



# GAIA Vaccine Foundation Annual Report

2023



*GAIA Vaccine Foundation*  
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Dear Supporter, Partners, and Team Members,

As we reflect on the past year, I must begin by expressing my gratitude for the GAIA Vaccine Foundation team and Board of Directors for their dedication to our mission and hard work over the past year. Your unwavering commitment allowed us to complete multiple projects, apply for new funding opportunities, and expand on some of our ongoing programs even while I welcomed my first child, Remy, to the team.

In Mali, where communities often bear the brunt of infectious diseases, our work has profound significance. Through collaborative partnerships with local health authorities and research institutions, we have made significant strides in our efforts to combat diseases that disproportionately affect the region through education, innovation, and vaccine promotion. Each achievement brings us closer to realizing our vision of a world free from preventable diseases.

However, our work is far from over. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the critical importance of vaccine innovation and equitable access for all. Despite the obstacles presented by the ongoing political and economic instability, our team in Mali has remained steadfast in its commitment to serving vulnerable populations and promoting health equity. We have adapted our strategies to meet the evolving needs of the communities we serve, ensuring that the essential healthcare services we provide in Sikoro remain accessible to all.

Looking ahead, we are inspired by the resilience and strength of the Malian people and remain committed to supporting their journey towards better health outcomes. With your support, we will continue to leverage our expertise, resources, and partnerships to address the unique health challenges facing Mali and other underserved regions around the world.

On behalf of the entire GAIA Vaccine Foundation team, I thank each and every one of you for your support and dedication to our mission. Together, we are making a difference and building a healthier, more resilient world for generations to come.

With gratitude,

Tiffani  
Executive Director  
GAIA Vaccine Foundation



# Meet Our Board of Directors

CO-CHAIR  
OF THE BOARD



**Sophie  
Sprecht, LPN**

CO-CHAIR  
OF THE BOARD



**Bintou  
Chatterton**



SECRETARY



**Mary-Rose  
Pellegrino, Esq.**

TREASURER



**Julia  
Wagner**



**Sarah  
Beseme, PhD**



**Matthew  
Murphy, MD**



**Jeffrey  
Safrit, PhD**



**Fran  
Ingersoll**

# Meet Our Team



**Dr. Anne De Groot**  
Founder & Scientific Director



**Tiffani Crippin, PhD**  
Executive Director



**Julia Nemy**  
Communications Coordinator



**Lilly Mukokoa**  
Project Manager



**Caroline Piotrowski**  
Project Manager



**Anja Schneider**  
Communications and Content Manager

# Meet Our Team



**Dr. Karamoko Tounkara**

Mali National Director



**Dr. Lassina Diarra**

HIV Pharmacist



**Abdoulaye  
"Socrates" Banou**

Teen Peer Education Coordinator



**Dr. Yssouf Koné**  
HIV Specialist

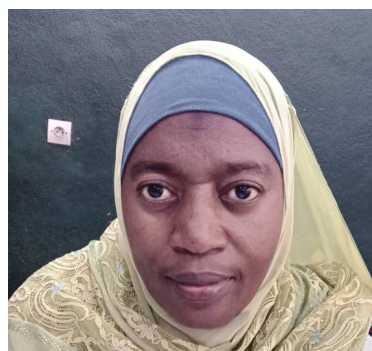


**Awa Kone**  
Midwife



**Abdoulaye Traore**

Lab Tech



**Awa Soumare**

Lab Tech



**Assetou Guindo**

Lab Tech

# CHEZ ROSALIE

## MOTHER-TO-CHILD HIV TRANSMISSION PREVENTION



In 2023, GAIA's flagship program for HIV Transmission and Prevention began at Chez Rosalie. Funded by the Fain Family Foundation, the program provided an additional 1,370 complementary HIV tests to expectant mothers, contributing to a cumulative total of 26,392 tests since its establishment in 2005. All seven (7) mothers who tested positive during the reporting period received free, comprehensive HIV and prenatal care. Additionally, five (5) more newborns received follow-up care last year for a total of 261 babies.

## TELEMEDICINE

With funding from The International Foundation and Fain Family Foundation, we were able to launch a second project incorporating Telemedicine into our Chez Rosalie program in Sikoro as well as maternity care in a rural village, Keniero. 50 patients in Sikoro and 15 in Keniero were enrolled in the program. Patients all reported satisfaction with the program and healthcare providers recommended it be continued.



