



Your Financial Support Makes a Difference!

We cheer on our loyal donors. Your continued financial contributions have made a real difference to the lives of the girls and inspired our work. Thank You!

Here we are providing some updates of the girls and the programs we run.

Your Donation

Your donations have been used directly for students' sponsorships and additional training programs.

The Girls

In the summer of 2022, we celebrated the graduation of 35 university and 101 high school students. 2022 is a particularly challenging year for university graduates finding work because most of the businesses suffered from unexpected long period of lockdowns, and a large number of small to medium size companies terminated their businesses. Among the 35 graduates, 5 are going to enrol in master's programs in the Fall, 7 have found employment, 11 are preparing for exams to become teachers and government employees, and the rest of them are actively looking for work.

Most of the high school graduates will be going to university and vocational schools to continue their education, and a small percentage of them will directly go into the job market.

EGRC was established in 2005 in Vancouver, Canada and registered as an independent charity in China in 2020. Up to today, the total number of sponsored girls has reached 1,727.

Since EGRC's inception, the university graduation rate has been 100%, and high school graduation rate is over 99.9%. This incredible achievement can be attributed to the strong determination and hard work of the girls, valuable financial contributions from our donors, and the emotional support which EGRC has provided.

Program Development – Yunnan Province

For many years, EGRC's work has been focusing on Gansu Province. We also worked in Qinghai Province and Guizhou Province with a corporate partner. In the fall of 2021, with the support of the local government, EGRC expanded its high school sponsorship program to Yunnan Province, where we have sponsored 92 Grade 10 girls in Guangnan County.



Yunnan Province is in Southwestern China and is one of the most under-developed provinces. 50% of the girls selected are from ethnic minorities. Our plan is to continue to develop this program in Yunnan with a focus on high school and vocation school from minority groups.

Beyond Financial Sponsorship

EGRC offers training and development opportunities for our students and graduates.

In recent years of rapid economic growth in China, the gap between rural and urban population has dramatically widened, particularly in terms of accessibility to good quality education. For rural students to catch up with their urban counterparts, multi-dimensional knowledge and confidence is required.

We first offered training opportunities to our university graduates in 2016, which then extended to our high school students. In 2019 we started an annual training event to involve all the parents. Gradually we established a system and curriculum with the focus on self-discovery, mental health, communication, and personal and career development. Gender awareness is embedded in all the training and learning as well.

Workshops and Training

Leadership Course Offered by a Canadian University

In the spring of 2022, for the second time, 14 third year university students in EGRC's Future Leader Scholarship Program took an online leadership course offered by Canada's Royal Roads University. This leadership training course has become an annual event.

Coaching Program

In 2022, 66 EGRC university students and graduates had the opportunity to be paired with professional coaches for six one-on-one sessions over the course of three months. This *pro bono* service was generously provided by Erickson International Coaching, China division. Soon after, a six-session online course on Emotional Intelligence was offered by a senior coach. Our students benefited greatly from these coaches.

English Learning Camp

In January and July of 2022, we organized two online English language learning camps that lasted one week. The courses focused on improving speaking and listening skills and were taught by qualified ESL teachers. Through learning English, the girls are exposed to different cultural backgrounds. Both camps were planned as in-person events but due to Covid restrictions, we were required to run them virtually.



Say No Campaign

Since 2020, EGRC has launched an annual Say No Campaign. The campaign is designed to teach the girls how to recognize sexual harassment and how to act accordingly to protect themselves. Additionally, EGRC is providing financial aid for girls who need one-on-one counselling.

Mentor Program

It is a tradition at EGRC that the senior girls are taking on the mentor role to help younger girls. Typically, staff members mentor high school students, second-year university students are paired with first-year students, and the graduates share their wisdom to students who are about graduate.

Getting Parents Involved

Since 2019, EGRC has designed a program for both students and their parents, with the purpose of teaching communication skills, and establishing a healthy communication channel between them. The students learn to express their love and ideas to their parents, and parents learn how to respect their daughters' ideas, particularly on important choices of their career and personal lives.

Visiting High School Students

Different Covid related lockdowns have happened in Gansu Province since the beginning of 2022. Our staff has not been able to conduct the annual training and learning sessions. Our high school students don't have internet access during school times, so keeping connected with them has been a challenge. Finally in July, there was a very small window where staff members were able to travel to rural schools to meet the students. It was a very happy occasion for everyone, and all the students are doing well.

EGRC Alumni Association

The desire of keeping connected with our graduates has always been mutual between the graduates themselves and EGRC.

The founder, Ching Tien, felt the importance of keeping the donor and herself informed of how these girls are doing after they received education. Most graduates wanted to stay within the EGRC family and help younger girls. The EGRC Alumni Association was established in 2013. It is led and run by EGRC alumni with the idea of giving back. Some of the activities that were carried out in the school year of 2021-2022 are summarized below.



- In the fall of 2021, EGRC Alumni Association organized a city gathering to welcome new EGRC girls in 17 different cities across the country.
- EGRC Alumni Association announced the winners of Outstanding Volunteers Awards in January 2022.
- The annual Photography Contest took place in February 2021.
- The annual Alumni Crowd Funding happened July 2021 and May 2022. Over 200 alumnae made donations at each campaign, and the total funds raised contributed to the sponsorship of 14 high school girls' education for 3 years.
- The Alumni Association named June 15 as EGRC Day. From now on, various celebrations and activities would be organized around that day.

Sustainability Building

Sustainability building has been on top of the agenda for EGRC for the last 5 to 6 years. In the first 12 years, EGRC basically spent all the funds raised to sponsor girls and left almost nothing for administration and staff hiring. 90% of the work all landed on the shoulders of the founder and it is not sustainable.

The first 2 staff who were hired in 2016 were funded by a Germany-based foundation. That was the first step towards building EGRC's sustainability. Now we have 7 full-time staff in China including an Executive Director and 3 part-time staff, and the Founder is based in Canada. The number of the students in the sponsorship programs have been steadily growing. Most importantly, the emotional connections and support, the quality training and various learning opportunities that we have been providing to the girls and their parents are essential for their personal and career developments post-education.

Thank you for your attention. Your feedback and questions are welcome!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ching Tien', is written above a horizontal red line.

Ching Tien