



# 2015

**LIGMINCHA INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL REPORT**

**Preserving Bön Buddhist Wisdom in the World**

**Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche  
Founder and Spiritual Director**

## CONTENTS

### 2 LETTER

A message from Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche

### 3 INTRODUCTION

Ligmincha International: Creating a Worldwide Community

### 4–5 INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

Letter from the President; Ligmincha board & officers, centers & sangha

### 6 SERENITY RIDGE

Learn about Serenity Ridge staff, programs and activities

### 7 PLACES AND FACES

An update on Serenity Ridge's new building & faces of summer

### 8 AROUND THE WORLD

Highlights of international activities

### 9 EXPANDING THE TEACHINGS

New book, video, webcasts and more

### 10–11 FINANCIAL REPORT

An update on Ligmincha's financial status in fiscal year 2014

### 12 WELCOME, RESIDENT LAMAS

Welcoming three new resident lamas to Poland, France and Texas

**Ligmincha International**, with headquarters at Serenity Ridge Retreat Center in Shipman, Virginia, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization (EIN: 52-1772036) run by a group of dedicated volunteer leaders and a small administrative staff.

*Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche*,  
Spiritual Director

#### LIGMINCHA OFFICERS

*Rob Patzig*, President/CFO  
*Sue Davis-Dill*, Executive Director  
*Bob Clark*, Treasurer  
*Maggie Scobie*, Secretary

Ligmincha International  
554 Drumheller Lane  
Shipman, VA 22971  
Telephone: +1 (434) 263-6355

[www.ligmincha.org](http://www.ligmincha.org)  
[www.serenityridge.ligmincha.org](http://www.serenityridge.ligmincha.org)

**Ligmincha International:**  
office@ligmincha.org

**Serenity Ridge Retreat Registration:**  
sr.registration@ligmincha.org

## A Special Message from Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche

Dear Sangha and Friends,

I am very pleased to introduce the annual report of Ligmincha International 2015. This year we have changed our accounting process, so this report covers the entire calendar year for 2015.

Serenity Ridge Retreat Center, headquarters of Ligmincha International, continues to draw participants from all over the world. I taught at centers and sanghas throughout the U.S., Mexico, South America and Europe. Our Board of Directors has been working hard to help us move forward as an organization. This year, I turned over the presidency of Ligmincha International to Rob Patzig, and under his able guidance the organization is growing and flourishing.

During 2015 we have had two important focuses: developing Ligmincha's physical centers and expanding our growing cyber-sangha. We welcomed resident lamas for the Poland, France and Texas sanghas. Lishu Institute in India opened its three-year program for intensive study of the Bön teachings in September. Plans progressed for a new building at Serenity Ridge to accommodate the growing needs of the Ligmincha community. At Chamma Ling Valle de Bravo, one of the two retreat centers of Ligmincha Mexico, expansion continued to include building a new kitchen and dining room, and finishing the Lama House. Having a physical space for sangha to gather, practice together and get to know each other is very important for students' spiritual progress and to build a sense of community.

At the same time, we realize that not everyone is able to attend teachings in person. Building the cyber-sangha, expanding cyber-learning online and preserving the knowledge and teachings of the Tibetan Bön Buddhist tradition are integral to our mission. In 2015, I expanded my online teachings to include, for the first time, a free, yearlong online course and monthly webcast series on soul retrieval. We are continuing in 2016 with a six-part series on leadership. A growing number of my teachings are on YouTube or can be viewed through the website Ocean of Wisdom, where a group of dedicated volunteers are translating them into multiple languages. We have recorded more than 140 hours of an excellent geshe, Geshe Dangsang Namgyal, teaching the Nine Ways of Bön in Tibetan. We are working to record other geshes' teachings in the future, and to have these recordings translated into other languages.

I am so happy to see the expanded collaboration among sangha members worldwide and am grateful to all who have been of service with your time, effort and financial contributions. I look forward to our continued work together, and wish you much joy and fulfillment as you progress on your path of service and spiritual practice.

With My Best Wishes,

**Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche**

**Spiritual Director, Ligmincha International**



## Ligmincha International: Creating a Worldwide Community

During 2015, Ligmincha International continued to become a true international community, with expanded teachings, services and a growing web presence that drew students worldwide closer together.

Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche traveled the world, offering teachings in 12 countries worldwide – the U.S., Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Spain, Switzerland and The Netherlands. In October, he also traveled to Lishu Institute and then to Menri Monastery in India to spend time with His Holiness Lungtok Tenpai Nyima Rinpoche, who was having health problems.

Ligmincha Poland and Ligmincha Texas celebrated their 20th anniversaries. Ligmincha welcomed new resident lamas for sanghas in France, Poland and Texas, bringing to six the total number of resident lamas, including two in Mexico and one at Serenity Ridge in Virginia. Ligmincha has sanghas and practice centers in 19 countries.

Lishu Institute in northern India opened its doors in the spring for two practice retreats and began a three-year curriculum of Tibetan Bön Buddhist studies in the fall. Lishu is the fulfillment of Rinpoche's vision of providing a center and program for Western students to do in-depth study and practice of Bön.

