

# A CHILD FOR ALL 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

ACFA exists to provide Mali's vulnerable children a safe and loving environment which fosters their health, learning, happiness, and success.

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Summar xecutive

THANK YOU. 2016 was both an impressive and a challenging year for us. Thanks to your support, ACFA continues to make progress against our renewed strategy of 2015, has delivered strong programs for the vulnerable children of Mali, and remains well-positioned for future successes.

We have found new ways to execute our updated strategy and we have brought on board administrative and fundraising assistants to strengthen our back office. From academic activities, to sports, to skill building training, our children continued to strive every day!

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear ACFA Supporters,

This year I am pleased with our renewed focus on the Zorokoro Complex and the progress that we have made. A few achievements for 2016 include:

- Diakassan earned 7 gold medals in Taekwondo.
- Diakassan and Koro were selected and are participating in the Mali National Taekwondo training.
- ACFA registered its first two secondary school students in 2016 and they are performing outstandingly in their new school.
- In October 2016, Diakassan was recognized by her school as the top performer and she received gifts of encouragement.

In 2017 we intend to move forward with the Zorokoro Complex, taking on 25 new children while building the school and setting the stage for the medical clinic. Despite the financial challenge of losing one of our major donors, this year we have received both financial and non-financial support from the Conseil Ingénierie et Recherche Appliquée (CIRA), SIPROVET, Banque Nationale de Development Agricole, Addis Consulting, Foundation Orange, as well as many individual donors from around the world.

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Our continued partnerships with the Embassy of Mali in Washington DC and the Columbia School of Business Pangea Project have proved very beneficial to ACFA's children.

In 2017, we want to take the lead role in supporting the vulnerable children in Mali, Zorkoro, and its 7 surrounding villages. You can help achieve this by spreading the word about ACFA! There is much to be done but we are confident we are on the right path to accomplish our strategic vision. I look forward to 2017 and all the progress I know we will make!

Kadiatou Fatima Sidibe, CEO - Founder

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

2016 has been focused on building ACFA internally to ensure we have the right tools in place for a robust 2017. We have added several new Board members, hired a part time grant writer, and an operations and administrative assistant. Additionally, we focused on adding volunteers. We have made sure that we are ready to react quickly as opportunities for grants and other assistance arise.

In Mali, the twelve children of ACFA continue to thrive. The children were visited by Board member Alpha Konate. They also received a special visit of a group of U.S. Marines stationed in the region. The Marines brought wonderful gifts and witnessed the children performing their Taekwondo skills.

The Zorokoro Children's Complex is moving along and will eventually accommodate another 100 children. We are happy to state the first phase of the dormitory is complete and ready to house 25 children. Once we have raised the \$50,000 operating costs, we can bring 25 young children to Zorokoro. Plans are already underway to raise funds to build the school.

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

The Ambassador of Mali to Washington DC graciously hosted a fundraiser at his residence in Washington, DC and continues to be a big supporter of ACFA.

We are appreciative of all our donors in Mali, the United States and around the world. I want to thank all of you who contribute to ACFA with your time and who donate to our wonderful organization. We are excited for the next year as we have made structural changes that will move ACFA forward and help the vulnerable children in Mali, making sure that Mali remains a stable and safe place for the future.

Lisa Javit

Lisa Savitt, Chair of the Board



# 2016 Accomplishments

2016 was another busy year for ACFA! The ACFA board added several new members and continued towards building a strong sustainable organization. We also brought on our first two consultants in the United States to assist with grant writing and administrative activities.

Two of our children started secondary school and are doing superbly well! While the younger students in elementary school also continue to work hard every day. All of the children continue to enjoy their sports activities. The basketball students competed in the Mali regional tournaments and the Taekwondo students competed in the Bamako Taekwondo championship, winning dozens of gold, silver and bronze medals!

Work continued at the Zorokoro Children's Complex and we completed the first dorm to house 25 children. We also installed solar panels and additional fence lighting in our Zorokoro facility.

