

# EMPOWER

Partnering for  
Sustainable Growth

# MALI



# EMPOWER MALI ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Partnering for Sustainable Development

Dear Friend of Mali,

Access to quality education, healthcare, clean water, clean energy and leadership training are the leading challenges to sustainable development in Mali. Of all these, quality education remains the greatest and fundamental needs to ensure development in Mali. With Mali having only a 31% literacy rate, in 2015 we continued our efforts to impact change in the field of education by improving access to a quality education in some of the most rural areas, where schools were not within reach and access to education posed a serious challenge.

With your help and the help of many generous donors, our foundation was able to accomplish many great projects. **2015 has been a year of exciting developments at Empower Mali, in which we brought education to more young people than ever before.** Below are some highlights accomplished this past year:

1. We completed construction on the Eloise DeJoria Middle school in the village of Katele. This middle school is serving 150+ children from the village of Katele and surrounding villages.
2. We partnered with the Building Youth Around the World foundation in the rural village of Ferekoroba to install an electricity generating playground, solar panels and 40 solar lanterns.
3. We completed construction on the Sylvia D. Coates Academy of Falla to house 7th, 8th and 9th grade students in the extremely remote village of Falla. The unique thing about this middle school is that it has an onsite computer lab that will allow students to become better acquainted with technology.
4. We also completed construction on the teachers housing in the village of Falla.
5. In partnership with the Nelson Family, we donated textbooks for students at the Sylvia D. Coates Academy of Falla.
6. We obtained and delivered a potable water purification system for the village of Dongorona from Alpine Technical Services and AllChem.
7. In partnership with the Watkins family, we finished construction of the Micah Shea Watkins Academy of Dongorona.
8. Through the generous donation of the Watkins family and a private investor, we donated two tractors to the villages of Garalo and San as part of a food security initiative. The tractors will allow farmers to modernize their business and help increase production of staples like cotton, sorghum, millet, maize, and rice.

All this would not have been possible without the many kind donors who have invested in Mali's future. We thank you for helping us to be the catalysts for change in Mali. We hope you will continue to support the great projects that will lift a nation one community at a time. Now more than ever Mali needs you!

Thank you for your investment in our children and people in Mali. We are grateful to have you onboard!

Thank you for caring!!

Yeah Samaké

Field Consultant  
Empower MALI



*I am driven to Empower Mali having seen the beauty of its people and the oppression they suffer from lack of access to education. I feel great purpose in lifting the poor and oppressed and making opportunities available to the least of us.*

-- James Arrington

We are all familiar with the adage, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." We at Empower Mali have seen a vision that is more expansive and even more impactful than this adage.

My wife and I have had the privilege of experiencing first-hand the beauty of the Malian people and their formidable environment.

We found the Malian people to be strong, proud and happy. They have much to be proud of, for they have successfully weathered a very difficult terrain for generations.

While much was different about the traditions of each village they each had much in common. Each was desperately poor and unable to provide anything for its inhabitants in the way of comfort as we know it in America. Homes were mud huts with thatched roofs built out of the dry dirt of Sub-Saharan Africa. Water was drawn from wells. Goats and chickens and occasionally dogs wandered freely about scavenging for scraps. Shade was scarce but smiles were abundant.

While happy and proud, they are desperately poor and suffer from such a lack. When I saw this poverty first-hand I said to myself, "If I had \$50,000 dollars to help this people how would I use it? If I gave 10 thousand people \$5 dollars it would be like giving them a fish and tomorrow I will have changed nothing. If I gave 100 people \$5000 dollars I will have made a significant impact in their lives, but what of the other 19 million who struggle. In this moment of clarity I realized that our schools really are the most meaningful way we can empower the future of this country. Our schools become MACHINES FOR CHANGE. Institutions are the answer. *It is by sending hundreds and thousands of individuals collectively through these institutions for learning that we take our metaphor to the next level and teach masses to fish.*

We, as a board at Empower Mali, have worked to create a model that maximizes your donation. We have no paid staff. We as a board all contribute and because of our efficiencies more than 90% of your donation goes directly to bless the lives of these villagers. In many instances it is a solid 100%.

