



## WORLDWIDE FISTULA FUND

HEALING WOMEN, RESTORING LIVES

### Focusing on Fistula Prevention

We know that a world without fistula will not come to be simply by training enough surgeons to repair all of the women who suffer from this devastating condition. We must also invest resources in preventing new incidences of fistula and that is what we are doing at the Danja Fistula Center.

In partnership with Health and Development International (HDI), the WFF has introduced a community-based fistula prevention program in a 50-mile radius of the Danja Fistula Center. This program is also a collaboration with the Niger government and features aggressive education and training interventions within local communities and the existing health infrastructure. The following are some of the specific objectives of our fistula prevention program.



- Significantly reducing the number of new fistula cases and eliminating new incidences in localities that are two days or less travel from a hospital capable of performing a c-section
- Drastically reducing maternal deaths during childbirth
- Increasing the number of prenatal consultations, births occurring with health

care assistance and postnatal consultations

- Educating populations on fistula and improving the acceptance of women living with the condition
- Training one woman and one man in each village to recognize prolonged labor and activating a village-specific evacuation plan when labor is prolonged
- Transferring all women who have been in labor for more than 24 hours to a medical setting

We began our prevention efforts six months ago and have already provided services to 86 villages and conducted educational workshops to 68,000 individuals. Additionally, we have successfully identified and trained a female and male volunteer in each village while also developing evacuation plans for each community.

With skilled personnel on the ground, a pragmatic and effective model to work with, cooperation from national and local officials, and HDI directors to access for support, we are confident that our prevention interventions will make a significant impact in Niger. We look forward to reporting back after the program has been operational for one year with an update.

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.

## Connect with the WFF

