



Remember
NIGER
COALITION

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Creating a
brighter future
through **EDUCATION**

YOU are creating a **brighter** FUTURE.

In 2020, through your support, we **expanded** our impact, **enhanced** educational experiences for greater quality and **equipped** students with the tools they need to transform their lives and communities.

Remember Niger's Impact 2020

2,791 Students Served

 **50%**
of Students
are Girls

 **7%**
of Students have
Disabilities

 **10%**
of Students Receive
Sponsorships or
Scholarships

7 Classrooms Built

 **3**
Classrooms
at Remember Niger's
First High School

 **4**
Classrooms
at the First Middle School in
Niger for Deaf Students

 **2**
Computer Labs
Established

 **453**
Vulnerable
Students &
Families Received
Daily Meals
During the
Pandemic

 **350**
Scholarships and
Sponsorships

 **32**
Computers Provided

 **429**
Daily Meals at School



The mission of Remember Niger Coalition is to unify people and mobilize resources to expand quality educational opportunities in Niger.

Dear Friends,

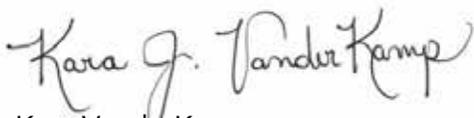
If the year 2020 had a theme it would be “Generosity and Resourcefulness.” Generous gifts from Remember Niger Coalition partners, like you, enabled us to become resourceful in our strategy and methods to meet the challenges arising from the pandemic. Because of you, we were able to continue with the projects we had already planned and expand our reach by offering more children the opportunity to receive a quality education in the least educated country in the world. Your contributions made it possible to build nine classrooms, provide 350 sponsorships and scholarships to children who otherwise would not be able to go to school, feed 453 of the most vulnerable students in our community and their families, establish two computer labs, and so much more.

When the pandemic struck in the spring, we were poised to start construction on the first middle school for deaf students in all of Niger. With our partners, we decided that this project was too important to delay, despite the economic uncertainty. Too many people in the deaf community have been excluded from the education system in Niger and we could not wait another year to make this opportunity available. Our partners agreed and generously provided the funds necessary to complete the project.

Likewise, we made the decision to continue with our plans to construct a secondary school in Zinder – Remember Niger’s first high school. Only 5% of Nigeriens attend high school, and we believed that it was critical to move forward with construction so that the first class, which includes nine Remember Niger scholarship recipients, would be able to continue their education in a quality school. Mariam, a scholarship recipient, wrote, “Here in Africa, any girl who doesn’t go to school will find herself out in the street, selling onions and bread that she has to make, or else forced into marriage. Thanks to you, we have escaped that life full of difficulty. I do my best at school. Thank you very much.”

In addition to these construction projects, donors and partners in the United States and around the world generously provided the resources to feed our most vulnerable students and their families daily meals. When the Nigerien borders were closed due to the pandemic, food prices soared. Your support ensured that our most at-risk students were fed. This is a testament to the love and compassion that you have for the most marginalized people in Niger.

As we look to the future, we are encouraged by the strength and unity of you, our partners, and we are resolved in our efforts to make quality educational opportunities available to all Nigerien children. Moreover, the pandemic has highlighted the precarious situation of many in Niger, and has reinforced our commitment to meeting the needs of the whole child. In 2021, Remember Niger will launch our Health and Wellness Program with the goal of improving the well being of students in Niger so they can benefit from the educational opportunities. This program will provide health screenings, nutritious school lunches, and will establish an emergency medical care fund for students in our schools. We know that when we work together to invest in the education and well-being of a child, we are ensuring a brighter future. Thank you for all that you do for the children of Niger. I invite you to continue your partnership with us in this important and life-changing work.



Kara VanderKamp
Executive Director
Remember Niger Coalition

WHERE

Niger is a land-locked country located in West Africa with nearly two thirds of its land mass consumed by the Sahara Desert. Remember Niger works throughout the country of Niger, serving five of the eight administrative regions. Niger has an estimated population of over 20 million people, and over half of the population is under the age of 14. According to UNICEF, "Niger has one of the youngest and fastest-growing populations in the world." Niger currently ranks last among 189 countries on the United Nations Human Development Index, making it one of the poorest nations in the world. Additionally, Niger is last on the United Nation's Education Index, with only 51% of children attending primary school and 19% attending secondary school.