**Please consider making a recurring monthly donation** to help us create institutions for change that will enable and empower the people of Mali to develop solutions to their own problems and pick them completely up out of the dregs of poverty.

Thank you for caring!



James Arrington  
Chair



## MONTHLY RECURRING DONATION

Imagine the power of numbers. If 1000 people give \$10 monthly using our automatic monthly donation then every 6 months we build a new school... Now multiply that by 10 or 100! Do you see the potential? Can you give monthly? Visit [EmpowerMali.org](http://EmpowerMali.org) and set up a recurring donation today. Thank you for your generosity.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD



**JAMES  
ARRINGTON**  
Chair

Owner of Pukrufus

*"Empower Mali schools are doing more for these villagers than giving their children a place to learn how to read and write. They offer escape from the poverty of past generations. They offer the expanding of minds and relief from the darkness of illiteracy. They offer aspirations for the future. They offer hope. The minds of these village children are being filled with light, and this light can be seen in their eyes. These schools are definitely making a difference, and every year their impact grows more pronounced." — James Arrington*



**ELISABETH  
WOODFIELD**  
Vice Chair

Associate at  
Goldman Sachs

*"I love being a part of the work we are doing in Mali. Empower Mali is an incredible organization with dedicated people. We work closely with the communities in which we build our schools as well as other in-country partners to ensure their success. 2015 was a great year for the foundation! This year we completed two schools, installed an electric generating playground in Falla, and so much more. We look forward to an even more successful 2016 as we continue to expand our partnerships and outreach." -- Elisabeth Woodfield*



**MARIE  
DURRANT**  
Secretary/Legal

Attorney with  
Holland & Hart

*"2015 has been a great year for Empower Mali. We worked with three villages to establish new schools that will bring education and self-improvement within reach for their youth. There is nothing like schooling to open up new possibilities and understanding for a village. Two more villages now have new tractors - imagine the difference a tractor will make to the hardworking farmers in these villages! We are excited to follow their progress. And I might be most excited about the merry-go-round installed in the village of Ferekoroba, just because it combines fun recreation for the school kids with producing electricity to help extend the day for them and their families to do homework and other activities after dark. It is such a privilege to be a part of these projects and to support the people in these villages as they work so hard to improve their families and communities. We are off to an exciting start for 2016 - can't wait to see what this year brings!" — Marie Durrant*



**MARISSA  
COUTINHO  
SAMAKÉ**  
Board Member

Web/Social Media  
Specialist & Spouse  
of the Ambassador  
of Mali to India

*"What an amazing year it has been. This year as I spent 8 months in Mali, I had the opportunity to see many of our projects come to life. There is no greater joy than to see a child sit in a new desk in his new classroom in a new school. This year, Empower Mali continued our fight to make education accessible for our children in rural areas. The one thing I love about what we do is that it is not a hand out. With the partnership of the community leaders, the villages and even the children, we are making sustainable development a reality!" — Marissa Coutinho-Samaké*

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD



**RICHARD  
ALLRED**  
*Board Member*

CEO/Managing  
Partner of  
Alpine Technical  
Services(ATS)

*"In 2016 Empower Mali continues to provide the tools needed so that many of the youth of Mali can have the gift of learning. We invite all who believe that education can make the world a better place, not just for the individual but for mankind, to join us by donating to Empower Mali!" — Richard E. Allred*



**TIM  
BRIDGEWATER**  
*Board Member*

Founder of Interlink  
Capital Strategies

*"The future of global markets is facing uncertainty and unknown risks. Yet working with Empower Mali provides a sharp contrast by knowing there is a bright and certain future for the students and communities with whom we work to bring new schools, electricity and hope. Our great team has accomplished so much good to positively impact the destiny of these communities and families in Mali. Working with Empower Mali has opened my eyes to the limitless potential of the people there. A small effort on the part of donors and volunteers has produced profound, life-long impacts on the lives of students, families and communities with whom we work to bring new schools, electricity and hope" — Tim Bridgewater*



**ANDREW  
VAN DYKE**  
*CMA/Treasurer*

Controller,  
Rustica Hardware.