# CANCER & HIV SCREENING

## FREE, ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING

In 2009, GAIA Vaccine Foundation began offering free, anonymous HIV testing at the Hope Center Clinic. To date the program has provided free HIV testing to 1,513 men and 3,959 women and a total of 266 people living with HIV have been enrolled in the HIV care program.

In 2023, the program provided:

- 100 HIV tests to men
- 151 HIV tests to women



## CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING

GAIA Vaccine Foundation provides Hope Center Clinic with supplies to perform cervical cancer screenings. A total of 7,351 screenings have been performed.





# EDUCATION & PEER SUPPORT

## TEEN PEER EDUCATION

In 2014, after data gathered by the GAIA Vaccine Foundation indicated that the highest numbers of cases of HIV were being discovered among teen girls, the Teen Peer Education Program was developed. Socrates, a local educator, leads the effort by offering sessions once a week and has since provided educational sessions for a total of 9,481 teen boys and girls.

In 2023, the program hosted:

- 780 number of girls
- 200 number of boys

## NUTRITION PROGRAM

The Nutrition Program started in 2015 by HIV+ Women participating in Chez Rosalie Program and has been providing nutritious meals twice a week to those in need. The program has provided a total of 16,178 free meals to adults and 15,114 to children.

In 2023, the program provided:

- 2,018 meals to adults
- 1,498 meals to children



# HIGHLIGHTS

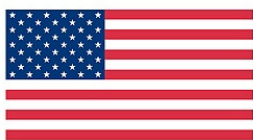
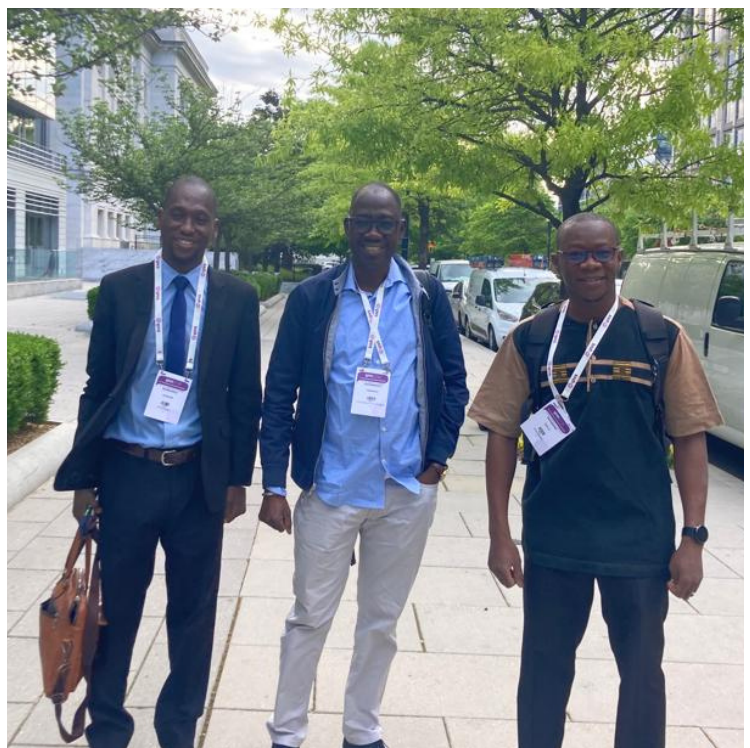
## FEBRUARY 2023

Staff from a rural community clinic in Keniero (located about 70km outside of Bamako) come to visit Hope Center Clinic to learn about our programs with the hope of incorporating them into their own clinic.



## APRIL 2023

GAIA National Director, Dr. Karamoko Tounkara, and two Malian students attend the International Human Papillomavirus Conference in Washington, DC



Embassy of the United States of America  
Bamako, Mali

**LOOKING FORWARD...**

**2024 ACTIVITIES**

*Together Women Rise*

**HPV Vaccine  
Outreach**

**GILEAD**

**Pox-diseases,  
HPV, and HIV  
Training**

**US EMBASSY**

**Telemedicine  
Training**

*Australian  
High  
Commission*

**Expanded Nutrition  
and Teen Peer  
Program**



# Thank YOU for being a part of our team!



*We are so grateful to our individual donors, of which there are too many to fit on one page, but please know that we appreciate you!*