Niger FACTS



84% of People Live in Rural Areas*



5, 733,613
Children Live in Poverty*



6.9 Births per Mother ***



50% of People Have Access to Health Services*



76% of Girls are Married before the age of 18**



50% of People Have Access to Basic Water Supply Services**



14% of People Have Access to Basic Sanitation Services**

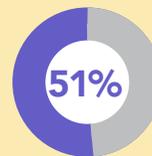
Literacy in Niger**



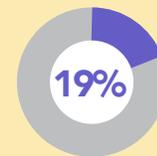
27% of Girls
are Literate

50% of Boys
are Literate

Children attending school in Niger****

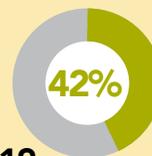


Primary School

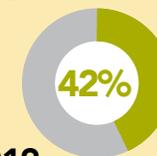


Secondary School

National Exam pass rates in Niger**



2019
Primary School



2019
Secondary School

HOW

Remember Niger is dedicated to uniting people and mobilizing resources to expand quality educational opportunities in Niger, West Africa. Since 2009, we have worked with thirteen schools to help them grow and develop through a tailored approach that includes school construction, sponsorships, a food program, health and wellness programs, teacher training, and more. Through our combined efforts, our school partners have served over 5,000 children from preschool through secondary school. We use a collaborative partnership model, working alongside Nigerien community-led school committees to ensure community-driven solutions to the many obstacles in providing and acquiring a quality education in Niger. This model of partnership has been extremely effective, as demonstrated by our schools' pass rates of 90% or higher each year on the national standardized exam that every 6th grade student must pass in order to matriculate to secondary school. By comparison, the national average pass rate for the standardized exam was 42% in 2020.

WHO

Remember Niger works with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), local churches, and associations, as well as private and public schools. We support their efforts to develop and execute long-term plans to operate quality schools that address and overcome some of the biggest barriers to education in Niger. Remember Niger bases its partnerships on the shared values of respect, hard work, honesty, and commitment to quality education by utilizing a method of engagement that guides and supports our partners as they grow.



OUR Partners



15

Community Partners

NGOs, Associations, and Churches



2

Public Schools



11

Private Schools

*CPD Summary Booklet 2019-2021 Niger-UNICEF New Country Programme <https://www.unicef.org/niger/reports/cpd-summary-booklet-2019-2021>

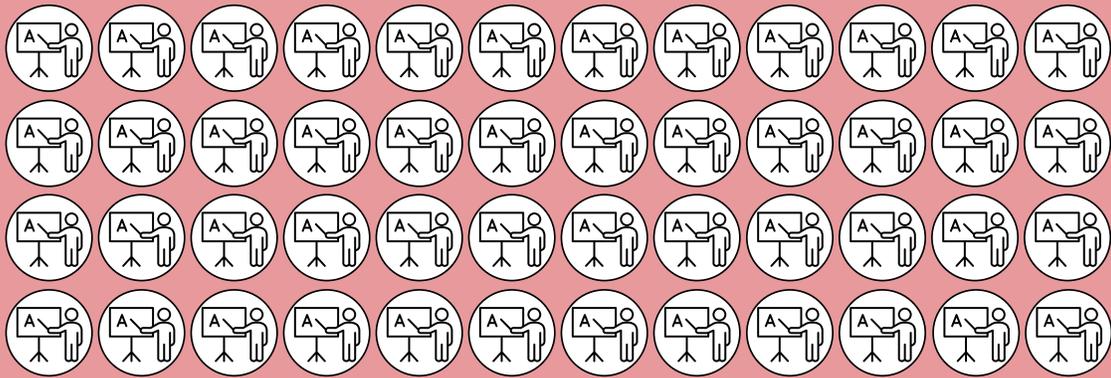
**UNICEF 2019 Annual Report
<https://www.unicef.org/reports/annual-report-2019>

***Niger UNESCO UIS <http://uis.unesco.org/en/country/ne>

****UNICEF Statistical Tables
<https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/SOWC-2017-statistical-tables.pdf>

EXPAND

48 Classrooms Built



8
Pre-Primary
Classrooms

22
Primary
Classrooms

11
Secondary
Classrooms

7
Classrooms
for Students with
Disabilities





AGUIE Primary School



SCHOOL OF HOPE for Children with Disabilities



HAMSA Girls Education Center



Latrines promote good hygiene and prevent the spread of diseases.



Solar powered wells allow access to water in places electricity and water are unavailable.



School gardens provide nutritious food for students.