**DR. STEVEN  
WATERS**  
*Board Member*

Principal at Charles River  
Associates & an adjunct  
faculty member in the  
Economics Department  
at Brigham Young  
University



# WHY FOCUS ON MALI?



**69%**

**OF THE MALIAN  
POPULATION IS  
ILLITERATE**

Access to education remains a serious problem. Lack of schools, poorly trained teachers and lack of supplies makes a good education a challenge for many children.



**76%**

**OF THE MALIAN  
POPULATION LIVES ON  
LESS THAN \$1.25/DAY**

80% of the Malian population relies on agriculture for their food and livelihood. Changing climates and markets have led to a lower income for many households.



**< 1%**

**POPULATION IN  
THE VILLAGES  
HAVE ACCESS  
TO ELECTRICITY**

80% of Mali's rural population depend heavily on firewood and charcoal to provide energy needs.



**66%**

**OF DRINKING WATER  
IS CONTAMINATED**

1/3 of Malians do not have access to clean drinking water and over 15,000 children die each year from diarrhea brought on by poor sanitation.



**52 YEARS**

**AVERAGE LIFE  
EXPECTANCY**

In rural areas one doctor will serve about 20,000 people. Mali also has one of the highest infant mortality rates with 111 per 1000 births.



## OUR PROGRAMS :

We are fighting against illiteracy, poverty and limited access to basic amenities. We emphasize working closely with the citizens in the areas we serve because when equipped with the proper tools and resources, they will have the power to help their whole family escape poverty and become sustainable



### HEALTH PROGRAM

- Train Healthcare Workers
- Bring Healthcare Expeditions



### EDUCATION PROGRAM

- Build Schools
- Train Teachers
- Raise School Supplies



### CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

- Install Water Pumps/Tanks
- Dig Wells/Boreholes



### CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM

- Install Solar panels
- Introduce Solar Lanterns & other clean energy solutions



# Partnering for Sustainable Development



Empower Mali was created to meet the growing needs of rural communities in Mali, West Africa, in the areas of education, healthcare, clean water and clean energy.

The focus of the foundation is not to give a hand out to these communities, but rather to work side by side empowering these communities to meet their own needs by sharing with them the resources and tools to get it done. Empower Mali works closely with community leaders and the citizens of Mali to ensure that projects are self sustainable and that the work can continue even after EM leaves the village.

EM has committed its efforts and resources in the following areas:

## **Education:**

- Building schools in rural communities. On average children will walk 7-10 miles to go to school in nearby villages.
- Equip current schools with textbooks and school supplies
- Providing teacher training
- Implementing technology programs to help Mali advance in usage of computers, tablets etc.

## **Healthcare:**

- Bringing expeditions of doctors/nurses that can treat patients for free and also share best practices.
- Training health care professionals to serve in rural communities.

## **Clean Water:**

- Installation of water tanks and drilling wells and boreholes.

## **Clean Energy:**

- Installation of solar panels in villages to take advantage of the hot African sun.

## **Leadership Training:**

- Providing opportunities and training for local leaders and youth to take charge and improve their communities.





# 2015 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## FEREKOROBA

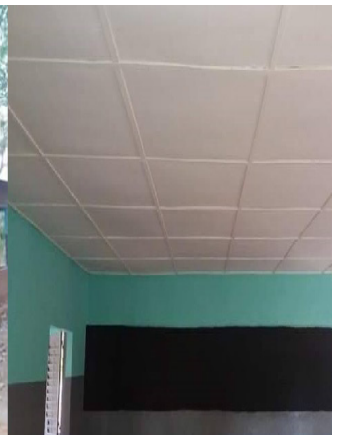


Electricity Producing Playground in the village of FEREKOROBA



Solar lanterns that can be used by the children of FEREKOROBA to study at night.

## DONGORONA



Thank you to the Watkins family for the 3-classroom middle school Micah Shea Watkins Academy of DONGORONA.

## FALLA



Completion of the 3-classroom middle school Sylvia D. Coates Academy of FALLA.



# 2015 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## KATELE



Completion of the 3-classroom middle school Eloise DeJoria Academy of KATELE.

