



Ganbat and Ganbat's family at home in the East Taiga.

# Nomadicare 2017

Dear Friends,

While Chimedee, our Mongolian assistant, took Nomadicare's hygiene kits and vitamin C to the taiga this year, I stayed in Vermont and worked on my **memoir**. Often I am asked how I ended up going to Mongolia. Did I always want to go there? Was it synchronicity? These are the questions I have been exploring. I am excited to report that I have been given a writing residency at the Vermont Studio Center for the month of January! I look forward to the opportunity to focus completely on writing.

Another important part of this year has been **outreach**—sharing the Mongolian movies and stories. Thanks to the New England Yearly Meeting Legacy Grant, I was invited to Quaker Meetings to give presentations around New England. The goal was to show either *Ceremony* or *Migration* and talk about my leading, the Quaker word for a calling, to work in Mongolia. Under this grant I traveled to Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont. I also was invited to give presentations to a retirement home, an insurance company, libraries, a temple. The New York premiere of *Migration* was held at the Rubin Museum in New York City. I held film screenings in the gazebo in the back yard during four evenings of the summer. The talks included stories and film clips from 1994 to the latest film. Many neighbors and friends came and I loved sharing Mongolia with them.

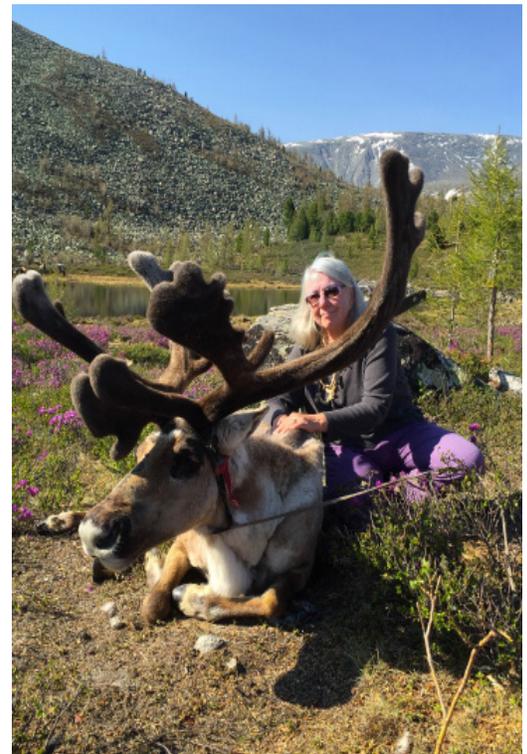
One of my favorite comments from the *Migration* screenings came from an audience member in northern Vermont. There is a line in the movie that says, "The reindeer start moving and we follow them." During the Q & A, I was talking about how reindeer have been domesticated for 3,000 years. A woman asked, "Is it the reindeer who are domesticated? Or the people?"

Next summer, we plan to **film** the last of our trilogy of *Dukha* movies, showing the transition from living a traditional nomadic life to a "modern" life. This type of modernization is happening not only in Mongolia but also around the world.

Great **thanks** to the Swift Foundation, the Mongol American Cultural Association, the G.D.S Legacy Foundation, and you for making this work possible. If Nomadicare's work resonates with you, I would be so happy if you would renew your commitment by donating.

With joy and gratitude for this work,

Sas Carey



Sas with a reindeer in the West Taiga



Nomadicare supports and preserves traditional Mongolian nomadic culture through healthcare, films, and stories.

Please follow us on social media for videos and updates!



## 2017 Vitamin and Hygiene Kit Delivery



*Chimedee in her ger packing the hygiene kits and vitamin C into new bags for 2017*



*Hygiene kit: toothbrushes, toothpaste, matches and candles, fly paper, and vitamin C*



*On a reindeer in the taiga to deliver kits*

## Plan for Summer 2018

### Third Film in a Trilogy

Ganbat and Ganbat (page 1) have a way of life that is unique on the planet. As Dukha herders, they live in a Siberian *urts* (tipi), migrate at least four times each year, and raise reindeer. They are the smallest ethnic group in Mongolia, a country that already has a small percentage of the world's population. In the winter, when it goes to -55 degrees Fahrenheit, they still live in a canvas home. They need to be in a cold place to take care of their reindeer. With modernization, who knows how long this culture will be preserved?