ENHANCE



Overall Boy to Girl
Ratio in Schools



Solar Powered
Wells Constructed



Individual
Latrines Built



School Gardens
Providing Nutritious Meals to
Over 500 Students Annually



1,000s
of Meals for Students



EQUIP



5

Computer Labs
Established



90+

Computers Donated



75+

Secondary School
Scholarships for Girls



4

Teacher Training
Seminars



125+

Teachers Trained



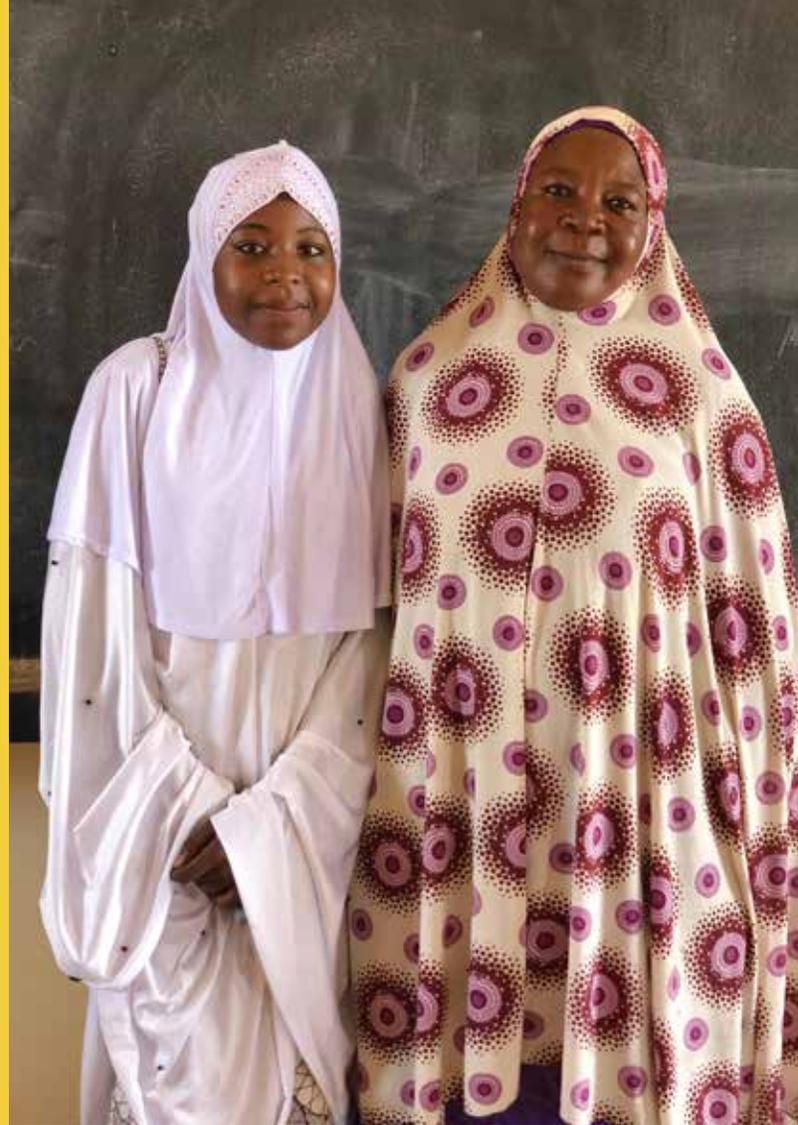
97%

Average National
Exam Scores for Remember
Niger's Schools Since 2012



A Second Chance

Binta was at the top of her class by the end of the 2019-2020 school year, which is remarkable considering her past educational experience. Before attending the Hamsa Girls Education Center (HGEC) Middle School, Binta had failed the national standardized exam twice. In 2019, she was given a scholarship to attend 7th grade at HGEC. She excelled with the help of a remediation course, and her mother could not be more proud of her. When asked about the key to her success, Binta responded, "I am much more confident in a smaller class and only with girls. I am comfortable asking questions when I don't understand."



Director Seybou Aoudi provides leadership and instruction to students at Niamey School for the Deaf



IMF Giving Together and the Henry Niles Foundation provided funding for the computer lab at the School of Hope for Children with Disabilities.