## SAN AND GARALO



Donation of two tractors to the villages of San and Garalo as part of the Food Security Initiative

## FALLA



Textbooks for the children of FALLA



**YOUR  
DONATIONS  
MADE THIS  
POSSIBLE!**



# STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

## SEEKING SUSTAINABLE IMPACT

### 1. LOCAL INITIATIVE

As part of our partnerships, we expect the Malian communities where we work to initiate the demand for the project and also to contribute to the project whether it is 20% of the cost of the project and/or land or labor.

### 2. EMPOWERMENT

We utilize the existing capacities and resources of the villages.

### 3. PARTNERSHIP

The collaboration with the government and community stakeholders ensures that our projects are adequately staffed and receive long-term sustained support.

By getting the communities involved in both the needs assessment and financial portion, the project becomes *self sustainable*. The villagers are more likely to maintain the project because of their own investment and role in bringing the project to their community.





# YOUR IMPACT : BUILDING A FUTURE



## TIECOURA SAMAKÉ

Councilman to the Chief of the village of Ferekoroba

*We are so grateful to have access to light in our village. The playground is a great tool for our children to learn that all great things are worth working for. We are grateful to Empower Mali and BYAW for making the electricity generating playground and solar lanterns a possibility.*



## JACQUELINE MARIE NANA

Current Member of Parliament and Former Minister of Education, MALI speaking on Empower Mali's scholarship program

*Youth training will focus on agricultural entrepreneurship from planting to utilization. Each of us can play our role in development. With this gesture, the foundation Empower Mali strengthens investment for quality resources for our children.*



## MAA

7th grade student in village of Katele.

*I did not hope for much for my future. I knew like many other girls in my village, I would be married off early. Now, that I can attend school, I have much more hope for a brighter future. I would like to be a doctor someday.*



## MAMADOU TOUNKARA

Recipient of the Nomen Global Scholarship

*America is a distant dream for many Malian students. Through Empower Mali and Nomen Global, I got the opportunity to study English in Utah, USA. This opportunity has changed my life. I now have a chance to apply to university in America to get a better degree. This one opportunity has changed my life.*



## BANDJIOUGOU DOUMBIA

Teacher in the village of Ferekoroba

*I have taught here for many years. This is the first year that we will see our students have the opportunity to be able to study at night. This will be a great support for our students who usually only have time at night to study.*

# OUR DONORS--ORGANIZATIONS





# OUR DONORS -- Individuals

## MAJOR DONORS

Don and Peggy Watkins ( Micah Shea Academy of Dongorona and Tractor Donor)  
Building Youth Around the World ( Electricity Generating Playground)  
Nelson Family Foundation  
Sidhu Singh Family Foundation  
Fowkes Family

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

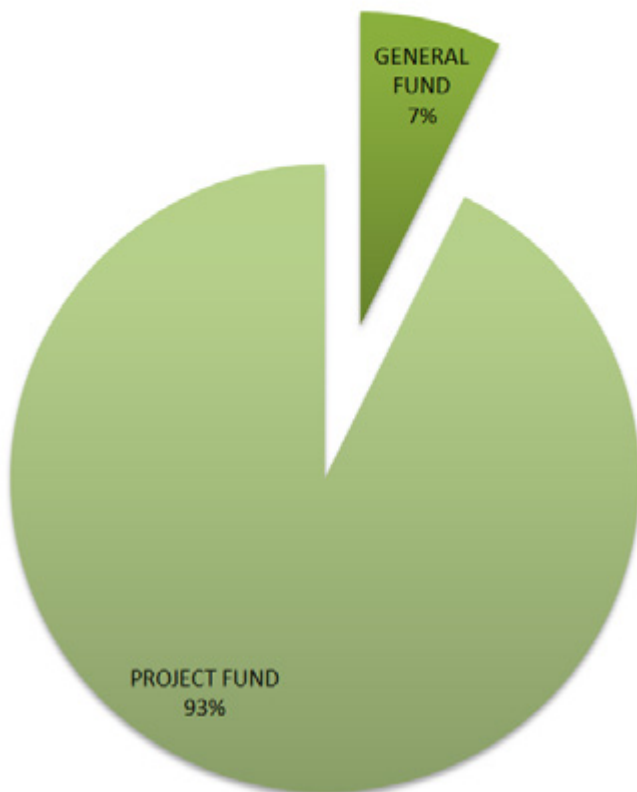
Alane mcMurtrey	Ian McCracken
Alyssa Young	James Arrington
Andrew Van Dyke	James Dorius
Barbara Thurgood	Jean Corey
Bethany Sivak	John Allred
Bonnie Frye	Kaliska Day
Brent Dykes	Larry Spendlove
Brigham Frandsen	Marie Durrant
Cara Allred	Marissa Coutinho
Cassandra Durtschi	Nathan Sellers
Charles Dowis	Noel Duerden
Cristall Harper	Olani Durrant
Cristina Fritzsche	Rachel Nguyen
Dan Bradshaw	Raymond Fowkes
Diana Aldana	Richard and Cara Allred
Dianne Lerdahl	Robert Goss
Elisabeth Woodfield	Sandra Larsen
Emilie Laudie	Sandefur Schmidt
Garrett Nash	Seeta Narayan
Geraldine Hanni	Steven Waters
Ginny Sivak	Tiemoko Diarra
Heather Arrington	Tim Bridgewater
H. Matthew Horlacher	Tracy Mansanarez
Hans Latschkowski	Ursula Bohn

