

Red Gakyil Report

November 30, 2025

Projects completed, underway, or planned

Khandroling

- 1) Ramp to Rinpoche's cabin is being repaired, thanks to the generous donation of time, labor and supplies by community members.
- 2) Needed repairs to the Guardian Cabin stairs, deck, and decorative woodwork around the eaves are being assessed, with a plan for completion next spring. Details and cost estimate will be available soon. A community member has offered a seed donation for this work.
- 3) Options and costs for finishing Vajra Hall ceiling, protecting the beams, and enclosing the structure to protect the mandala and floor sealant are being investigated and will be presented to the community when all information has been gathered.
- 4) Memorial Garden work has progressed considerably, thanks to the generous donation of materials and skilled labor by a community member. The basic path and sitting area stonework are nearly complete. (See the presentation attached, showing current progress and options for further development).
- 5) Wording has been suggested and designs are being considered for a commemorative sign at the place where Rinpoche made the first Vajra Dance mandala. Collaboration is welcome; contact gakyil@tsegyalgar.org.
- 6) Roof leak in farmhouse porch has been assessed and materials gathered. Cost estimates and all work will be completed in early 2026.
- 7) Three people have volunteered to take turns cleaning the retreat cabins. More volunteers are needed to lighten the workload on everyone during the busy warmer months.

Schoolhouse

- 1) Gonpa doors affected by rot are being removed. The worst one (next to the throne) has already been removed and replaced with wall. The second, on the wall opposite, will also be removed and replaced with wall in early December. (The third door by the ganapuja table will eventually be replaced with a new door). Because the cost of walling off these areas is less than buying new doors, the total cost is significantly less than originally estimated. Removing and walling off the two doors, plus the replacement of the second floor fire door, is estimated at \$6500 total.

- 2) Second floor fire exit door will be replaced soon, which should reduce heat loss and improve safety. This door was originally estimated to cost \$3,000 to \$3,500 but will be significantly less, due to our contractor buying a standard size door and building the frame to fit it rather than replacing the non-standard size door.
- 3) Repairs of foyer bathroom wall and window frame rot will be completed in early December.
- 4) Security cameras have been installed to monitor the main entrance doors and gonpa entrance, for total cost of under \$70.
- 5) Schoolhouse main entrance doors are very old, don't close securely, and when closed are extremely hard to open. Options for replacing them are being investigated, with estimates and timetable for completion available soon. Meanwhile the doorknob has been removed to allow the doors to be opened easily when closed completely.

Projects needed, depending on funding and community priorities

Khandroling

- 1) Farmhouse porch and deck need repair, sanding and staining.
- 2) Mandarava cabin interior needs repainting. Discount paint has been purchased for \$7 and painting can be done in spring 2026 at no cost, via karma yoga.
- 3) Steps and railings to Rinpoche's cabin need to be sanded and restained.
- 4) Vajra Dance Historic Landmark garden and commemorative sign, at the site of Rinpoche's original dance mandala, should be installed in stages as funding becomes available, beginning with the commemorative sign.
- 5) Options for a water collection system at Vajra Hall, without needing roof gutters, should be explored and installed.

Schoolhouse

- 1) Parking lot needs to be repaved. Kocot estimate from 2023 for full repaving was \$34,585, or spot repair for \$14,224. Subsequent deterioration likely makes spot repair unfeasible, and all costs are likely higher now.
- 2) Building codes require wheelchair access ramp, which should be (re)designed in rear of building, to access main foyer area. Current ramp is unusable.
- 3) Dorm should be updated to make more comfortable, private spaces that will attract more use.

Technical support

- 1) Volunteers are needed to run gonpa equipment as well as to host Zoom programs and practices remotely. Our volunteer team has been critically depleted, and without additional volunteers, programming will suffer.