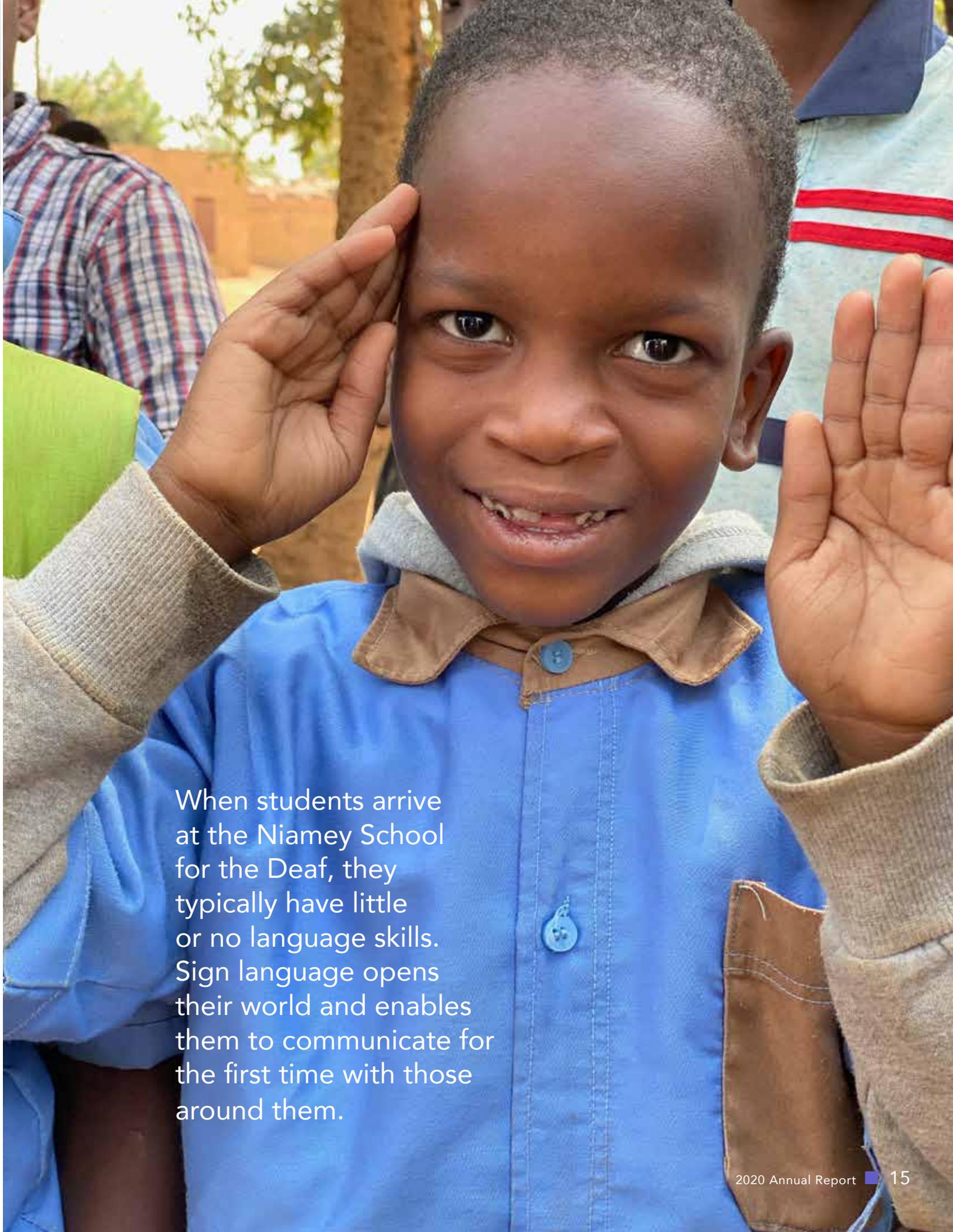
NIAMEY School for the DEAF

The first secondary school for deaf students in all of Niger was established in 2020. Workers broke ground on the **Niamey Secondary School for the Deaf** at the end of March. The project, which will be completed in two phases, began with the construction of four middle school classrooms. The second phase will include the addition of a second floor with four classrooms for the high school. From the beginning of our partnership, the Nigerien Deaf Community in Niamey has identified the construction of a secondary school as a top need and priority. The primary school was established in 1980, and since then fewer than 100 students have matriculated to middle school, five students have continued to high school, and only two students have passed the national high school exam. It was not until 2019 that the first deaf student passed the high school exam. The low rate of academic success is a direct reflection of a lack of accommodations and assistance

provided to students who are deaf or hard of hearing in the public school system. One of the exciting elements of the new middle school is that it is an inclusive community run by the Niger Association for the Deaf. This means that all students will be welcome and accommodations will be provided to students who need them. Remember Niger, the Niger Association for the Deaf, and the Nigerien Department of Education are working together to ensure that teachers have the necessary training and students have the accommodations they need to be successful.

An estimated 16,000 Nigeriens are deaf or hard of hearing.





When students arrive at the Niamey School for the Deaf, they typically have little or no language skills. Sign language opens their world and enables them to communicate for the first time with those around them.

Zinder HIGH SCHOOL

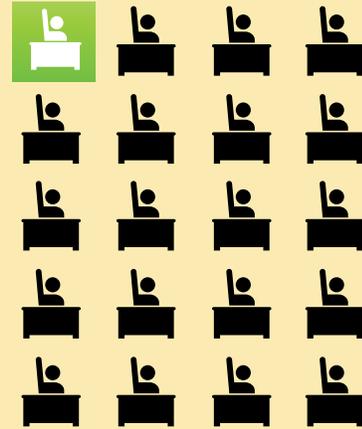
In 2020, Remember Niger funded the construction of Zinder High School. This is Remember Niger's first high school and it addresses a significant need, as only 5% of students in Niger attend high school.

The Zinder School was established in 2007 with 27 students in preschool through first grade. The school now serves over 700 students in preschool through the first class of high school. The opening of Zinder High School provides students with the opportunity to attend a quality school that will prepare them for university or future employment.

Remember Niger is pleased to have been a part of Zinder School's growth and the realization of their vision for a preschool through high school complex that will serve the Zinder community for many years to come.

1 in 20

Students Attends
High School in Niger



The three-classroom building was constructed in 2020 and is Remember Niger's first high school.



