very good condition". Her frequent headaches are idiopathic but not considered to be serious. Dr. Zeng prescribed Tall gastrodia, a traditional Chinese medicine, for the headaches and a continuation of two anti-epileptic medicines (Oxcarbazepine & Clonazepam). Tenpa did an excellent job of arranging and managing Lhungtse's checkup!

Thanks to 23 compassionate donors, we raised \$4,370, which is 160% of our goal. The table below shows the actual checkup costs, which were greater than estimated because the trip required two extra days. Before the trip we transferred to Tenpa 18,400 RMB, which is 3,184.74 RMB less than the actual costs. We are now planning to transfer 5,384.74 RMB (\$804 @6.7 RMB/\$) to Tenpa, which includes the 3,184.74 RMB plus 2,200 RMB for buying additional Oxcarbazepine before Lhungtse's next planned checkup in October 2021. BLSCP will hold a balance of \$848 for Lhungtse's future medical expenses.

Actual Costs for Lhungtse's Checkup & Medicine, 7-13 October 2020			
	Item	Cost	Total
Travel	Vehicle	1,200 RMB/day	1,200*7=8,400 RMB
	Petrol	300 RMB/fill	300*2=600 RMB
	Toll fees	150 RMB/toll	150*2=300 RMB
	Hotels	250 RMB/room/night	250*2*6=3,000 RMB
	Meals	400 RMB/day	400*7=2,800 RMB
	Guide fees	500 RMB/day	500*7=3,500 RMB
Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital	CT brain scan & blood tests		445.90 RMB
Pharmacy	Oxcarbazepine		2,116.64 RMB
	Clonazepam		49.80 RMB
	Tall gastrodia		372.40 RMB
Total			21,584.74 RMB