Thank you from the Director!

2020 was a year unlike any other, but with your help we managed to make it a huge success! We started off strong, only to have our plans derailed by the coronavirus. However, as Senegal mitigated the effects of the virus, we restarted and completed many projects.

We expanded our garden program into five new communities, for a total of 26 gardens serving thousands of people. Three schools received new classrooms, and we kicked-off work at the long-anticipated Keur Soce High School, giving kids a renewed vision for their future. Two more rural health posts were completed, meeting the needs of people where it is most crucial: right at home in their neighborhoods.

It is a testament to the strength and resiliency of our partners and communities that we have this level of success during unpredictable times. With your investment, we plan to build on these successes in 2021 with the expansion of six new community gardens, more classrooms to empower young students, and additional health posts to keep people healthy during these difficult times. Your contribution makes these programs possible, and the Senegalese send along a BIG “Jerejef!” – Thank You!

Lewis Kiker, Executive Director

Year in Review

- **100,000** Pounds of rice and other emergency supplies distributed for Covid relief
- **5,000** Students reached through our 13 partner schools
- **30,000+** People being served by 12 health posts now in operation
- **2,500+** Women working in our garden programs, increasing food security and boosting income by 25%

Working with locals eager to get back to work.
**Helping Midwives Keep Families Safe - Health Post Update**

Despite delays caused by travel restrictions earlier this year, the health post at Paymar was completed in October and is seeing patients! We chatted with head midwife, Awa Diaw, to see how things are going.

“As part of my work I receive sick people, sometimes in the morning, afternoon or evening. I work to treat wounds or to deliver babies. The new health post has a big impact, because it is a safe and sanitary place for patients. In addition, the fifteen surrounding villages also come here to seek care.”

- Awa Diaw, Paymar Midwife

We are excited to add more health posts, bringing our total to 12! In the communities of Kacothie (Keur Soce) and Mbiddy (Podor), construction is well underway for two new health posts.

Healthcare workers are the stop gap between isolated communities and the education and resources needed to keep them safe during this pandemic. They have gone above and beyond by visiting households in their community (with the use of personal protective equipment) to ensure families have what they need to stay safe. They also helped us facilitate the distribution of emergency Covid relief supplies earlier this year. Without their local leadership, many in rural areas would have been left behind. With your support, we will continue to invest in local healthcare workers and their communities for a healthier future.

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**Thank You - Online Auction & Live-Stream Celebration a Success!**

Thank you so much for all those who joined us for the online auction in October! We didn’t know what to expect when we moved the event entirely virtual, but we have been so encouraged by how you showed up to help families in Senegal. It was especially great seeing so many of you enjoying the evening through pictures (see back panel).

A huge THANK YOU! for all those who hosted and attended safe watch parties, contributed via the paddle raise, through sponsorships, and through the online auction. You made it a resounding success and together we raised over $47,000 for our programs! Jerejef - thank you!
Meet Gorgui, Garden Technician in Podor!

Continuing in our series, we would like to introduce to you to another member of our team who works on the ground in Senegal every day to build resilient, thriving communities. We think they are pretty amazing and are sure you will agree.

Alassane Ba, who goes by Gorgui (pronounced Gore-gee) joined the Andando team in 2017 as one of our Garden Technicians. He grew up in a small village near Keur Soce and is childhood friends of another on our team, Mandaw.

After completing school, Gorgui became interested in market gardening. He gained some hands-on experience before approaching a local Master Farmer for permission to train under them. With these skills Gorgui was a perfect fit to join our intern program, after which he came on to our staff full-time.

Technicians are a vital part of our team, because they work directly with the garden participants and leadership to ensure each garden is a success.

“Gardening is one of the trades that I enjoy the most, it gives happiness, that is why I embraced this profession.”
- Gorgui Ba, Garden Technician

While Gorgui takes his work very seriously, he also knows how to have a good time and is known as a bit of a jokester with fellow staff. Gorgui and his wife, Sebe Diallo, have three children: two boys, four-year-old Amadou and two-year-old Cheikh, and in May they welcomed their first daughter, Fatou.

When he’s not working you will find Gorgui enjoying sports, specifically “Lamb” (Wolof for Senegalese wrestling.) This sport has strong connections to traditional wrestling in Senegal and deep cultural meaning for the athletes and the fans alike.

Your support enables Gorgui to help his fellow citizens. Thank you for investing in their future.

Visit andando.org to see more of Gorgui and his family.
Thank you! For joining our live-stream auction fundraiser!