

Together we will break the cycle of poverty.

# EMPOWER MALI

Partnering for  
Sustainable Growth



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

**Partnering for Sustainable  
Development and Building  
a Brighter Future For Our  
Young Minds in Mali**

## Message from Elisabeth Woodfield, EM Vice-Chair

What an incredible year for Empower Mali! We are so grateful for our incredible community that give so freely of their time, money, and talents to our foundation and the people of Mali.

We were excited to welcome our new Board Member: Katie Pearce and look forward to having her on board to help impact change in even bigger ways in Mali.

Through our work and the continued support of our donors, we continue to uplift and empower through the gift of education, clean water, food security and clean energy. 2019 was another successful year for the foundation. Through the support of our generous donors, we:

- Inaugurated the Val and Jeanne Christensen BYAW Academy
- Built and dedicated a three block two room teacher housing for the teachers and headmaster of Dovong
- Donated to different villages Luci lights, solar-powered lights used to help the children while doing their schoolwork in the dark
- Completed and dedicated the JP Dejoria Academy of Moro-Moro in the Kayes region
- Broke ground on the Coates Academy in the village of Zekoun in the Sikasso region
- Donated textbooks to the Micah Shea Academy of Dongorona
- Sponsored Diakaridia Samake, a Malian orphan, to complete his 3-year program at the Escuela Agricola San Francisco de Asis de Cerrito, Benjamin Aceval, an agricultural school in Paraguay. He has now returned home to Mali, excited to implement his newfound skills through his own chicken farm
- Partnered with Elite West Africa as a sponsor of the International Conference of Youth for Peace to work with other organizations like UNICEF to find solutions for the stability in Mali's sub-region.
- Created an Advisory Committee to serve alongside the Board for retired board members and other subject matter experts on our work in Mali

We ended 2019 on a big high with massive donations for:

- Four clean solar-powered water pump projects in partnership with the Peace Love and Happiness foundation.
- A donation for one solar powered water pump from the Sorenson Legacy Foundation
- A \$100,000 donation from Matthew McConaughey to assist refugees in Mopti in a 7 month program with food, medical aid, and other humanitarian needs.

These much-needed projects will be completed through 2020.

We could not do all of this without each and every one of our donors that believe in and invest in the people of Mali. Thank you for inspiring change for these amazing people!

We are looking forward to another big year as we continue to install more solar water pumps, help more refugees, build more schools and act on many more ideas to continue to empower the great nation of Mali, starting at the rural level.

We need your support now more than ever to continue the momentum we have built since 2013. On behalf of the Board of Directors at Empower Mali, thank you for your kindness and support!

Warmest Regards,  
**Liz Woodfield**

Liz Woodfield  
Board Vice-Chair





# OUR PARTNERSHIPS WITH MALIANS SINCE 2013



- Ten schools serving 150+ children each year built in the rural villages of Ferekoroba, Dongorona, Falla II, Katele, Dovong, Fanterela, Marako, Koumantou Banko, Moro-Moro and ongoing construction in Zekoun
- Four blocks of two-room Teacher housing for teachers and directors in the villages of Ferekoroba, Dovong, Fanterela and Dongorona;
- As part of the food security initiative, five tractors to farmer co-ops in the villages of Beneko, two areas in the commune of Bougouni, San and Garalo
- Two Electricity generating playgrounds with battery packs and 40 solar lanterns in the villages of Fanterela and Ferekoroba;
- 200 Luci Lights and soccer balls distributed to the villages of Marako, Dongorona, Beneko, Kolena and Dovong
- 500 Days for Girls menstrual hygiene kits donated and distributed
- Three solar water pumps serving tens of thousands installed in the communities of Ouelessebougou, Baguineda and Bougouni
- Textbooks for three middle schools BYAW Academy of Ferekoroba, Micah Shea Watkins Academy of Dongorona and Coates Academy of Falla II
- 100 Tablets donated in 16 impoverished middle schools in Kalabancoro, Bamako
- 20 four-year high school scholarships to the Wasatch Academy High School, Mt. Pleasant, Utah
- 1 three-year university scholarship to an Agricultural School at Fundacion Paraguay in Paraguay
- 4 English language Scholarships for Malian students to study English at Nomen Global in Provo, Utah
- A Conference Center in Ouélessébougou
- A water purification system for the village of Dongorona
- Funding for a Chicken Egg farm which has created jobs
- A Basketball Court in KalabanCoura