Our children participated in summer camps and learned skills in tailoring, woodworking and motorcycle repair, while working with tutors to get a jump start on the next school year. Following the summer, 70% of our children advanced to the next grade level.

In July we hosted a fundraiser at the home of the Mali ambassador to the United States with nearly 60 people in attendance.

Board member, Alpha Konate visited Bamako in the spring of 2016 to meet with the staff and children and see the work on both the Bamako and Zorokoro sites.

# Status Report on the Children



#### The Girls Are Leading the Way!

Every year our kids give us the hope and energy to continue caring for them and 2016 was not an exception! The children have continued to excel and the girls are leading the way!

Overall, the school year was satisfactory with 70% of the children earning passing grades. One of the girls, Diakassan, was recognized by her school as one of the best students and received awards and new school supplies. The four students whose results were unsatisfactory were moved to another school, so that we can better assess their needs. We are happy to report that one of them was ranked among the top of her class and the others are improving tremendously.

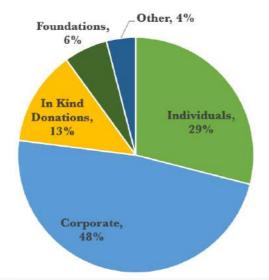
Diakassan and Korotoumou were selected to compete with the Mali Junior National Taekwondo Team. Diakassan's incredible performance at her blue belt ceremony resulted in her immediately earning her red belt! Astan and Kadiatou are also leaders in fencing, a relatively new sport in Mali.

We are very proud of what we have achieved, however we realize there is a long way to go. In addition to attending a private school, the kids receive private tutoring and those in need also benefit from psychological support. As a result, ACFA has taken steps to provide its staff with the tools to better cater to the needs of these wonderful kids.

At ACFA we believe that each child is a unique individual who needs a secure, caring, and stimulating atmosphere that will support growth and emotional, intellectual, physical, and social maturity. We invite you to be part of this wonderful journey and help us unlock that potential!

## 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2016 ACFA received a total of \$40,033 in donations. This includes in-kind donations of \$5,837 (13% of revenue) in material such as clothes, shoes, toys, food and donated services in accounting and legal trademarking services for ACFA's new logo. In July 2016 His Excellency, Mr. Tiena Coulibaly, hosted a fundraiser for ACFA at his residence. This was a great opportunity to spread awareness about ACFA and to get more constituents to join our cause, while maintaining our current supporters. Other sources of income include, -\$1,664 (-4% of total revenue) represents interest earned from bank accounts, sales of agricultural project harvest, and losses incurred during wire transfer of funds to Mali due to exchange rate fluctuations.



#### ACFA 2016 Revenue

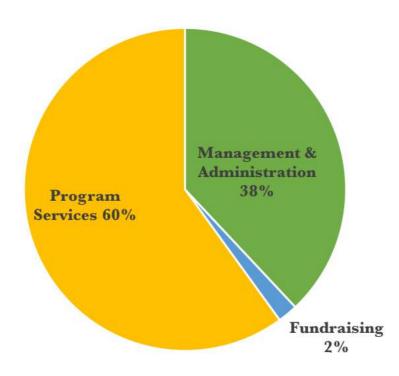
48% of ACFA's revenue was received from 3 corporations in Mali: CIRA, SIPROVET, and Banque Nationale de Development Agricole. CIRA continues to be the largest donor in Mali with over \$16K in donations in 2016. ACFA lost the support of the Segal Family Foundation in 2016, leading to a decrease in foundation donations.

Together with the Combined Federal Campaign, the Globalgiving Foundation provided 6% of this year's total revenue while individual donations accounted for 29%.

## <sup>2016</sup> EXPENSES

In 2016, 60% of ACFA's expenses were spent on the care of the children. This includes nutrition, health care, vocational and traditional school, and employees' salary to provide daily care to the children. Relatively speaking, our management and administrative fees have increased this year. We spent 38% of our revenue ensuring that we improve our back office status. We have hired the services of two consultants to enhance our administrative and fundraising efforts. In addition to the new consultant expenses, the management and administrative fees include annual registration of the organization, database management, Quickbooks fees, web maintenance etc. Finally 2% our expenses was spent on fundraising efforts.

