



WORLDWIDE FISTULA FUND

HEALING WOMEN, RESTORING LIVES

Turning Oppression into Opportunity

On October 1 and 2, PBS will air a special documentary, [Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide](#), based on the widely acclaimed book by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. The book, in which the work of the Worldwide Fistula Fund is featured, has spurred a [movement](#) of citizens who are committed to putting an end to the oppression of women and girls worldwide. The documentary is a four-hour, two-part series that will air in prime time (check local listings).



Filmed in 10 countries, the series follows Nicholas Kristof and celebrity activists America Ferrera, Diane Lane, Eva Mendes, Meg Ryan, Gabrielle Union and Olivia Wilde on a journey to tell the stories of inspiring, courageous individuals. Across the globe oppression is being confronted, and real meaningful solutions are being fashioned through health care, education, and economic empowerment for women and girls.

The linked problems of sex trafficking and forced prostitution, gender-based violence, and maternal

Dispatches from the DFC

Arts and crafts has become a popular post-surgery activity for women recovering in the ward. Nurses and volunteers have engaged the women in all sorts of activities from knitting and drawing to designing jewelry and making clay beads. Giving the women the chance to learn something new that is simply for pleasure is a real treat, and their delight is infectious. There is also a real sense of community seeing the women all working together on a project and then sharing their creation with others whether it is a necklace or a hat. It's a different kind of therapy.



Making jewelry at the DFC

Before and after surgery, our

mortality - which needlessly claim one woman every 90 seconds - present to us the single most vital opportunity of our time: the opportunity to make a change. All over the world women are seizing this opportunity.

We hope you will tune into this special television event and encourage others to do the same. Our success in changing the lives of fistula patients in Niger and elsewhere is dependent on folks like you helping build awareness of obstetric fistula and supporting our work. We are pleased to be among the organizations featured on the Half the Sky [website](#).

As always, please stay tuned to our [blog](#) for more news out of Danja, stories of the women we've served and updates on our progress.

To continue supporting the **Danja Fistula Center** -- and help bring healing and medical care to thousands of women living with the agony of obstetric fistula -- **please make a tax-deductible one-time or recurring gift today**. We thank you for your incredible generosity.



Ladies at the DFC Village

fistula patients live in "the village." This living space has become an important part of the Danja Fistula Center and a thriving community for the patients while they are in our care. The village consists of several huts for sleeping, an outdoor cooking space, toilets and bathing areas. In the village, the women receive healthy meals provided by our cooking staff and spend time socializing with one another pre- and post-surgery. There is also a lot of singing and occasional dancing! Sometimes, a family member of one of the patients will accompany her to the DFC and if there is room, they are permitted to stay in the village. Earlier this month, one of our patients arrived with her young daughter. Delightful to everyone, she quickly found ways to be useful including assuming responsibility for bringing the patients lunch one day. We were happy to have her help, and also happy to see another way that the work we do extends beyond the individual women who receive treatment at the DFC and to their families.



Lunch is served at the DFC

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