Scholarships allow girls to attend secondary school, which ultimately increases their earning potential and enables them to do more to provide for their families. There are 30 young women who receive scholarships at the Zinder Secondary School.

Zinder School: **A Model Partner**

Remember Niger's partnership with Zinder School began in 2009. Before beginning a school project, Remember Niger requires partners to have a functioning committee, property on which to build the school, and a letter of request for partnership that includes a vision statement and plan.

During the past 11 years, Remember Niger has funded the construction of a three-classroom primary school building, a four-classroom middle school building, and a three-classroom high school building. Annually, Remember Niger provides 50 sponsorships to primary students and 30 scholarships to girls and young women in secondary school. Other Remember Niger-supported projects in Zinder include a computer lab, security wall, latrines and connection to solar power.

Zinder School and Remember Niger Coalition 2009-2020

700+ Students Receiving a Quality Education



50%
of Students are Girls



11%
of Students Receive
Sponsorships or Scholarships

10 Classrooms Built



3
Classrooms
Primary School



4
Classrooms
Middle School



3
Classrooms
High School



30
Vulnerable Students
& Families Received Daily
Meals During the Pandemic



1
Security
Wall



2
Latrines Built



16
Computers
Provided



1
Computer Lab
Established



Connection
to Solar
Power



75+
Students Received
Scholarships and
Sponsorships
Annually

Emergency FOOD RELIEF Program

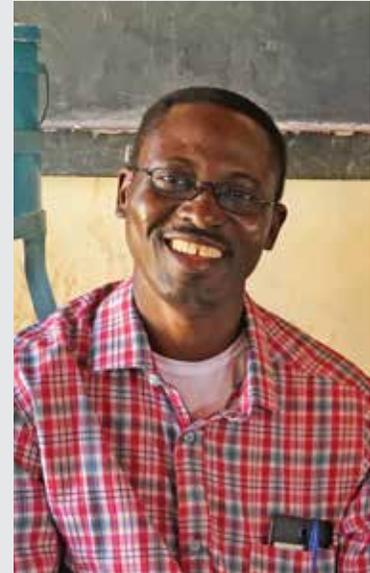
Dear Friends,

Your support is truly an act of love. All the beneficiaries of the food relief program are very grateful and send you their warm thanks. God bless you.

The spring is always difficult for my fellow Nigeriens. The harvest is in the fall, and so by April most families are running out of food. This past year was particularly bad because insects attacked our crops right before harvest. And, the flow of imported goods slowed almost to a stop because of the impact of COVID-19 and the borders closing. Food costs rose, making it difficult for the majority of Nigeriens to feed themselves and their families. Many of the families that Remember Niger supports already struggle to feed their children under normal circumstances. Very often the only meal the children receive during the day is at school, and with schools closed they are at a high risk of hunger and malnutrition. Through the Emergency Food Relief Program you gave hope and a lifeline to students and their families.

May God bless you,

Ibrahim Abdou
Remember Niger Country Director



Ibrahim Abdou,
Remember Niger Country Director

Emergency Food Relief Program



453

Students &
Families Fed



\$53

Monthly Cost
for One Family



10

Schools
Served



3000+

Individuals fed



\$38,000

Total Program Cost



“ One man told me that his family did not have 'even a grain of rice' before the relief arrived. ”

-Ibrahim Abdou, Country Director

Sponsorship & Scholarship
THE FUTURE of Niger



**350
Students**

Received the Gift
of Education Through
Our Sponsorship &
Scholarship Programs.



“ We want our children to go to school so that they have the opportunities that we never had. They will be able to get good jobs and provide for their families. ”

-Father of Sponsorship Student at the Salama School

Board of Directors

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President and Executive Director
Grand Rapids, MI

Robert Bell
Chairperson
Washington, DC

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Lee De Young
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Hudsonville, MI

Missy McCoy
Charleston, SC

Ray Panczyk
Gaithersburg, MD

Michele Wilson
Arlington, VA

Mary Shannon
Niamey, Niger

To My Fellow Remember Niger Supporters,

2020 was a year of great challenges, but with your help we accomplished more than we ever thought would be possible. In the spring the combination of a poor harvest the preceding autumn and border closures due to Covid-19 caused food prices to skyrocket in Niger.



Many of our students, whose families struggle in the best of times, did not have enough to eat. Our mission is to build schools and provide students with a quality education, but we cannot accomplish that if our students are going hungry. Through your generosity we purchased and delivered packages of food (along with soap and protective masks) designed to feed a family for a month to 453 of our most vulnerable students and their families. It was truly a life line to them. Ibrahim Abdou, our country director in Niger, led the effort. He bought the supplies and made deliveries with the help of a team of volunteers. Both the size and the speed of the response were unprecedented for Remember Niger.