Another affiliated program, The Three Doors Academy, began its fifth year of facilitating two-and-one-half-year



His Holiness Lungtok Tenpai Nyima Rinpoche receives a visit from Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche in October 2015 at Menri Monastery in Dolanji, India.

### OUR MISSION

Ligmincha's mission is to preserve the ancient teachings, transmissions and sacred practices of the Tibetan Bön Buddhist tradition and transmit them in a way that is clear and relevant for practitioners throughout the world today.

training programs of Tibetan teachings in a secular, contemplative way in the U.S., Latin America and Europe.

Plans for a new multipurpose building at Serenity Ridge were completed, with groundbreaking set for summer 2016. The facility, to include a dining hall, multipurpose room, media center and offices for Ligmincha International, will provide expanded opportunities for practitioners

around the world to receive Bön teachings.

Ligmincha's cybersangha has grown and developed through expanded Internet courses and online webcasts. In 2015, Rinpoche offered a series of monthly webcasts and an accompanying course on soul retrieval, translated into up to 12 languages. A new website, Ocean of Wisdom, offered videos of teachings in multiple languages.

At Rinpoche's request, Rob Patzig was named president of Ligmincha International during the annual Summer Retreat at Serenity Ridge, headquarters of Ligmincha International. The Ligmincha International Board marked its first anniversary during the summer.

The board and many volunteers throughout the world continue to help the worldwide community move forward, working together in service and preserving the wisdom of Tibetan Bön Buddhism for the present and future generations.



Left: Serenity Ridge Retreat Center in central Virginia is the headquarters of Ligmincha International.

Right: Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche prepares to teach at Chamma Ling Poland in Wilga, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2015.



## A Letter from Ligmincha International President and Board Chair Rob Patzig

Dear Dharma Family,

This 2015 Annual Report reflects many changes that have been two years in the making: (1) We have changed our fiscal year end to match the calendar year; (2) We have changed from a cash-based accounting system to an accrual system; (3) We have replaced our chart of accounts with a new, simpler chart of accounts that more accurately reflects our income and expenses. The last major change that is a part of this process will be visible in next year's report, when we show the income and expenses for Ligmincha International and Serenity Ridge separately.

These changes to our reporting are to simplify stewardship of our financial resources and make financial statements more transparent. This undertaking has engaged many of our staff and volunteers. I especially want to thank Pam Rodeheaver, Sue Davis-Dill, Stella Richards, Victoria Gershik and Toni Durham, all of whom have put many, many hours into this project and who continue to support these activities.

In his letter for this annual report, Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche talks about the broad focus of Ligmincha International in this past year, and the expansion of opportunities for practitioners around the world to receive the Bön teachings. The year 2015 marked our first-ever yearlong free webcast series with Rinpoche. Those teachings were a huge success, and we will continue to offer live teachings on a regular basis. Many thanks to the dozens of volunteers who make these events possible.

Just as we are expanding the presence of the teachings online and in multiple languages, we also are expanding Serenity Ridge, one of our retreat centers and the headquarters of Ligmincha International. After five years of discussion, planning, fundraising and preparation, we anticipate this new building to be ready in time for our 25th anniversary celebration in summer 2017. The new building is designed to benefit all of us. It includes a recording studio for Rinpoche, other geshe and lamas, and our Western teachers. It also will include a kitchen and dining hall, practice space and offices for Ligmincha International.

Ligmincha exists to support the precious Bön teachings, teachers and students. Our mission is not only to preserve the teachings in an authentic way, but also to present them in ways accessible to Westerners. Our many activities include retreats around the world, the creation of books and practice materials, online courses, live Internet webcasts, and translation projects from Tibetan and English into many other languages. We are able to provide these services through the generosity of time and money of practitioners like you. Please consider making a donation to this effort today at [ligmincha.org/en/donate.html](http://ligmincha.org/en/donate.html).

**In Service to Bön,  
Rob Patzig  
President and Board Chair**



## Ligmincha International Board

**H.E. Yongdzin Tenzin Namdak Rinpoche, Director Emeritus:**

His Eminence is Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche's root teacher and mentor, and the most senior teacher of the Tibetan Bön Buddhist tradition.



**Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, Founder and Spiritual Director, Ligmincha International:**

Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche is a respected and beloved Tibetan Bon Buddhist teacher to students throughout the United States, Mexico and South America, and Europe. Also an acclaimed author, Rinpoche founded Ligmincha Institute in 1992.



**Rob Patzig, Board Chair, USA**

A student of Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche since 2010, Rob has served as Chief Financial Officer for Ligmincha and Serenity Ridge since 2012. He was named chair of the Ligmincha International Board in 2014 and president of Ligmincha International in 2015. A yoga teacher who spent 19 years as a chief investment officer/senior director, Rob left his work in 2014 to devote himself to practicing dharma.



**Anneke Dekkers, The Netherlands:**

Anneke met Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche in 2005 and finished The 3 Doors Academy in Europe in 2014.

She became treasurer of the board for Ligmincha Netherlands in 2009 and board chair in 2012. She is a member of the Founders Circle, a project "finding a home" for Ligmincha in Europe. She began her career as a child psychologist and since 2007 has worked at the Comprehensive Cancer Centre.



