



# FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO



Friends of Burkina Faso Projects Committee

November 26, 2003

Dear Friend of Burkina Faso,

Many of you have, through your generosity, walked the path to school in the shoes of a small child, studied for exams during the dark hours of night, chatted with high school buddies about what the future might hold, and milled food to serve your family and others.

Much has been accomplished via FBF projects during our first year. All told, we have raised \$24,000 dedicated to projects, one-fourth of which came from donations made since August 2003. These contributions have enabled:

- 271 girls around Tangaye near Ouahigouya to attend 6 years of elementary school;
- all students in the Garango lycée to study at night because their high school is now connected to the town's electrical grid;
- 96 female students who have graduated at the top of their class in elementary schools to attend 8 summer camps throughout the country where they have been taught life-improvement skills and have been encouraged to continue their education in pursuit of professional goals;
- 33 women in the village of Babora-Pegora near Diebouyou to form a cooperative to mill karité nuts into butter.

Since most of our funds go through local Burkinabé non-governmental organizations (NGOs), FBF has supported not only projects but innovative and competent organizations and their dedicated staff. Working with NGOs builds the development infrastructure and increases the likelihood that the village activities we support will succeed not only in the short run but will be sustainable in the long run.

I would like to ask you to take advantage of this opportunity to continue offering a helping hand, giving someone a chance for a better life, and supporting well thought-out FBF project initiatives. One way to make a difference is by spreading the word about what we are doing. Many people (even those who've never heard of Burkina Faso) have willingly and enthusiastically joined us in our efforts. Some of our members have, for example, been very successful heightening awareness among their children's friends by working with teachers and developing special programs designed to raise money for the girl scholarship "lambs" project in Tangaye.

Another way to make a difference is by making a financial contribution in the name of FBF Projects. For most of us, this is the best way to maintain our ties to Burkina Faso and to demonstrate our commitment helping others. Please complete the enclosed form, write out your check, and put it in the mail today. And don't forget, your contribution is tax-deductible.

Help FBF continue to make a difference in the lives of our friends in Burkina Faso.

Tom Vollrath Chairperson

P.S. If you have a question, idea, or willingness to participate in our work, please contact me or any Projects Committee member. We welcome your interest.