Despite the food crisis in Niger and the global pandemic, we were able to meet our goals of building high school classrooms in Zinder, middle school classrooms at the School for the Deaf, and computer labs at the Hamsa Girls' Education Center and the School of Hope. These accomplishments are a tribute not just to the outpouring of support we received from you, but to our dedicated and resourceful staff and volunteers.

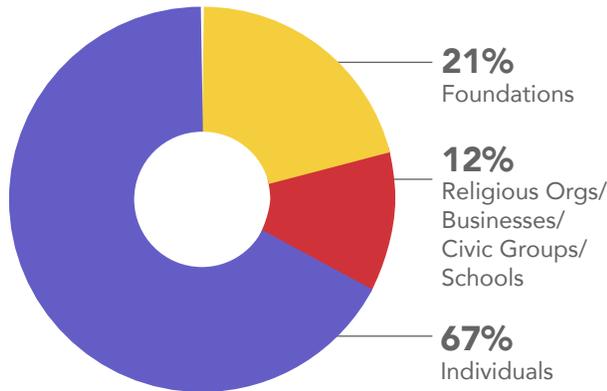
Both in the United States and in Niger we are blessed with a wonderful community of people who make possible Remember Niger's work—teachers, administrators, staff, community groups, churches, volunteers, and donors. We should all be proud of what we have accomplished working together in 2020. We look forward to 2021, and ask you to continue to be part of our effort to expand our work to meet the needs of the children in Niger that we serve. Thank you again for your support.

With best regards,
Robert B. Bell
Chair, Board of Directors

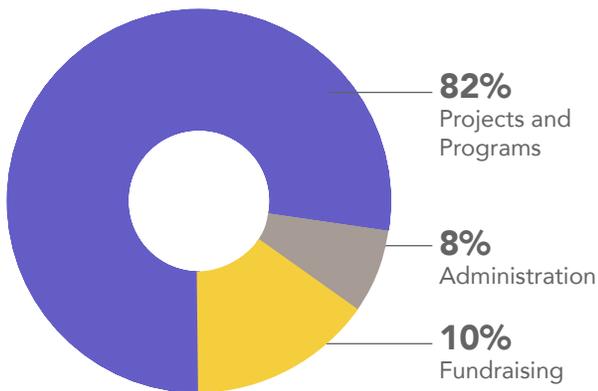
Financial Highlights

for the year ending December 31, 2020

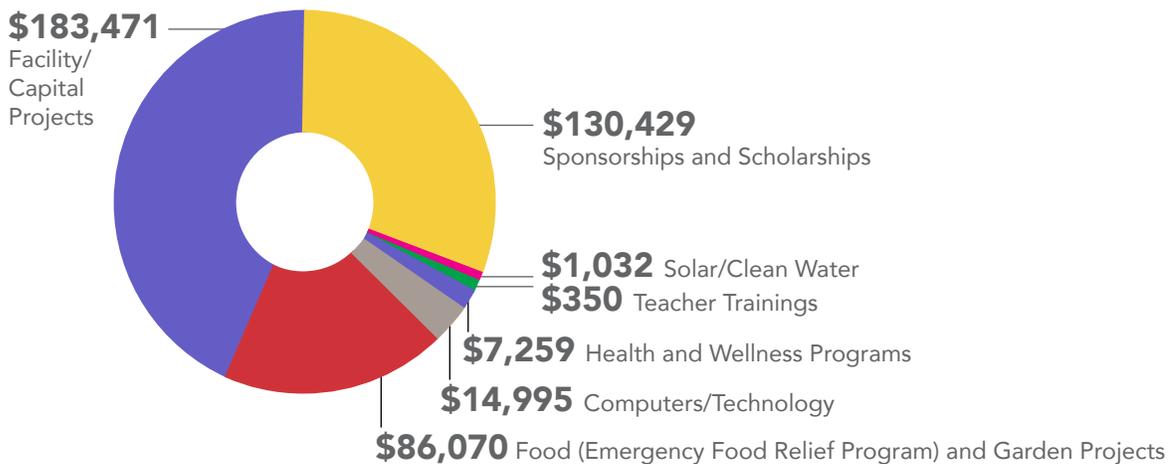
REVENUE



EXPENSES



PROGRAM EXPENSE BY AREA



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE

Foundations	\$103,168
Individuals	\$329,154
Religious Orgs/Businesses/ Civic Groups/Schools	\$58,953

TOTAL 491,275

EXPENSES

Projects and Programs	\$423,606
Fundraising	\$63,541
Administration	\$42,361

TOTAL \$529,508

The information presented above is drawn from Remember Niger Coalition's financial statements, which were reviewed by Dolinka, VanNoord & Company, PLLP CPA's in June 2021. They are available upon request.



*Adama wants to become a judge when she graduates from school.
The future is bright for students who graduate from Remember Niger Schools.*

YOUR SUPPORT is creating a **brighter** FUTURE.