**Carlos Madero, Mexico:**

Carlos Madero encountered the dharma in 1995 and met Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche in 2003. In 2006



he became director/founder of Chamma Ling Torreon, home of the first Bön stupa in the West. He is an umdze (meditation leader) for the Torreon sangha. From 2010–2012, Carlos was director of Ligmincha Mexico, organizing the completion of the Bön Stupa for World Peace in Valle de Bravo. He is on the board of Ligmincha Mexico.

**Justyna Przondo, Poland:**

A student of Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche since 2003, Justyna became board chair of Ligmincha Poland



in 2012. She has a graduate degree in sculpture and painting from the Academy of Fine Arts in Wroclaw, Poland, and creates ceramics and jewelry.

**Pam Rodeheaver, USA:**

Pam has been a student of Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche since 1994 and was treasurer of Ligmincha from 1995–2014. She served on the Ligmincha Council for many years and also is on the Serenity Ridge Executive Committee. Pam is retired from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, where for 32 years she was a medical researcher and managed a wound healing lab. For 10 of those years she also worked with UVA's Center for the Study of Complementary and Alternative Therapies.

**Oliver Wirtz, Germany:**

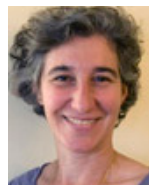
Oliver first met Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche in 2008 and in 2010 became board chair of Ligmincha Deutschland. He leads the Founders Circle, a project to find a place for Ligmincha in Europe. Oliver works as an executive in the financial services industry. He lives in Hofheim am Taunus, near Frankfurt.

**Ligmincha Officers**

The officers of Ligmincha International implement and oversee the goals and objectives set by Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche and the Board of Directors.

**President/Chief Financial Officer: Rob Patzig****Executive Director: Sue Davis-Dill**

Sue met Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche in 1996 in California and soon moved to Virginia to immerse herself in his teachings. She received her B.S. in applied mathematics from UCLA and her M.A. in counseling psychology. Sue managed the Ligmincha Institute Bookstore and Tibet Shop from 2000–2010, expanding it to include an online store. Sue became Ligmincha's executive director in 2010.

**Treasurer: Bob Clark**

Bob began studying with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche in 2002, after a connection to Tibetan Buddhism that began in India in 1994. He lives in Charlottesville, Virginia with his wife and two daughters and is a humanities teacher and Director of Religious Life at St. Anne's-Belfield School. The son of a landscape nurseryman, he finds creative expression through tending a boxwood meditation garden.

**Secretary: Maggie Scobie**

A longtime student of Tenzin Rinpoche, Maggie has a B.A. in psychology, M.S. in counseling psychology and is a therapist in Northern Virginia. For the past 28 years, she has been a faculty and board member at the Institute for the Advancement of Service in Alexandria. She has coordinated a nonprofit organization to support the orphans in several countries. She lives with her family in Lovettsville, Va.

**Centers and Sanghas**

Ligmincha International has numerous practice centers and communities around the world. Learn more below.

**The Americas****United State of America**

**California:** [california.ligmincha.org/en/california-home.html](http://california.ligmincha.org/en/california-home.html)

**Colorado (Chamma Ling):** [colorado.ligmincha.org](http://colorado.ligmincha.org)

**North Carolina:** [facebook.com/ligminchanorthcarolina](https://facebook.com/ligminchanorthcarolina)

**Texas:** [ligminchtexas.org](http://ligminchtexas.org)

**Virginia (headquarters of Ligmincha International):** [serenityridge.ligmincha.org](http://serenityridge.ligmincha.org)

**Washington (Ligmincha Northwest):** [bonpacificnorthwest.wordpress.com](http://bonpacificnorthwest.wordpress.com)

**Mexico:** [ligmincha.mx/en/](http://ligmincha.mx/en/)

**Chamma Ling Valle de Bravo:** [ligmincha.mx/en/stupas-and-centers/chamma-ling-valle-de-bravo-mexico.html](http://ligmincha.mx/en/stupas-and-centers/chamma-ling-valle-de-bravo-mexico.html)

**Chamma Ling Torreón:** [ligmincha.mx/en/stupas-and-centers/chamma-ling-torreon.html](http://ligmincha.mx/en/stupas-and-centers/chamma-ling-torreon.html)

**South America**

**Brazil:** [ligmincha.com.br](http://ligmincha.com.br)

**Colombia:** [facebook.com/ligminchacolombia](https://facebook.com/ligminchacolombia)

**Costa Rica:** [facebook.com/ligmincha.cr](https://facebook.com/ligmincha.cr)

**Peru:** [facebook.com/Ligmincha-Peru-233727036687173/?ref=ts](https://facebook.com/Ligmincha-Peru-233727036687173/?ref=ts)

