TSIBIRI PRIMARY SCHOOL AND BOARDING SCHOOL
RNC Mission Statement: The mission of the Remember Niger Coalition is to unify people and mobilize resources to expand quality educational opportunities in Niger.
Reese became enamored and inspired by the work of the Remember Niger Coalition following her initial work with them during the Summer of 2019. She was tasked with translating video interviews of Nigerien students, teachers, and parents from French to English. While watching the videos, she saw herself reflected in the eyes of young Nigerien women who shared the same aspirations and dreams of finishing their education and entering a profession where they would dedicate themselves to helping others. Since then, she has continued to advocate for the citizens of Niger, and plans to continue to do so through college and into the future.
Remember Niger Coalition is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to unifying people and mobilizing resources to expand quality educational opportunities in Niger, Africa. We partner with and support Nigerien organizations who have a remarkable vision for their country and share our core values. Through a holistic approach and by working side-by-side with our Nigerien partners, who own and operate their schools, we are able to ensure that more children receive a high quality education in Niger, the least developed country in the world. In the 2019-2020 school year, we partnered with 13 schools and over 2700 students.
Climate
Niger’s climate is largely hot and dry, with most of the country in a desert region. The terrain is predominantly desert plains and sand dunes. There are also large plains in the south and hills in the north. In the extreme south, there is a tropical climate near the edges of the Niger River Basin. The climate divides the year into approximately three seasons: a hot season from March to May, a rainy season from June to September, and a cooler season from October until February.

Main Industries
The main industries in Niger are uranium mining, petroleum, cement, brick, soap, textiles, food processing, chemicals, and slaughterhouses.
Marriage
• 76% of girls in Niger are married before the age of 18.
• 28% of girls are married before the age of 15.

Childbirth
• As of 2019, Niger has the highest birth rate in the world.
• The average woman in Niger has 7.2 children.
• If the nation’s current growth rate of 3.8% continues, Niger’s population could triple from 22.2 million to 63.1 million by 2050.
• The average life expectancy

Education
• 51% of children go to primary school
• 19% of children go to middle school
• Only 5% of children go to high school
TSIBIRI

PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND BOARDING SCHOOL
The Tsibiri School Community was established as a boarding school in 1976. In the mid-1980s, day students from the local community were also admitted. Today the breakdown of boarding students to day students is 60% boarding and 40% day students. The Tsibiri Boarding School has a reputation as one of the best primary schools in Niger. This is due in large part to its nearly 100% annual pass rate on the 6th grade exam, its computer lab, and the nutritious daily meals that are served to students. The school meal program is supplemented by produce from the school garden.
FOOD

The Remember Niger Coalition has helped ensure that thousands of children have received nutritious meals every day at the Tsibiri School.
Garden

The school has a garden that includes a pump and irrigation system. The garden provides nutritious produce for students and teachers and it serves as an ongoing source of learning for students.
The computer lab at the Tsibiri school offers a great opportunity for students to gain knowledge of computers. The school’s computer lab is the only primary school lab in the district.
Internal surveys show two primary reasons that parents of RNC-sponsored students are grateful for the sponsorship program. First, their children receive quality educations, leading to positive futures with professional jobs that provide livable wages. Second, they are relieved that their children receive warm and nutritious meals every day. Parents often find it stressful to provide adequate meals for their children.

It used to be that the meals were provided only to the boarding students at the Tsibiris School, but Istd Garba, the director of the school, decided to give lunch to each student including the ones who attend daily and return to their homes at night. When asked why he made this decision, he said simply, “The children are hungry. What can I do?”
TSIBIRI SCHOOL
BY THE NUMBERS

Number of students: 407
Number of boys: 229
Number of girls: 178
Number of sponsorships: 70
STUDENTS
STUDENTS
STUDENTS

Graduate of Tsibiri who aspires to become a police officer!

Graduate of Tsibiri who aspires to become a teacher!
Graduate of Tsibiri who aspires to become a doctor!

Graduate of Tsibiri who aspires to become a police officer!
STUDENTS
Ousseina Dreams of Becoming a Nurse

Ousseina receives a scholarship from a Remember Niger supporter to go to school. Her mother is a strong woman who believes that her daughter should continue with her education.

Ousseina passed the 6th grade exam in 2016, but without a middle school in her village she would have to stay in a large city if she was going to be able to continue her education. Her mother contacted Isti, the director of the Tsibiri boarding school, to see if Ousseina could live in the dormitory there and attend the local, public middle school. Isti had to turn her away, since the dormitory for secondary school students was full. Not to be deterred, Ousseina’s mother found a friend of a friend in Tsibiri who was willing to take her in for the school year. This year, the father of that family told Ousseina’s mom that they could no longer host Ousseina. As soon as she heard this news, Ousseina’s mother went to talk to Isti.

Fortunately, the timing was right and there was space. I had the opportunity to ask Ousseina if she preferred staying at the boarding school or in the family’s home. She responded emphatically that she preferred the school. Why? “Because the girls who stay in the dormitories are like a big family.

Older girls help the younger students with their studies and they give advice. Also, they can do each other’s hair.” She also explained that when she lived with the family she had very little time to study since she was expected to help around the house with cooking, cleaning, watching the younger kids and more.

Ousseina, and many girls like her, illustrates the importance of available housing for rural girls who want to attend middle school. Living at the boarding school will allow her to focus on her goal of becoming a nurse.
Thank you for sponsoring a student to go to school in Niger. Your student could not go to school without your support. You are having a positive impact that will last a lifetime!

www.rememberniger.org