Nomadicare has been listening to herders in Mongolia for twenty-four years. The culture touches our hearts and the nature blesses our eyes. A shaman named Khalzan told us a few years ago, "What you are doing is so important. How else will our grandchildren and great-grandchildren know what our lives were like?"

This work pulls us. Our advisors have adjusted the mission to reflect the preservation of traditional Mongolian nomadic culture. We still support the Dukhas with hygiene kits and vitamin C and even school supplies for some needy children. Lately, our priority is to document their lives—to preserve their nomadic culture for posterity. We are in a unique position to have developed a relationship with the herders and they are willing to work with us. We ask for your support and

ideas for funding this next movie.

Two of our films feature Dukha people. *Ceremony* is about shamans and *Migration* shows travel with and on reindeer from the spring to the summer encampment. One hundred years ago, everyone in Mongolia was a nomad. Today thirty-five percent are. Many nomads are moving to the capital city of Ulaanbaatar and live in the outskirts. We will explore this movement.

What does a nomadic family's life look and feel like when they move from the countryside to the city? Do they retain a connection to their nomadic life? How? This will be our third documentary of a trilogy on Dukha reindeer herders. We hope you will help us make this film possible through continuing to support Nomadicare, as well as spreading the word to new donors, sponsors, and foundations. With your help, we hope to shoot the film with the working title *The Traditional Life of Khandaa: A Mongolian Woman in Transition* in the summer of 2018 and begin editing in the fall.

**As seen on Vermont PBS. Order on Nomadicare.ORG. Soon available to stream (rent or buy) from Amazon!  
\$25 DVDs and \$20 Book**



A family appreciates their gift



Baby reindeer having a meal



Kids on a reindeer with a thumbs-up saying thanks to all of Nomadicare's donors

## Would you like a credit in the next movie?

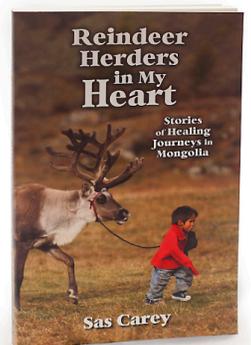
- \$50** | A year's supply of Vitamin C for 250 herders (need 6)
- \$100** | Hygiene kit for each Dukha family (need 5)
- \$500** | Film supplies (hard drive, flash drives, solar panel, battery)
- \$1,000** | Food and lodging for taiga (20 days X 4 people)
- \$1,500** | Horses and wranglers for 4 people
- \$2,000** | Interpreter (50 days X \$40)
- \$3,000** | Cameraperson (30 days X \$100)
- \$10,000** | Cultural Preservation Benefactor (Pre-production and development costs)
- \$100,000** | Cultural Preservation Angel (Production costs)

## Please donate to support our 2018 projects!

Tax-deductible contributions of any size are greatly appreciated. You may send a check made out to: Nomadicare or click on the Donate button to use Paypal through our website.

**We are looking for an Executive Producer** for our next film. To discuss this and other opportunities to have your name in the credits, please call privately to discuss.

[www.nomadicare.ORG/donate](http://www.nomadicare.ORG/donate)





**NOMADICARE.ORG**  
248 Washington St. Ext.  
Middlebury, VT  
05753

[www.nomadicare.ORG](http://www.nomadicare.ORG)

## Nomadicare Media



*This way of life needs to be preserved*

This fall our focus has been on getting Nomadicare's work out to the public. We have hired Jennifer Schweppe a media specialist to consolidate and update our presence on the internet. She has been in charge of everything except the website, which is being done by a Mongolian firm. She has made channels on Vimeo and YouTube, new video clips and photos on FaceBook, a presence on LinkedIn. Dukha necklaces of antler carvings are available on Etsy. The digital copy of *Ceremony* is now up on Amazon to rent or buy—soon to be followed by *Migration* and *Gobi Women's Song*. Using AmazonSmile, if you choose Ecologia for the non-profit, Nomadicare will get a small percentage every time you shop. Two of our films have been screened on Vermont Public Broadcasting System. All of these platforms are helping us reach different areas of the public to educate them about traditional nomadic life.



Please visit our updated website designed by New Media: [www.nomadicare.ORG](http://www.nomadicare.ORG)