**Europe:** [ligmincha.eu](http://ligmincha.eu)

**Austria:** [ligmincha.at](http://ligmincha.at)

**Belgium:** [facebook.com/ligmincha-belgium-202713853102938](https://facebook.com/ligmincha-belgium-202713853102938)

**Czech Republic:** [ligmincha.cz/en](http://ligmincha.cz/en)

**Denmark:** [ligmincha.dk](http://ligmincha.dk)

**Finland:** [ligmincha.fi](http://ligmincha.fi)

**France:** [ligmincha.fr](http://ligmincha.fr)

**Germany:** [ligmincha.de](http://ligmincha.de)

**Berlin:** [berlin.ligmincha.de](http://berlin.ligmincha.de)

**Hungary:** [ligmincha.hu](http://ligmincha.hu)

**Poland (Chamma Ling):** [ligmincha.pl](http://ligmincha.pl)

**Netherlands:** [ligmincha.nl](http://ligmincha.nl)

**Russia:** [garuda-bon.ru](http://garuda-bon.ru)

**Slovakia:** [facebook.com/Ligmincha-Slovensk%C3%A1-republika-243364022479334](https://facebook.com/Ligmincha-Slovensk%C3%A1-republika-243364022479334)

**Spain:** [ligmincha.es](http://ligmincha.es)

**Switzerland:** [ligmincha.ch](http://ligmincha.ch)

## Ligmincha International at Serenity Ridge

**Serenity Ridge Retreat Center**, located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains near Shipman, Virginia, is the headquarters of Ligmincha International. Ligmincha International at Serenity Ridge serves the dual roles of facilitating Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche’s teachings worldwide, while maintaining an active retreat center that welcomes visitors from throughout the world to retreats with Rinpoche and others. Geshe Tenzin Yangton is the resident lama at Serenity Ridge, where he offers meditation sessions, retreats and other services to the sangha and community.

### Staff at Serenity Ridge

**Ligmincha International Executive Director Sue Davis-Dill** works closely with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche and the Ligmincha International Board of Directors to support the mission and functions of Ligmincha International. Operations Manager Stella Richards and a small administrative staff, along with residents and volunteers, oversee activities at Serenity Ridge, with assistance from an Executive Committee formed in 2014.

This year Serenity Ridge welcomed Maria Quintana as Head of Housekeeping, a new position. Chelsea Canedy



**Geshe Tenzin Yangton, resident lama at Serenity Ridge, conducts a smoke ritual at Serenity Ridge Retreat Center.**

came onboard as the new registrar (living and working from her home in Connecticut). Serenity Ridge had four participants in the Resident Program, two arriving in the spring and two arriving in the fall. The Resident Program now welcomes those who would like to live, work and deepen their practice at Serenity Ridge for two to six months.

## Retreats and Activities

**Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche** teaches four seasonal retreats at Serenity Ridge. This year’s topics included The True Source of Healing: Soul Retrieval in April; Dream Yoga in June and July; The Five Elements: Connecting with the Living Universe in October; and The Experiential Transmission of Zhang Zhung, Part 2: Introduction to the Nature of Mind in December. Service retreats at Serenity Ridge were held before the spring and after the fall retreats.

Resident Lama Geshe Tenzin Yangton taught a Ngondro Practice Retreat in January and Zhang Zhung Part 2 in May. He also co-taught Trul Khor 5 (Tibetan yoga) with Alexandro Chaoul-Reich and assisted at other retreats.

Serenity Ridge was fortunate to have the renowned Yangton Lama Tashi Gyaltzen Rinpoche, Geshe Yangton’s uncle, in residence for several months during the year. Lama Tashi taught on The Invocation of Taphritsa.

The center welcomed members of the Ligmincha International Board of Directors during the first week of the summer retreat.

Serenity Ridge also co-hosted retreats offered by other organizations, including three retreats with The Three Doors Academy, a multi-year program founded by Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche.



**Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche and students gather in the Serenity Ridge gompa (meditation hall) for a group photo following the annual Winter Retreat held in December 2015. This was the second in a five-part series of dzogchen teachings offered each winter at Serenity Ridge.**

### Facilities and Grounds

During 2015, Serenity Ridge improved its grounds and facilities with hundreds of daffodils, new paint and new linens. The facility continued to improve energy efficiency by installing new water meter and replacing bulbs with LEDs.

Final plans for a new building at Serenity Ridge were completed. The new facility will be located next to the Lama House/dining hall.

The building will contain 12,000 square feet on two-and-one-half levels.

It will house a new kitchen and dining hall with covered dining terrace, media studio, large multipurpose room and an open air meditation deck.

Groundbreaking was held during the 2016 summer retreat. Completion is expected by the 2017 summer retreat.

Funding is still needed for the new facility; to contribute, visit [serenityridge.ligmincha.org/](http://serenityridge.ligmincha.org/) donations.



The new building at Serenity Ridge will be located next to the current dining hall. It is expected to be completed by summer 2017.



### The Faces of Summer

The annual Summer Retreat at Serenity Ridge is always a special time, where friends old and new come together from around the world. These photos are from the 2015 annual fundraising banquet and the following morning.



**Around the World**

Ligmincha International teachings and communities expanded throughout the world in 2015. Here are some highlights.

**Lishu Institute Opens**

Lishu Institute in northern India near Dehradun opened its doors for two short retreats in the spring and the start of a three-year intensive program of study in September. This first year of study focused on The Nine Ways of Bön with resident teacher Sangmo Yangri, Ph.D., and other visiting teachers. Students also learned the Tibetan language. The second year will focus on the Ma Gyud teachings, one of the major tantric cycles in the Bön tradition. Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche visited Lishu in October.