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDING 2019

The Foundation's income for FY2019 was \$430,021 not including In-kind donations.

**REVENUE: \$430,021**

**EXPENSES: \$292,080**

### Sources of Funding

Grants: 83%

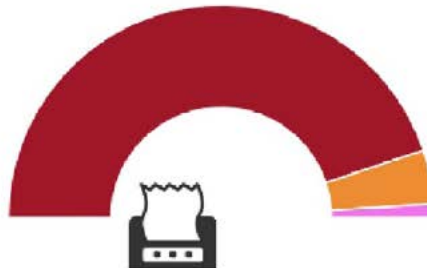


Individuals: 17%



### Annual Expenses 2020

Program Service MALI: 89.8 %



Fundraising: 8.2 %

Admin: 2.0 %





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**JAMES ARRINGTON**  
*Chair*



**ELISABETH WOODFIELD**  
*Vice Chair*



**KATIE PEARCE**  
*Secretary*



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



**TAMI MATTHEWS**  
*Board Member*



**MARISSA COUTINHO SAMAKÉ**  
*Board Member*



**MARIE DURRANT**  
*Board Member*



**YEAH SAMAKE**  
*Field Consultant / Director*



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

# 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.



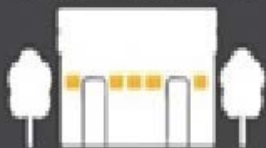
## OUR PROGRAMS :

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

## Our Mission

Empower Mali believes that the citizens and communities of Mali have the right to become self-reliant. 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. We commit our resources and efforts to affect change in the areas of:

- Education
- Healthcare
- Clean Energy
- Clean, accessible water
- Leadership Training





# Our Strategies to Empower Sustainable Development



## 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.





# 2019 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## THE VAL AND JEANNE CHRISTENSEN BUILDING YOUTH AROUND THE WORLD ACADEMY OF DOVONG



The Val and Jeanne Christensen Building Youth Around the World Academy of DOVONG and teachers housing was dedicated. The school will host 150 students from Dovong and surrounding villages that attend grades 7-9. The village with a population of 3360 is in dire need of the school because currently their primary school building houses two class grades per room. Grade 1/2, 3/4 and 5/6 are together. The new school will be a 3-classroom primary school to accommodate 170 children (92 boys and 78 girls).

The school comes fully equipped with desks, a director office and separate toilets for girls and boys. The teachers housing has three separate two room buildings that will serve the teachers and director and their families

Thank you to the Val and Jeanne Christensen family and the Building Youth Around the World foundation!!!





# 2019 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## MICAH SHEA ACADEMY OF DONGORONA



Textbooks for every student at the Micah Shea Academy of Dongorona



# 2019 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## LUCI LIGHTS



Hundreds of donated Luci lights distributed, solar-powered lights used to help the children while doing their schoolwork in the dark. Thank you to boy scout **Grant McAfee** for raising the funds for this project.



# 2019 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## NEW SCHOOL IN ZEKOUN



We broke ground on our newest middle school in the village of Zekoun. Zekoun in the Commune of Misseni, is close to the Ivory Coast border. The village with a population of 500 families is in dire need of a middle school.

The chief of the village Issa Cisse, the women, the youth and the notables who participated in the ceremony expressed their joy to Empower Mali.

We thank the Coates family for their investment in children on Zekoun!!