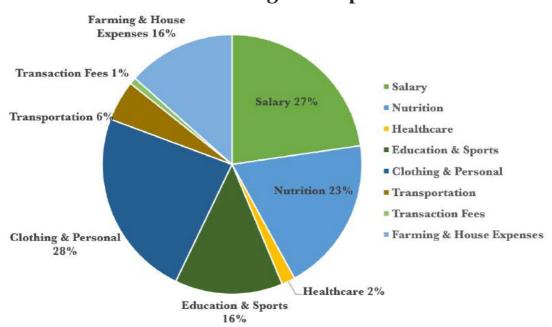
#### ACFA 2016 Expenses



#### *2016*

# PROGRAM EXPENSES

In 2016, ACFA's highest category of program services was spent on salary. This 27% of total program expenses was spent on employees who actually do take care of the children on a daily basis. It also includes our 2015 intern who we hired as an employee in 2016. 23% of our program expenses were spent on food and other nutrition expenses for the children while 16% was spent on their education and sport activities. The education fees include their tuition to a private school, their school supplies and uniforms, as well as the fees for extracurricular classes that they attend all year round.



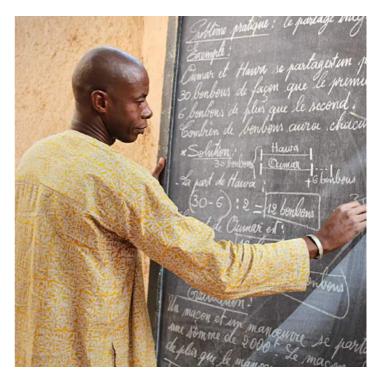
#### ACFA 2016 Program Expenses

16% of the total program funds was spent on the farming project and housing: this includes the fees to work the farm that grows crops for the children's consumption as well as any repair to the house where they live. The 1% transaction fees represents fees for sending funds to Bamako for operations during the year. These fees were much less in 2016 compared to 2015 due to the fact that we conducted less transfers to Bamako this year as on the ground fundraising efforts led to higher revenues in Mali in 2016.

### 2017 FUTURE PLANS

2016 has been a year of huge accomplishments for the children at ACFA. They continue to excel in the classroom and within their extra curricular activities. Some of the children competed in another Bamako Taekwondo competition and came home with gold, silver, and bronze medals. ACFA strives to give the children more opportunities to develop their social and vocational skills, by exposing them to more competitions and events. In 2016 some of ACFA's board members traveled to Mali and visited the children in Bamako. The children always enjoy receiving visits from Board members, partners, and friends of ACFA who take time out of their busy schedules to make the trip. ACFA Board members, especially those who visit Mali occasionally, will continue with this important effort. The children always receive a boost in their confidence and a sense of encouragement from these visits.

The Zorokoro Children's Complex continues to be a top priority for ACFA. We have made great progress towards the completion of this goal,



but we still need your continued support. A completed Zorokoro will not only improve the children's quality of life but will also allow us to welcome some of the many more children waiting to be admitted into the program. ACFA completed the construction of Phase One of the dormitory and in 2017 we hope to take in 25 children ages 4 to 5 years old.

For 2017 ACFA plans to increase its efforts in providing the children with mental health services. Given the past living conditions of our children and their present situation, these services are important in making sure they not only receive a good education, but that their mental health needs are attended to as well.



ACFA's staff has a challenging task at times in dealing with our children, and it is our goal to provide them with appropriate and continuous training. Some of the children are approaching their teenage years and developing expected behaviors that are typical of any child that has experienced trauma of some kind. AFCA is looking to partner with psychologists and mental health professionals in Mali to provide training and continued education to ensure the wellbeing of our children.

Fundraising is essential to turning our goals into a reality. We need to raise further operating costs to take in 25 children and to continue to build the Zorokoro complex. We are seeking a grant for building the school and hope to complete the school and the medical clinic by 2018.

We hope you join us on this journey ahead!