**Europe**

Fourteen countries in Europe have Ligmincha practice centers or sanghas. In 2015, Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche visited eight of them including, for the first time in 14 years, a visit to Hungary, where he taught Dream Yoga. Poland celebrated its 20th anniversary in August, with Rinpoche teaching The 21 Nails to about 200 participants from many different countries. The retreat was followed by the first of a four-part Trul Khor (Tibetan yoga) series with Alejandro Chaoul-Reich.

Ligmincha Germany hosted the 9th International Sangha Practice Weekend in February with participants from throughout Europe. During the retreat, Rinpoche taught Part 1 of The Twenty-One Nails. Rinpoche also taught in



Left: Geshe Sherab Lodoe from Menri Monastery teaches students at Lishu.

Below: The Lishu building; Sangmo Yangri and students on the porch by the meditation hall.



Berlin in May, and senior teacher Marcy Vaughn offered a teaching on Sherap Chamma, organized by the German, Finnish and Dutch sanghas, in April near Dusseldorf, Germany.

In France, Rinpoche taught The True Source of Healing in Paris to about 200 participants in April. France’s resident lama, Geshe Khorden Lhundup Gyaltsen, over the past couple of years helped grow a small community of practitioners into a sangha that moved into a new location in September.

In May, 120 participants from Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Belgium and Austria attended a teaching with Rinpoche on Awakening the Sacred Arts. Tenzin Rinpoche also

visited and taught in Belgium, Spain and Switzerland during the year.



Left: Geshe Lhundup Gyaltsen with the German sangha. Right: Tenzin Rinpoche and Geshe Lhundup with the French sangha. Above: Poland celebrates its 20th.







Left: Ligmincha Mexico sangha members gather outside the stupa at Chamma Ling Valle de Bravo.

Below: Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche during an interview in Brazil.

## Latin America

Mexico has two of Ligmincha's five retreat centers, Chamma Ling Torreón and Chamma Ling Valle de Bravo. At Valle de Bravo, expansion continued, to include building a new kitchen and dining room and finishing the Lama House. Rinpoche taught Part 1 of Twenty-One Nails there in March. He taught *The True Source of Healing* in Guanajuato in November.

In South America, Ligmincha has communities in Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile and Peru. Rinpoche taught at two locations in Chile in January, offering Purification Through Mantra at Curarrehue and Access to Inner Refuge in Santiago. He taught on Sleep and Dream Yoga in Sao Paulo, Brazil in February. Colombia, which offers several yearly retreats and weekly group practice in Bogota, moved closer toward becoming an official sangha with development of a new Facebook page.

## USA

In addition to Serenity Ridge in Virginia (see page 4), the USA has centers in Colorado and Texas and sanghas in California, North Carolina and Washington. In 2015, Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche gave teachings in Los Angeles and Berkeley, California; Crestone, Colorado; Garrison Institute in New York; and Houston, Texas. Ligmincha Texas celebrated its 20th anniversary and finalized plans for arrival on January 3, 2016, of new resident lama Geshe Denma Gyaltzen.



## Ligmincha International in the Media

A one-hour documentary on Bön, "The Light of the Golden Sun," was released Feb. 21 on Ligmincha's YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/user/ligmincha](http://www.youtube.com/user/ligmincha)) to coincide with Losar (Tibetan New Year). The film, by Rogelio Jaramillo Flores, tells about the rich history of Bön, how it came to the West and the role that Ligmincha has played in recent years. It was shown at sanghas during a worldwide Losar webcast.

Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche's new book, *The True Source of Healing: How the Ancient Practice of Soul Retrieval Can Transform and Enrich Your Life*, was published during summer 2015. Published by Hay House, it is available through Ligmincha International's Tibet Shop at [ligminchastore.org](http://ligminchastore.org).

The online magazine *Ligmincha Europe* and newsletter *Voice of Clear Light* continued to share Rinpoche's teachings and keep readers informed about activities in Europe, the United States and throughout the world. Spanish and Portuguese translations of VOCL are available.

## An Expanding Presence on the Web

In 2015, for the first time, Rinpoche offered a free, yearlong course on the topic of Soul Retrieval, based on his new book. Free live webcasts were held monthly, including two daylong webcasts. The accompanying course included everything from free monthly live webcasts to multi-language discussion forums, recorded webcasts, MP3 audio recordings and downloadable print materials. Due to its strong success, in 2016 Rinpoche offered a free six-month course and series of webcasts on Transforming Your World Through Service. Rinpoche also continued to give online webcasts during the four seasonal retreats at Serenity Ridge.

A new website, Ocean of Wisdom, designed by sangha members and volunteer Paris Smithson, began offering videos of Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche's teachings. The website is staffed by volunteers who translate the teachings into multiple languages. Many of Rinpoche's teachings also are on YouTube.