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

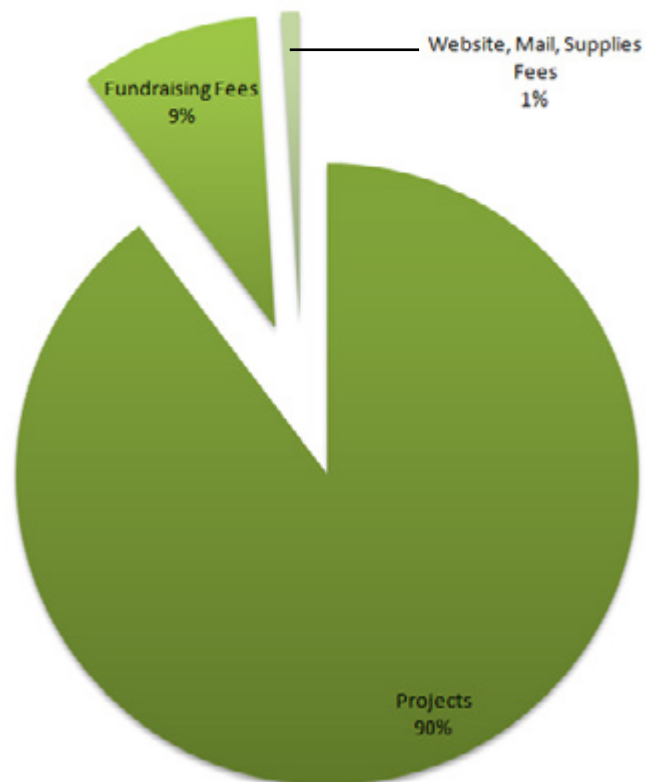
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDING 2015

The Foundation's income for FY2015 was \$119,859.26 not including In-kind donations.

### REVENUE



### EXPENSES





# 2016 Projects

2016 already promises to be filled with many opportunities to continue making an impact. Below are some projects we will be completing and others that we are raising funds for.



**1** We are raising funds for a second electricity generating playground that can be installed in the community of Ouélessébougou.



**2** Our biggest project will be the Agricultural Academy of Oueléssébougou, a vocational school that will supply a technical/ vocational education and also aim to promote entrepreneurship in rural areas and the fight against poverty.



**3** In 2016, as part of the Food Security Initiative, we hope to raise funds for two more tractors that can be given to villages in the commune of Oueléssébougou.



# Thank You



**THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR JOURNEY TO  
MAKE AN IMPACT IN MALI IN 2015.**

**YOUR HELP WAS INSTRUMENTAL TO BETTERING  
THE LIVES OF MANY MALIANS IN RURAL VILLAGES.**

**WE HOPE TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT IN 2016!**

