



2018 Request for Support of Schools in the Upper Dolpo, Nepal

Dear Friends (and friends of friends):

Happy New Year and Best Wishes for a wonderful 2018!

❖ If your New Year's resolution was to make a positive impact in the world, may we suggest a donation to Altitude Project?



- ❖ Your donation will make a brighter year for the kids in the Upper Dolpo region of Nepal by improving the access to a basic quality education.
- ❖ It will make their world a better place by building new toilets for both boys and girls
- ❖ It will send hope to Tenzin Norbu, that he can complete his higher education and return to help his village as a doctor
- ❖ It will send light to the people of the Dolpo by supporting the purchase of portable solar lights provided by LuminAid

Our Goal for 2018 fundraising is \$30,000.

If you can give a little – it can help a lot!

[Please Donate](#)

Huge thanks to those who have already donated, we are at \$11,000

Every dollar donated will be sent to Nepal!

A reminder that all funds for the year must be sent to Nepal not later than March 10 so that all materials and supplies can be purchased and transported, much of the distance by mule or yak, to the Upper Dolpo for the start of the school year at April 1.



I started Altitude Project after a 2015 trek to the Upper Dolpo region of Nepal when Saldang school coordinator and his wife, Pema and Kunsang, told us they were short of funding and desperate for help. In 2017 we learned of two neighbouring schools, at Komas and Karang, which also required support after losing their primary funding.

I was privileged to trek to the Upper Dolpo again in October. I spent three days at the schools and it is clear that more support is critically needed. This region of Nepal is culturally Tibetan and is largely ignored by the Nepali government. They provide only about 30% of the school funding. We are working with other international groups, many led by trekkers, to ensure donations go where the needs are most critical. Here, where children need most help, each dollar makes a tremendous impact. Your kind and generous donations are so greatly appreciated and the degree of trust you give us is deeply honoured.

The school at Komas has two other supporters (a woman from Germany and a group from Sweden) who we are working with to ensure that the school is funded for basic operations. However, there has been a desperate need for new toilets for several years. A new toilet block with separate toilets for girls and boys is planned for construction this summer.

The school at Karang is in precarious shape. They lost their funding completely after 2016 and barely scraped by in 2017 with small amounts from several sources. Altitude Project would like to help Karang in a more substantial way this year and to do that we need your help and support. So far there is only one commitment of \$5,000 from a Swiss group.



Funding for Saldang is in reasonable shape for general operations this year through Freunde Nepal of Germany. However, there is a need to repair and replace the roofs of more classrooms. Wood is extremely expensive in the Upper Dolpo. It is cut and transported by yak from lower elevation forests. Altitude Project's support is needed for these infrastructure upgrades.

There will be much more information available about these schools on our [website](#) soon, including academic and financial reports for 2017.

A few things to note:

1. Our application with CRA for charitable status in Canada is still in process. Based on recent correspondence, we don't expect a ruling until sometime in the first quarter. Fingers crossed. We hope you will not delay a donation for 2017 while we are all waiting.
2. We are now on [facebook](#) - please like us to see the latest updates and photos.
3. There are no administration fees for our work. Any miscellaneous costs are absorbed by the directors.
4. **Here are the ways to donate to [Altitude Project](#):**
 - ❖ Interbank transfer from your bank to this account number at CIBC in Nelson BC, Canada – 00270/8458790
 - ❖ e-transfers can be sent to davidswain@shaw.ca – for security question please use “What is this for” with the answer SaldangSchool (no spaces)
 - ❖ A cheque payable to Altitude Project can be mailed to David Swain, 4228 Crescent Bay Road, Nelson BC, Canada, V1L 6N1
 - ❖ On the donate page of the [Altitude Project website](#)

Tashi delek, Namaste, Sincere Thanks

On behalf of Altitude Project

David Swain

PS: Please, forward this message to anyone who may be interested or who can help