Rinpoche also offers online teachings through Ligmincha Learning and GlideWing International. Ligmincha Learning offered three online courses during the year: a six-week course on The Three Heart Mantras of Bön, a seven-week online course on Transforming Our Emotions Through the Six Lokas and a seven-week course on Healing with Form, Energy and Light. Six three- or four-week workshops were offered through GideWing, including a brand-new workshop on Healing from the Source: Meditation As Medicine for Body and Mind.

Both the courses and workshops, which have been designed and crafted by Rinpoche, feature video teachings, guided meditations, journal writing, activities, and an opportunity to interact with senior mentors and classmates from around the world.

## Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2015

**Ligmincha Institute is a 501(c)(3)** nonprofit organization founded in 1992 to preserve the ancient teachings, transmissions and practices of the Bön Buddhist tradition of Tibet. We endeavor to provide transparency in our financial activities and consistency in reporting activities and to practice good stewardship of all funds entrusted to us.

As of January 1, 2015, we have changed our fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year. This report restates 2014 results for the calendar year for comparison with 2015 results. Prior Annual Reports have been based on a Fiscal Year ended September 30 and are no longer directly comparable to current results.

### Summary of Results

For the year ended December 31, 2015, Ligmincha reported net income of \$295,500, compared with net income of \$233,576 in 2014. This growth resulted in an increase in our asset base of \$422,494, a result of donations received during the year and a slight increase in program income at Serenity Ridge.

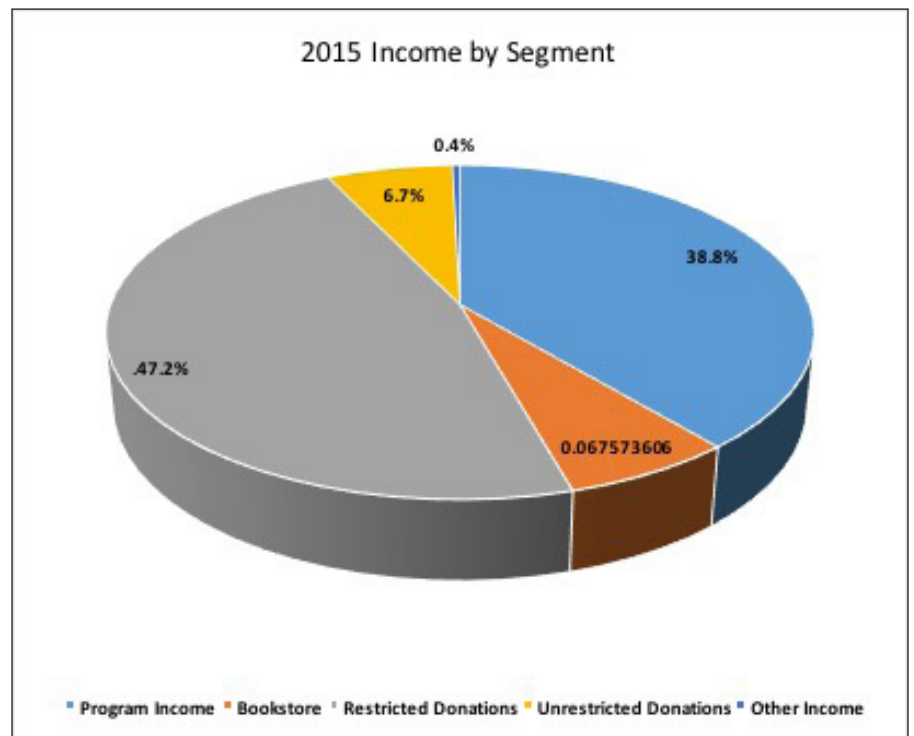
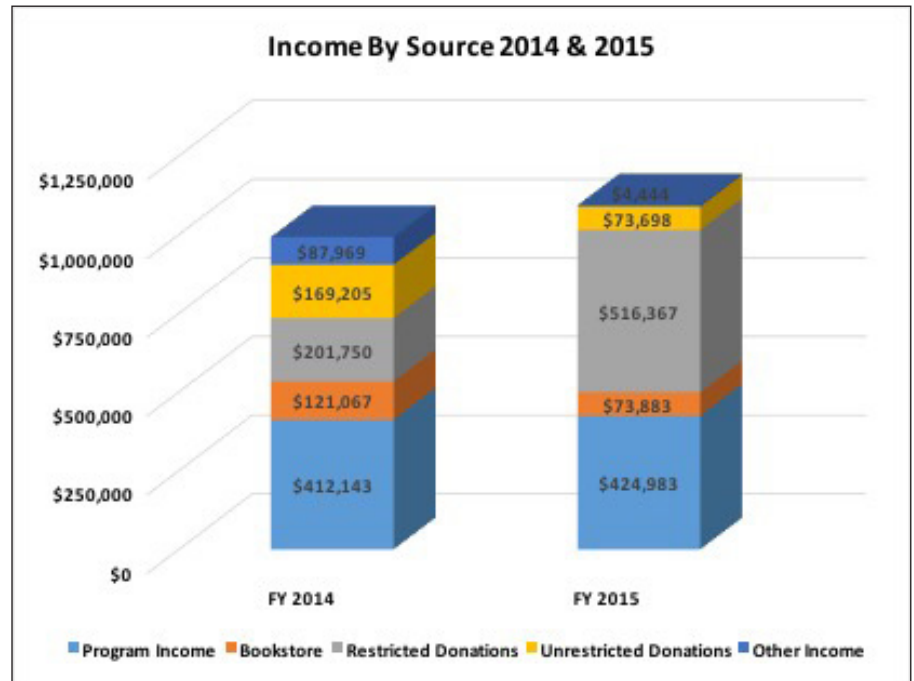
As of December 31, 2015, our unrestricted net assets were \$454,456, compared with \$220,879 at year-end 2014. We had \$785,903 in obligations for board-restricted or donor-restricted projects at the end of 2015, compared with \$323,916 in 2014. The majority of our restricted assets, \$682,130, are allocated toward the new building fund at Serenity Ridge. We ended this past year with \$961,343 in cash and cash equivalents.

