



# ANDANDO

## June 2018

### "We Are More Engaged and Ready to Take Action!"



Last year, the Kouthieye Women's Cooperative partnered with Andando in bringing the necessary infrastructure to make their small garden start thriving in the midst of difficult conditions in rural Senegal. In just a short time (barely six months!), they have turned their garden into a flourishing ecosystem that provides produce for the women and their families to consume, and plenty more for them to sell and earn an income.

We sat down with Combe Njaiye, president of the cooperative, and asked her about her experience:

***"Andando has brought great change to our community. All of us women see an improvement not only in our ability to farm and produce many vegetables through this new system, but we also see big improvements in our organizational and social lives.***

***It has galvanized us women to be more engaged with each other and also take more action in the life of the community. We are more direct participants and can create new ideas and change where we are. "***

*"Andando has brought great change to our community. Now we grow everything we need ourselves and do not have to depend on anyone."*

Three more gardens are planned for installation this year. Thank you for empowering Combe and others like her to make change in her community.

### Save The Date!

You won't want to miss our fourth annual fundraising celebration dinner. Mark your calendars for **Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 7:00pm** Willamette Heritage Center in Salem, Oregon.

There will be live music, great food, wine, an auction, and other special events. Tickets and info [www.andando.org/events](http://www.andando.org/events).



### Field Trip!



One exciting activity we sponsor is an annual field trip for students at our partner schools. Students jump on a couple buses to spend two days in Dakar visiting various sites of interest like Goree Island, the Dakar zoo, National Parliament, and the African Renaissance Statue.

For many, this may be their first time seeing the ocean, the animals in the zoo, and perhaps even their first time out of the community.



*Tour guide at Goree Island sharing the history and significance of the site.*

This low-cost program can really open the eyes of many of these students, and is a fun activity to look forward to and motivating factor for those graduating out of primary school.

### From the Director

My family and I recently returned from a three month stay in Senegal. We had a blast being there together and spending time both in the city and the country, enjoying good food, interesting culture, and making new friends. It was a great opportunity to have our young son experience another culture and see more of the wide world out there, and we all escaped much the dreary Oregon winter!



*One of our favorite experiences is enjoying a meal with friends and co-workers. Here our son is learning how to eat rice and fish Senegalese-style.*

Usually, my time is brief and busy managing programs and meeting with partners, so this extended stay offered the chance to spend more time with our

team and immersing myself more in the culture and language. Most importantly, it allowed us to get a big jumpstart on all the programming we have planned for this year. We are doing three more gardens this year, working with more partner schools, and building two new health posts, alongside running our existing programs.

We are really excited for what is coming this year, and because of your partnership, we are continuing to make strides in walking together with the people of rural Senegal. Your contribution makes these programs possible.

-From all of us at Andando, “jere jef!” - Thank you!

Lewis Kiker  
Executive Director  
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### Want to help?

**We are looking for enthusiastic folks to join our dinner auction planning team.**

**If you enjoy planning parties, connecting people, or have ideas for our dinner auction give us a ring, we would love to chat with you: [crystal@andando.org](mailto:crystal@andando.org) or (541) 224-7990**