



Kids of Kadiogne, Inc.

P.O. Box 18983, Philadelphia, PA 19119 ❖ www.kidsofkadiogne.org

November 2012

Dear Supporters,

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I was sitting at home the other evening, feeling a bit tired from a long day, knowing that I still had some work I had been planning to take care of for Kids of Kadiogne, but really wanting to just relax a little and head to bed. So, I turned on the television just as the extraordinary new documentary *Half the Sky* was starting on PBS. I sat there for the next couple of hours, watching through teary eyes as the filmmakers brought me into the lives of hopeful, bright-eyed young girls who were essentially expendable in their world of deep, inescapable poverty and neglect, as they faced a fate of unimaginable suffering, powerless at the hands of cruel people.

As the documentary ended, I turned off the television and just sat quietly for a long time, reeling from what I had just witnessed and frustrated by a sense of helplessness in the face of such entrenched problems in the world. The simple words of the filmmaker's summary were ringing in my ears: "In this world, talent is universal and opportunity is not."

I was reflecting on how random it was that I had the good fortune to be born into a world that has offered me so much opportunity when so many others have none. And I was thinking about one of the most special opportunities and privileges I have, which is to try to make life just a little bit better for those in need. And how lucky I am to have had the opportunity along with all of you to create a small organization that makes it just a little easier for a few thousand children in one of the poorest regions in the world to make the most of the opportunities that the world is offering them.

The world recently lost an extraordinary woman who made her life one of helping others. Among the many ways in which she lived out her commitment to helping those in need, Agnes Forst was one the most enthusiastic supporters of our work in northern Senegal. In memory of her commitment to our work and in the hope of raising enough to complete the second half of our community center (which today already serves as much-needed classroom space for the children of Kadiogne), Agnes's family has generously offered to match every dollar we receive in contributions before the end of this year with a two-dollar donation. That means if you send us a \$100 contribution, they will turn it into \$300!

So, if you can relate to the feeling of helplessness that I describe, and if you are grateful for the opportunities you have to make life a little better for those in need, I invite you to continue your support of our work with a contribution today!

Yours truly,

P.S. I was deeply moved by *Half the Sky*, and I think that everyone in the world should watch this documentary. In order to help further that cause a little, I am going to buy five copies with my own personal money and send them to the first five people to contribute at least \$100...

'Making a significant difference in the life of a child'