### Income

For the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015, Ligmincha generated income of \$1,093,375, compared with \$992,134 in 2014. In 2015 Serenity Ridge produced \$424,983 in revenue from retreats,

lodging and other events, compared with \$412,143 in the prior year. Gross sales from our retail store were \$73,883, down from \$121,067. Unrestricted contributions of \$73,698 and restricted contributions of \$516,367 provided the remainder, compared with \$169,205 and \$201,750, respectively, in 2014. Other income in 2015 was largely inter-

est income and in 2014 consisted of an insurance settlement for damage to our roof during a severe storm in 2013. The following two graphs depict the sources of Ligmincha’s income. The first graph compares the current year’s income to the prior year’s, and the second graph represents the income in 2015 proportionally.



**Expenses**

Our total expenses in 2015 were \$797,875, compared with \$758,557 in 2014. Our direct operating expenses for Serenity Ridge and Ligmincha International were \$569,150 in 2015, compared with \$482,549 in 2014. The increase came primarily from additional staff to support Serenity Ridge, repairs to the retreat center and an increase in insurance costs. The sole grant in 2015 was aid given to Nepal and Tritten Norbutse monastery in the aftermath of the earthquakes that shook Nepal in 2015. Grants in 2014 were primarily made to Lishu Institute, our sister organization in India.

**Balance Sheet**

Because of the strength of donations received for the new building project at Serenity Ridge, our balance sheet grew from \$3,190,000 in net assets to \$3,533,000. Of our current assets, \$516,367 was in restricted accounts, and the rest was unrestricted (free for discretionary use by our Spiritual Director and the Board of Directors). At year-end, 2015, we had \$961,344, compared with \$518,540. The majority of all other assets consist of Serenity Ridge Retreat Center, the property and its buildings.

**Donations and Obligations**

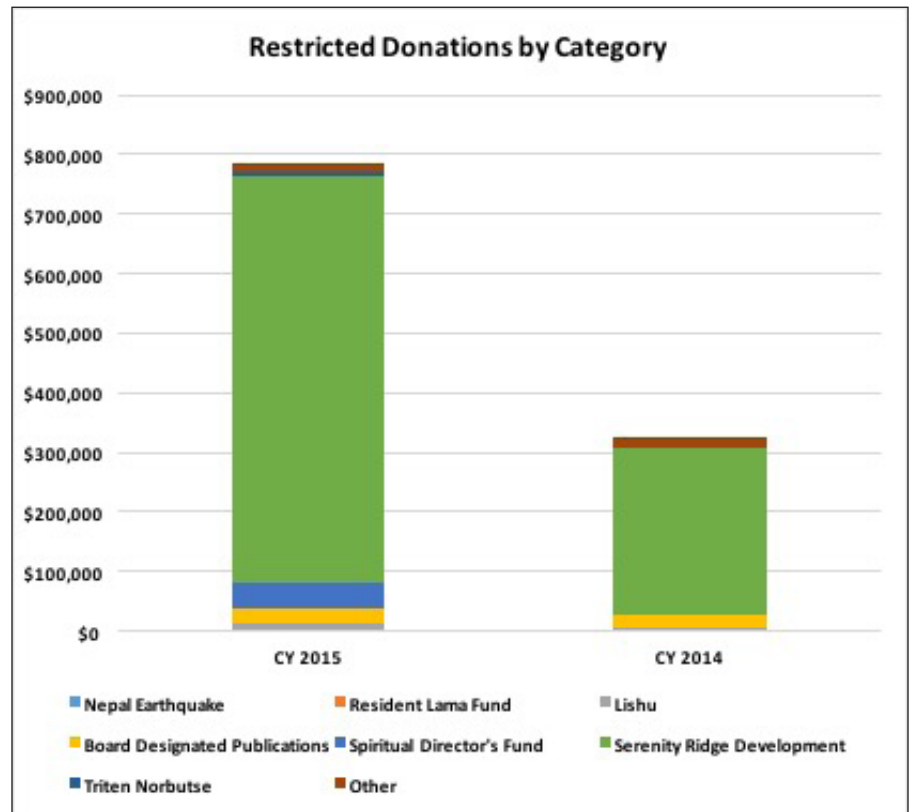
The year 2015 was significant in Ligmincha’s history in terms of the sangha’s financial generosity. As noted above, we received unrestricted contributions of \$73,698 and restricted contributions of \$516,367.