# 2019 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## THE JP DEJORIA ACADEMY OF MORO MORO



The JP Dejoria Academy of Moro Moro in the city of Madina in the region of Kayes is finished!! The school consists of three classrooms, a director's office and two blocks of three latrines, one for girls and one for boys.

Thank you to JP's Peace, Love & Happiness Foundation for this wonderful blessing!!



# 2019 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADUATION OF DIAKARIDIA



We ended 2019 by celebrating the graduation of Diakaridia (Pronounced Ja-Ka-Ree-Ja, we call him JaJa) from the San Francisco de Asis Agricultural school. Jaja was abandoned by his mother when he was just a small boy. Soon after, his father passed away leaving him an orphan at the young age of 7 years.

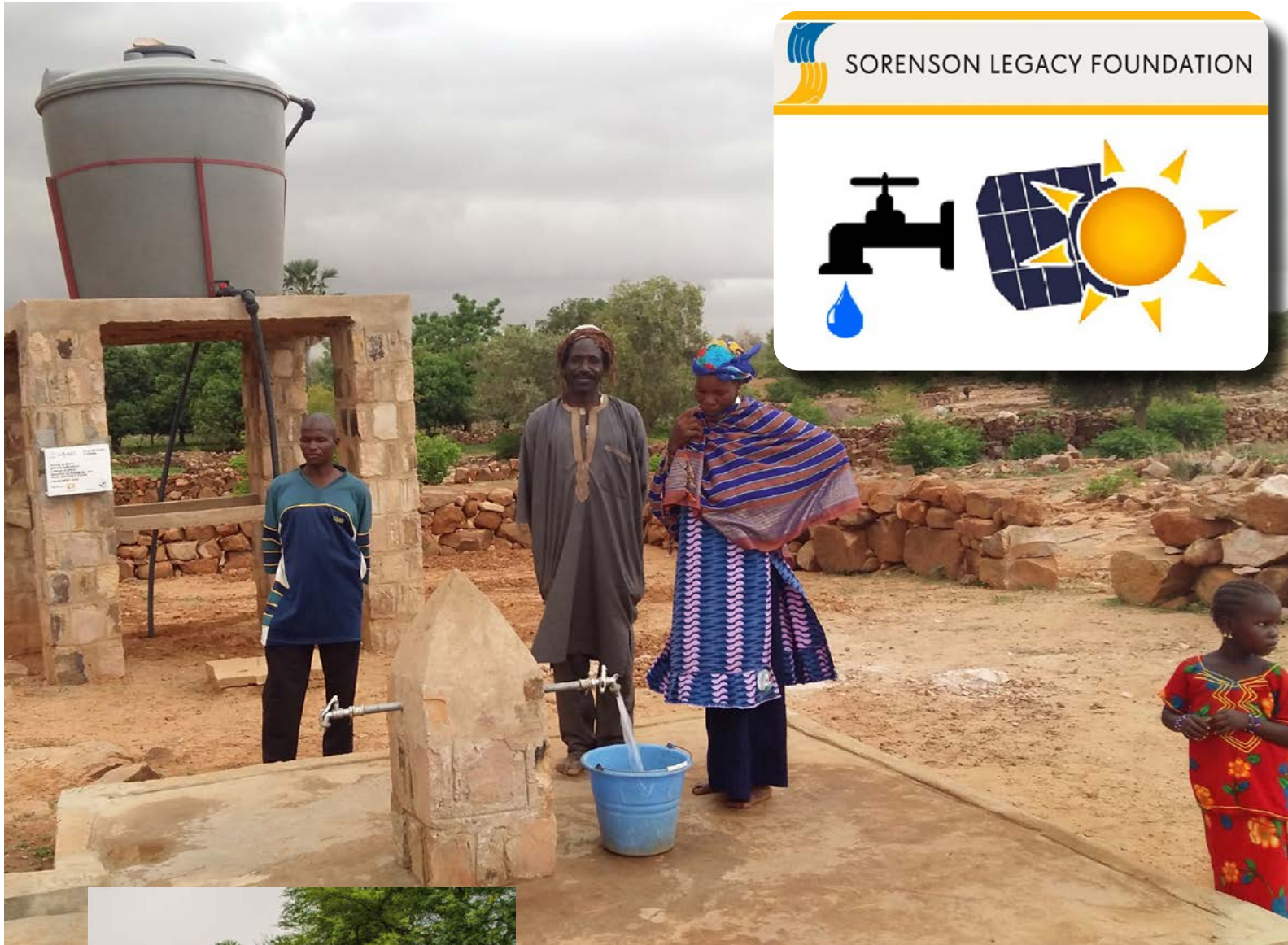
We congratulate Jaja on his graduation with his double Technical Degree in Agriculture and Hospitality and Tourism.

