

# January Featured Grantee GAIA Vaccine Foundation

♀ Dining  
for  
Women



**Mali**

## Introducing GAIA Vaccine Foundation

**GAIA Vaccine Foundation's mission is to**

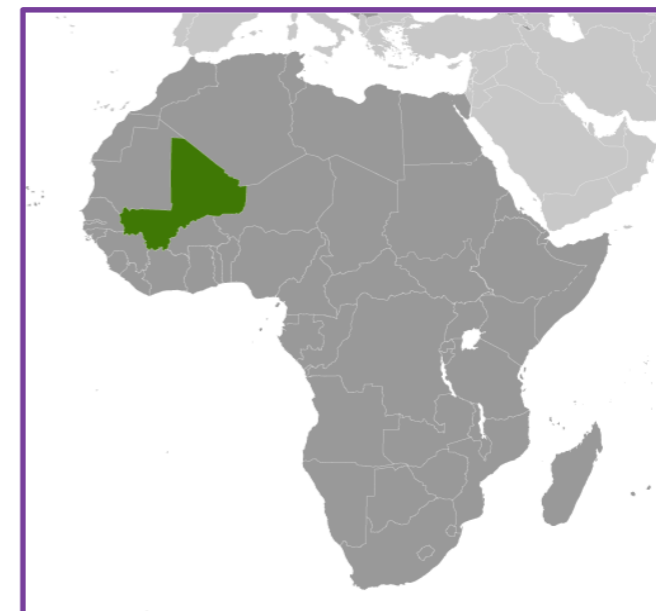
- **reduce the incidence of infectious diseases that disproportionately affect women and their families in the developing world**
- **promote the development of vaccines that can be distributed on a not-for-profit basis in the developing world.**



**Activities are centered on four themes: Education, Prevention, Access to Care, and Vaccination**

## Where in the world?

- Mali is among the 25 poorest countries in the world
- Depends on gold mining and agricultural exports for revenue
- Total population is expected to double by 2035
- Bamako, the capital, is one of the fastest-growing cities in Africa
- The median age in Mali is 15.8 years. The average age for mothers to have their first child is 18.9 years
- The literacy rate for the total population is 33.1%, with 45.1% of males being literate and just 22.2% of females being literate



## Life Challenges of the Women Served



- The HIV infection rate in Mali is disproportionately impacts women
- 72,000 Malian women and girls 15 and older were living with HIV in 2017
- Nearly 2,000 children are newly infected with HIV in Mali every year due to mother-to-child transmission
- Newborn HIV is 100% preventable with mother -to-child transmission prevention

## Life Challenges of the Women Served

- Traditional family structure in Mali may include one man and several wives.
- Female genital cutting, early marriage, and other factors place women and girls at higher risk for HIV, who are identified as being HIV-infected when they seek prenatal care.
- Being discovered as HIV+ during pregnancy is extremely stigmatizing for the mother, who may lose her home and her child as a result.
- HIV infected children are also stigmatized.



## What are we supporting?

- The goal of this program is to educate HIV-affected families, reduce stigma, and increase access to early HIV detection and prevention
- Only 22% of women in Mali are literate
- A peer education program will be based on a new West African story cloth that illustrates how families can protect women, children, and families from HIV
- By using the story cloth as an instructive tool, GAIA Vaccine Foundation will increase awareness, offer education and healthcare resources to women and girls in Sikoro

**Direct Impact: 4,500 Indirect Impact: 25,000 community members**

# Budget

**DFW's grant of \$50,000 for one year will fund the following:**

Item	Description	Total
Personnel Expenses	Includes \$6,850 for the National Director's salary for program management and coordination, and \$5,760 for a portion of the pharmacist's salary. Also includes \$10,714.29 for funding for education and outreach workers at ASACOMSI in Mali.	\$23,324.29
Project Costs	Includes \$9,110 for a portion of a year's worth of support for the MTCP Program to provide counseling, HIV testing, and HIV care, \$4,480 for a portion of a year's worth of support for the twice-weekly Nutrition Program, and \$3,940 for a portion of a year's worth support for the Teen Peer Education Program.	\$17,530.00
Other Activities	\$5,000 will fund on-site training of clinic staff by the local Department of Health, and \$4,145.71 will pay for the fabric printing of the storytelling textile.	\$9,145.71
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$50,000.00</b>

## About the Featured Grantee

- **Founded in 2001 by HIV expert Dr. Anne De Groot and members of the GAIA VF board to combat infectious diseases that disproportionately affect the developing world.**
- **In 2005, started a pilot program in a local community clinic to prevent Mother to Child HIV transmission**
- **This launched GAIA Vaccine Foundation's partnership with the Community Health Association of Sikoro**





## Share Your Thoughts

1. How do you think the use of a storytelling textile can help fight HIV/AIDS in Mali?
2. How do you think the patriarchal family structure affects the problem?
3. How do you think the storytelling method of teaching will change the community?



Changing the world one dinner at a time

Dining for Women | P.O. Box 25633, Greenville, SC 29616 | [www.diningforwomen.org](http://www.diningforwomen.org)

## January's Sustained Grantee: Integrate Health

**Empowering Female Community Health Workers to Provide Integrated Primary Care in Remote Communities in Northern Togo, West Africa**



**The purpose of the project is to empower 136 total (75 new) female Community Health Workers (CHWs) to provide reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH) services in five districts that currently lack access to high-quality healthcare, leading to reduced rates of maternal and child morbidity and mortality**

**Direct Impact: 17,250; Indirect Impact: 58,999**