## Vajrayana Dharma Foundation



Education – Roots of a brighter future

February 22, 2008 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NON-PROFIT FOUNDATION TO HELP TIBETAN NEEDY CHILDREN WITH HOUSING AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Woodinville, WA, February 22, 2008 – Vajrayana Dharma Foundation (VDF) is launched to provide a home and education opportunity for unfortunate children and elderly in Tibet. Many Tibetan orphans are sleeping in tents at approximately 13,000 ft above sea level, which is almost the height of Mount Rainier (14,410 ft). We want to help the Tibetan orphans move out of tents and into a building where they can be warm and dry and receive an education at the same time.

"Children have no education, no guidance and life is hard for them. We want to work together to stop the suffering for the children and to give them a better life. My hope is that through education, the children can." said Sonam Rinpoche, a Tibetan monk and native.

The school site will be located at the village of Anzi, Baiyu. Baiyu is located in the Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, approximately 18 hours drive west of Chengdu, China. The village is very remote and without running water and electricity. The main activity at the village is Tibetan yak herding.

The idea for this project was originated by Sonam Rinpoche, who has been bestowed the Title of Khenpo (equivalent to PhD in Buddhism Philosophy), and was born in Tibet. He is recognized as the incarnation of Ahzom Losel Rinpoche by H.H. the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama, H.H. Jamga Rinpoche, and H.H. Dordrubchan Rinpoche.

The housing and educational facilities are a joint project. In Phase I, an approximately 2,000 square feet building will be erected, comprised of classrooms/bedrooms, a kitchen, a library, a teacher room, and bathroom facilities. Phase II of the project will provide additional rooms for the children and Phase III of the project will include housing for the elderly.

Vajrayana Dharma Foundation (VDF) is based in Woodinville, Washington and incorporated as a Non-Profit Organization, seeking to obtain 501(c)(3) status.

## Contact information:

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