Your gifts and partnership have a significant impact on the lives of children in Niger. There are many different ways to support the mission of the Remember Niger Coalition, which include contributions, in-kind giving and volunteering. Whatever you choose, know that your gift makes a difference and we appreciate your generosity!

Please visit our website or send your support to:

www.RememberNiger.org

Remember Niger Coalition
430 E 8th Street #146
Holland, MI 49423

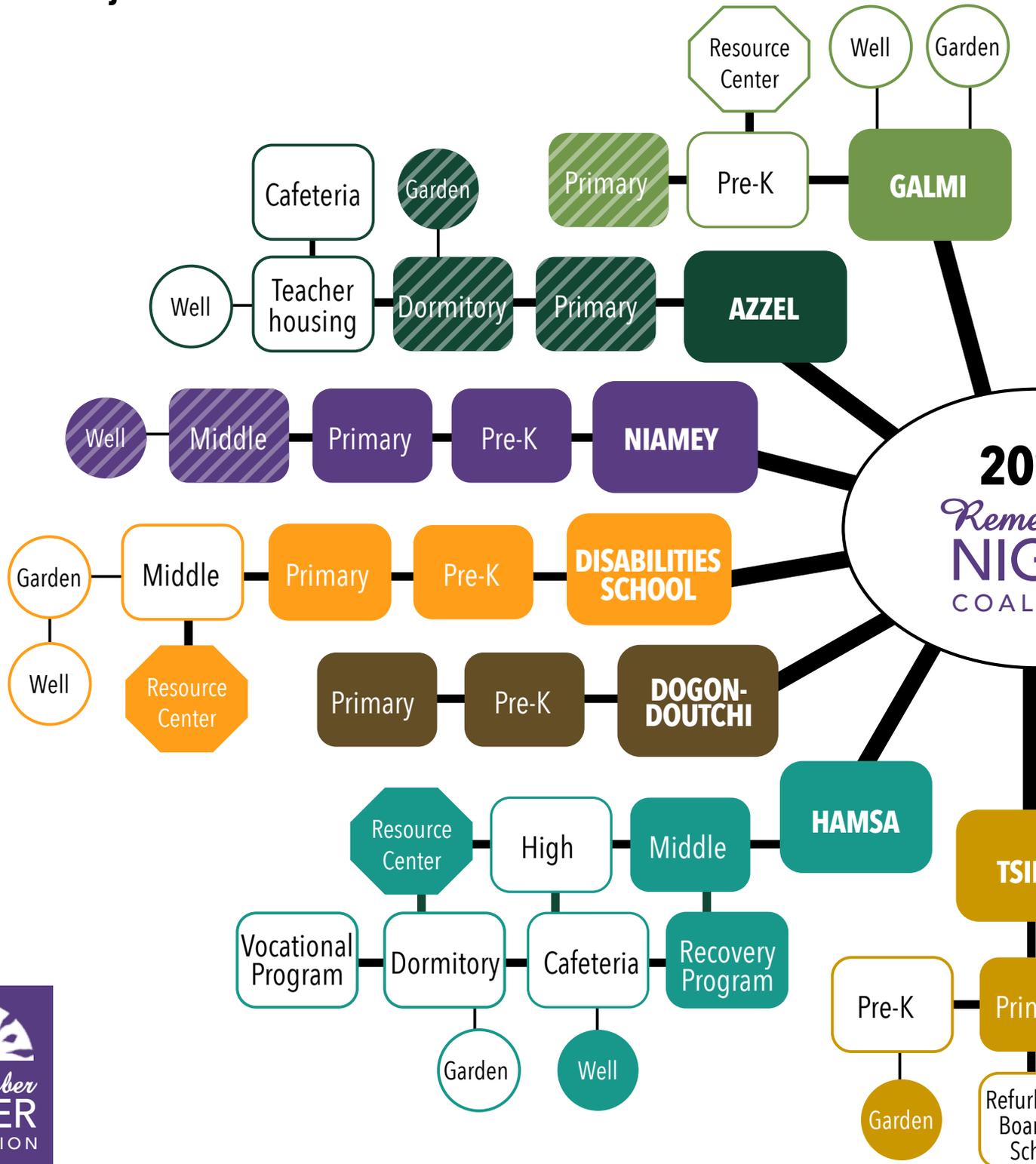
Additional ways to give:

Employer Matching Gifts ~ Donor Advised Funds
Stocks & Securities ~ Planned Gifts ~ Memorial Gifts

Please contact Kara VanderKamp at
kvanderkamp@rememberniger.org to learn more.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