Unrestricted contributions are those in which the donor(s) or the board has not attached to a specific funding need or project. When a contribution is marked as restricted it can be used solely for the intended purpose and no other. The consequence is that, while Ligmincha may at times hold significant amounts of cash, much of that is already committed to programs

that have yet to be funded. At present, the building campaign at Serenity Ridge represents the vast majority of all restricted assets.

The following chart shows the value

of restricted and unrestricted donations held on our balance sheet at the end of calendar years 2014 and 2015. This includes detail on the specific programs that received contributions.



**Profit & Loss Statement Year Ended December 31, 2015**

	FY 2014	FY 2015
Program Income	\$412,143	\$424,983
Bookstore	\$121,067	\$73,883
Restricted Donations	\$201,750	\$516,367
Unrestricted Donations	\$169,205	\$73,698
Other Income	\$87,969	\$4,444
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$992,134</b>	<b>\$1,093,375</b>
Operating Expenses	\$482,549	\$569,150
Cost of Goods	\$75,534	\$121,076
Grants	\$135,772	\$27,851
Depreciation	\$64,702	\$79,797
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$758,557</b>	<b>\$797,875</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$233,576</b>	<b>\$295,500</b>

## Welcoming Three Resident Lamas to France, Poland and Texas

### Geshe Lhundup Gyaltzen (France)



Geshe Khorden Lhundup Gyaltzen is the resident lama of Ligmincha France. He lives and teaches in Paris.

Geshe

Lhundup was born in Tibet in Damranji, a small village in Kham, to a nomadic family. At age 12, he made the decision to become a monk and went to Patsang Monastery in Kham. In 1993 he fled Tibet, first arriving in Kathmandu at Triten Norbutse Monastery and then, encouraged by His Eminence Yongdzin Tenzin Namdak Rinpoche, continuing on to Menri Monastery in India to study for the Geshe degree. Geshe Lhundup received his Geshe degree in 2009.

After studying English in Dharamsala, India, he traveled to France, got a residency card and began working in a bakery. Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche contacted him in 2010 to suggest that he begin working with Rinpoche's students in France. With the assistance of Rinpoche's students, Geshe Lhundup began learning French and teaching yoga. He began working more directly to teach students in France in 2013.

He has helped grow the small group of practitioners to a sangha that moved into a new location in September 2015.

**Ligmincha France website:**

<http://ligmincha.fr/en>

### Geshe Yungdrung Gyatso (Poland)



Geshe Yungdrung Gyatso has been the resident lama of Ligmincha Poland since March 2015. He lives at the Chamma Ling Poland center in

Wilga, near Warsaw.

Geshe Gyatso was born in 1980 in a small village in the Dolpo region of Western Nepal. His father is a doctor of Tibetan medicine and Bönpo lay practitioner, and his mother is a Nyingma practitioner. At age 9 he became one of the first monks to begin study at Triten Norbutse Monastery in Kathmandu, under the guidance of His Eminence Yongdzin Tenzin Namdak Rinpoche.

In 1994, he began studying for his Geshe degree at Menri Monastery and received his degree in 2009. During and after his studies at Menri, Geshe Gyatso began traveling and teaching throughout Europe. In 2010 and 2011, while he was a member of the board of Triten Norbutse Monastery, he came to know Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche well.

In 2013, Rinpoche asked Geshe Gyatso if he would like to stay in Poland and teach in the Polish sangha and other European sanghas. Geshe Gyatso officially became resident lama of Chamma Ling Poland in March 2015.

**Ligmincha Poland website:**

<http://www.ligmincha.pl/pl>

### Geshe Denma Gyaltzen (Texas)



Geshe Denma Gyaltzen is the resident lama of Ligmincha Texas.

Born in northern Nepal, he began studying for his geshe degree at

Menri Monastery in 1981, where he received teachings from His Holiness Lungtok Tenpai Nyima Rinpoche and His Eminence Yongdzin Tenzin Namdak Rinpoche. After receiving his Geshe degree in 1996, he became a senior teacher at the monastery. He served as the first abbot of Zhu Rishing Yungdrung Kundak-Ling, a Bön Monastery in Sikkim, India, for two years and also was active until 2008 in assisting with the Bön Children's Home in Dolanji, India.

Geshe Denma has traveled many times to the USA, Austria, Poland, Canada, Russia, Belarus, Germany, Switzerland and Holland to teach, raise funds and learn. Several years ago, Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, founder and spiritual director of Ligmincha International, asked Geshe Denma to become the resident lama of Ligmincha Texas.

He and the sangha have been working toward that goal during 2015 and were pleased to welcome Geshe Denma as Ligmincha Texas's first resident lama in early January 2016.

**Ligmincha Texas website**

[www.ligminchatexas.org](http://www.ligminchatexas.org)



**LEFT: Geshe Lhundup and Geshe Tenzin Wangyal.**

**RIGHT: Geshe Yungdrung with His Holiness the 33rd Menri Trizin; Alejandro Chaoul-Reich with Geshe Denma.**