He is now back in Mali raising money to start his own chicken farm. His farm will create jobs and also provide an additional source of food for the community.



# 2020 PLANNED PROJECTS

## SOLAR PUMPS with SORENSEN LEGACY FOUNDATION



Thank you to the Sorenson Legacy Foundation for donating towards the construction and implementation of a new solar water pump in the community of Oueléssébougou.

Without this solar water pump with their deep boreholes, the citizens of Oueléssébougou will have to rely on contaminated shallow wells, swamps and other contaminated sources for their daily water needs.



# 2020 PLANNED PROJECTS

## FOOD RELIEF

with

**MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY**

and his foundation

**JK LIVIN**



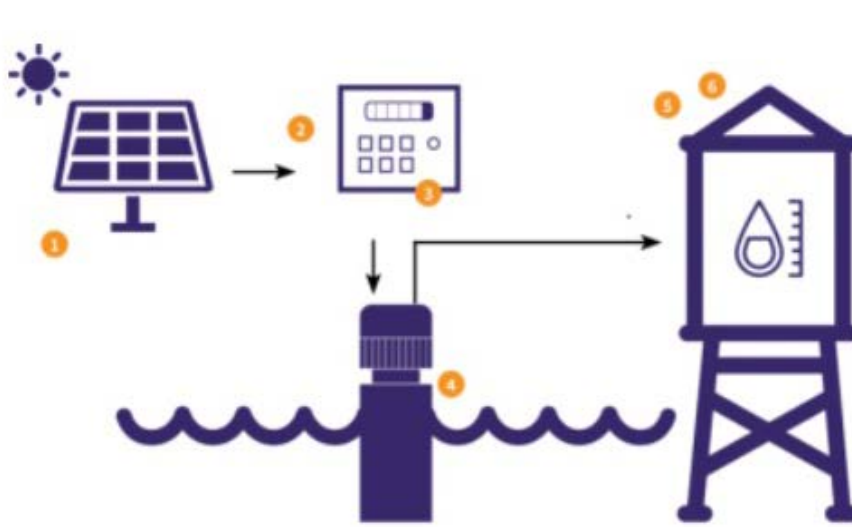
Empower Mali is excited to partner with Matthew McConaughey and his foundation JK Livin to bring relief to the families in Mopti that affected by the security crisis in Mali.

We have received a generous donation of \$100,000 dollars for a food security project that will be carried out over the next 7 months that will provide different families each month much needed food. This project will be carried out in collaboration with Empower Mali and a local Malian association Humanitarian Action for Development



# 2020 PLANNED PROJECTS

**SOLAR PUMPS** with



Thank you to the Peace Love and Happiness Foundation for donating funds for four new solar water pumps throughout Mali.

The sites for the solar water pump are yet to be determine but when the pumps are installed, they will provide a consistent and clean water source for the community.





# Thank You



**THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR JOURNEY TO  
MAKE AN IMPACT IN MALI IN 2019.**

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

**WE HOPE FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2020!**

