

January 18, 2019

Dear Sangha Family,

I need your help. Simply, in order to have a sustainable Chinese Esoteric Buddhist (Hanmi) Buddhist Temple/Shrine here, I need your help to make it a reality and to supplement the contributions I make through my work outside of the Temple. I hope that you will consider contributing as you are able to do so. The new space that we'll be in is not large and not expensive, so the contributions that are beyond the cost of rent, lights, heat, and a little advertising, will all go to purchase a full Dari Rulai empowered altar set-up (\$7,000). This will help bring another level of empowerment and blessing to the Temple and to the work that we are able to provide the community.

### **How to Help**

#### **Join the Sangha Donations:**

**\$30/month.** Helps to keep the whole ship afloat, and is considered the offering for most of teachings and events held at the Temple that do not require an abhisekha.

**\$62/month:** Sangha membership with photo blessing. This level of contribution adds in a special photo blessing (the picture, name and birthdate of an individual is placed on the altar for daily blessing). For those who sign on before February 3, 2019, it will include one name for the AnTaiSui rite. (Photo blessings can also be requested throughout the year with a \$1/day offering.)

#### **Request a Dharma Rite**

**\$108: Birthday Dharma Rite.** This Hanmi Buddhist prayer service uses mantras to call on Buddhas and Bodhisattvas to help smooth the year for the individual. Conducted on the actual birthday, there is no need to attend, but if you do, there will be cake. ☺

**Chinese New Year AnTaiSui Dharma Rite:** Done on the eve of the first day of the New Lunar Year, these mantras are especially helpful in creating better luck and health in the new year, smoothing out problems that may have otherwise arisen. Individual (\$32, \$72, \$108, \$300, \$600, and more ... and business blessings offered (\$300, \$600, \$900...). MORE

**Ulluma, Honoring Our Ancestors Rite:** Held in the 7<sup>th</sup> Lunar month. Two weeks of chanting, includes one week for your living ancestors for Good Luck, and one week for your ancestors who have passed. This rite helps to re-establish your link with them and replenish your merit. Offerings start at \$32. Registration not until one month prior.

**Additional Dharma Rites:** There are several other kinds of dharma rites that you can request when you think it is appropriate, most notably, Assist the Deceased Rite for those who have passed, and the Extinguish Disaster Dharma Rite for those who are experiencing illness. Contact Vajracharya Charlotte for more details.

### **Help in the Temple**

**Be a Chanter:** Open to any Medicine Buddha student who would like to help others through chanting dharma rites with Vajracharya Charlotte. Selflessly chanting for others helps them through their difficult times and helps you accumulate merit for your own spiritual awakening. Requires a one-time \$20 offering for the blessed t-shirt.

**Become a Board Member:** Open first to those who have learned and practiced a Hanmi Buddhist meditation. Serve a one year term with a quarterly meeting commitment (long-distance members are allowed). Current positions open: Treasurer/CFO, Community Service Coordinator, Dharma Advisor (Vajracharyas preferred), Healing/Alternative Healing Community Coordinator, General Member.

A percentage of all donations also go to support various local and other causes to help people who need help, such as: The Neighborhood House, Habitat for Humanity, Second Harvest Heartland, Heifer International, FINCA, local high school scholarship funds, and so on.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. It is a blessing to be on this journey with you.

Sincerely,

Vajracharya Charlotte Steen

*Upper Midwest Hanmi Buddhist Association*

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