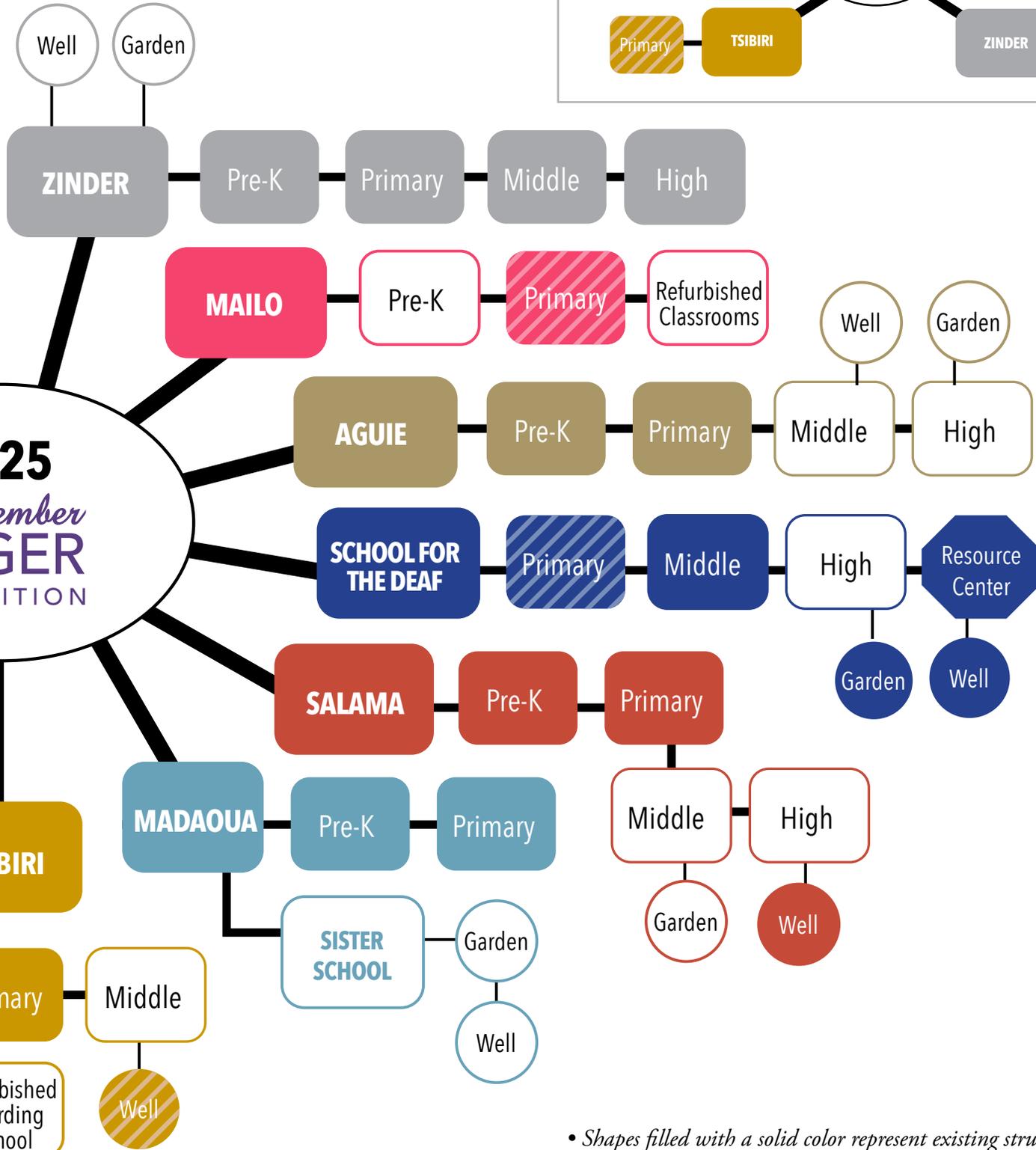
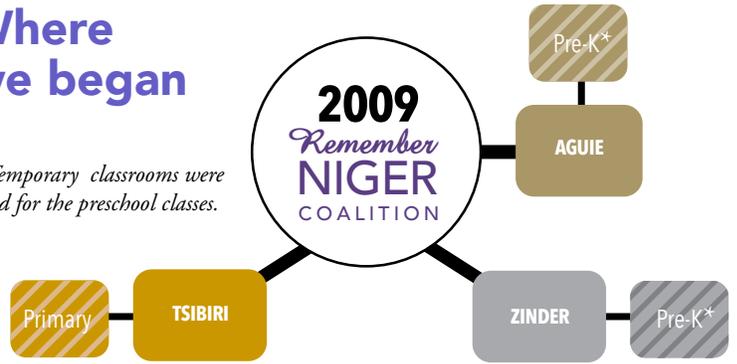
Capital Projects



Unifying people and mobilizing resources to provide quality educational opportunities in Niger

Where we began

* Temporary classrooms were used for the preschool classes.



- Shapes filled with a solid color represent existing structures.
- Shapes filled with white represent plans for construction by 2025.
- Shapes filled with pattern represent projects in existence before RNC partnership was formed with that school.



430 E 8th Street #146 | Holland, MI 49423 | www.rememberniger.org