

# Kadiogne Courier

The Newsletter of Kids of Kadiogne ❖ [www.kidsofkadiogne.org](http://www.kidsofkadiogne.org) ❖ Spring 2008

Kids of Kadiogne, Inc. ❖ P.O. Box 18983 ❖ Philadelphia, PA 19119 ❖ 215-844-0426

## Community Education Center Under Construction

We broke ground for our new Community Education Center in Kadiogne in December 2007. Construction is moving along quickly, and we anticipate completion of the first phase of construction on the center before the start of the Senegalese school year in October 2008. The classrooms and library in the center will provide additional space for the elementary school, which has had to turn away some students in recent years for lack of space, and they will house our after-school tutoring programs, as well as other community activities.



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## Kids of Kadiogne Sponsors Health Education Tour

On Saturday, March 15, four Peace Corps volunteers, led by volunteer Amparo Garcia, met with a group of young women from the middle school in the town of Taredji. They provided a training on sexual health issues, including HIV/AIDS and STDs. The next day, the selected girls and the Peace Corps volunteers, along with two health workers from the departmental capital of Podor, set up an informational table at the weekly market in Taredji. They put their health knowledge to work, performing a skit in the local language, and afterwards the local nurse discussed responsible sexual behavior with the crowd. A team from the Spanish NGO



Medicos del Mundo offered free confidential HIV/AIDS testing onsite. The group then moved on to two other nearby villages, reaching over 100 adults and 200 young students and children with their skit and discussion.

Kids of Kadiogne sponsored this two-day event, whose goals were both to educate the audiences about sexual health issues and to offer an empowering opportunity to the young Senegalese women who took part in the program. We hope that these young women have gained new confidence from this experience to be able to continue to pass on their new knowledge to their families and communities and eventually to their own children.



Bill Gates has called malaria "the worst thing on the planet". A recent article in National Geographic explains that "some 3,000 children die of malaria each day in Africa, one every 30 seconds." That's more than one million children a year. The article explains that the mosquito net is "one of the best defenses against malaria [...and can...] cut infections by half and child deaths by a third."

## Mosquito Net Distribution Scheduled for June

While many of the large organizations working on this problem find great difficulty in effectively distributing the nets, Kids of Kadiogne has created a simple model that has allowed us to use direct connections with children and families in remote villages to get the nets directly into their hands. Tonight, thousands of villagers in northern Senegal will sleep peacefully beneath mosquito nets



that we have provided, not only protected from malaria but also sleeping better and staying healthier and happier.

We are planning to distribute mosquito nets to children and families in six villages in northern Senegal in early June, at the beginning of the rainy season and just before the start of the worst mosquito season of the year.



Through our Sister School Program, American children from Abington Friends School and Senegalese children from Kadiogne Elementary School are getting to know each other and learning about each other's culture.

## Sister School Program Update

This program helps to bridge the geographic, linguistic, and cultural gaps between these two schools, allowing the children to exchange letters, drawings, and crafts, as they learn about the fascinating differences and often surprising similarities of life in a faraway place.

In March, Executive Director Luke Klein passed on to students at AFS the most recent letters and drawings from the students in Kadiogne. In turn, AFS students presented to Luke the board games that they had made for the students in Senegal.



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## A Special Thank-You

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## In Memoriam

In Memory of Adelaide Keough  
In Memory of BMB  
In Memory of Danny Smith

### THANK YOU!

The work of Kids of Kadiogne would not be possible without the generous support of our donors. For more information about how you can help, please call us at 215-844-0426 or visit our web site:

[www.kidsofkadiogne.org](http://www.kidsofkadiogne.org)

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