



Featured grantee for March 2017

Caravan to Class

Female Adult Literacy in Timbuktu



Dining for Women



Changing the world one dinner at a time

Introducing Caravan to Class (CTC)



Caravan to Class is an all-volunteer charitable organization with the focused mission of bringing literacy to the children of villages around Timbuktu in Mali, West Africa. CTC believes education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty and inequality in Timbuktu. It has completed nine school construction projects since its inception in 2010.

Where in the world?

CTC works in Timbuktu, Mali. Once known as a cultural and educational center, Timbuktu has undergone numerous challenges. High population growth rates and drought in Mali have fueled food insecurity, poverty, and instability.



What are we supporting?



CTC developed and launched a Female Adult Literacy pilot program in the village of Tourari. This program was created to help mothers develop basic literacy skills so that they can improve their livelihoods and those of their families. By partnering with DFW, CTC will expand this program to ten additional villages.

Life Challenges of Women in Timbuktu, Mali



In the Timbuktu region more than 77 percent of the population lives in severe poverty. Roughly half of the villages in the Timbuktu region are without schools. The United Nations Development Program has ranked Mali 150 out of 155 in its gender inequality index.

Life Challenges



Women in Mali are deeply impacted by their lack of education and the severe poverty rate. Women in Timbuktu are usually illiterate, have not attended school and often do not believe they need to send their daughters to school. Subsequently, a classic cycle of poverty emerges: daughters marry young and give birth at young ages.

Budget

How Dining for Women's grant of \$42,260 will be used over two

Item		Total
Personnel	Salaries for facilitator/ instructors, monitoring and evaluating, and administrative staff	\$18,185
Program/Material Costs	Tables, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, rulers, slates/chalk, notebooks, designed booklets (reading, writing, math)	\$2,220
Refreshments/Nutrition	Tea, sugar, biscuits at each session, bonus food for each woman at the end of the program. Budget figure represents less than one dollar per participant per session and is critical due to food insecurity.	\$20,240
Other	Transportation, office supplies, bank fees, etc.	\$1,615
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$42,260

About the Featured Grantee



CTC was founded in 2010 after the founder, Barry Hoffner, realized a childhood dream and visited the fabled Timbuktu, Mali, West Africa. Captivated by the city's interesting and hospitable people, the music, the desert and its fascinating history, he decided to celebrate his 50th birthday by building a school in Tedeini, a village he had visited. He returned six months later to see the children successfully learning French in their new school. He was so inspired by the students' dedication to learning and their families' interest in their education; he decided to expand educational access to other nearby villages.

Share Your Thoughts



1. How do you think this project will promote women entering leadership roles in Timbuktu?
2. How does the project help to reduce childhood pregnancy, increase health and reduce poverty?
3. What impact do you think this project will have on gender inequality in the area?

March 2017 Sustained Program: Nepal Youth Foundation



Nepal Youth Foundation's Vocational Training for Freed Kamlaris Project provides vocational skills to 90 freed Kamlaris so that they can support themselves and their families. The project will increase the employability and help end the poverty of the girls freed from Kamlari system of indentured servitude in Western Nepal. We love it because it helps girls become gainfully employed and allows them to make their own choices and shape their own destinies. The sustained grant of \$20,000 per year for three years directly impacts 90 girls (30 per year).