



Niger

Niger is located in West Africa, and 80 percent of its land is in the Sahara Desert. Its estimated population of 11 million is 98 percent Muslim. Niger is ranked 172nd out of 173 countries on the United Nations Development Program's Human Development Index, and only 13.6 percent of its population is literate (6.6 percent of women). In the poorest, rural regions of the country, just 28 percent of eligible students attend school. Even in the capital city of Niamey, the attendance rate is only 40 percent.



For more information about sponsoring the education of a child in Niger, contact:

Derrick Jones
Supervisor of RCA mission programs
in Africa
(800) 228-3813
djones@rca.org

or

EERN Education Department
Dr. Addo Mahamane
BP 418
Niamey, Niger
adomahama@yahoo.fr



THE REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA
FOLLOWING CHRIST IN MISSION
4500 60th Street SE
Grand Rapids MI 49512
(800) 968-3943

RCA●ORG

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Children in Niger Need Your Help



In Niger, one of the world's poorest countries, it's impossible for most children to get an education:

- The government doesn't have the resources to build schools in all of the communities that need them.
- Schools are often overcrowded, under-equipped, and poorly staffed.
- Many children have been orphaned, often because of AIDS, and are especially at risk of never receiving an education.
- Few families can afford private school fees.
- Girls are rarely encouraged to attend school.
- Remote villages often have no school; for many "bush evangelists," fulfilling their calling may require them to sacrifice their children's future.

The Good News Is...

The Vision

Because the school situation is so desperate, Niger, whose people are overwhelmingly Muslims, now welcomes private organizations, including churches, to open schools.

The Evangelical Church of the Republic of Niger (EERN) is determined to take advantage of this unique opportunity and is working hard to make a Christian education available to as many children as possible.

The EERN, an RCA mission partner, believes that producing outstanding Christian graduates is the best way to ensure that the gospel will have an accepted place in Nigerien society. The EERN currently operates a primary-level boarding school in Tibiri and plans to open other schools based on the Tibiri model.



The EERN's school in Tibiri serves its local community, attracting a mostly Muslim student body. It is unlike most Nigerien schools in that the majority of its students are girls. All of the school's teachers are Christians, and they provide biblically based instruction. The students' impressive test scores mean that nearly all of them become eligible to go on to middle school.

You Can Help!

The Evangelical Church of the Republic of Niger and the RCA need your support as they work together to open and operate Christian schools in Niger.

Your gift will go directly to an EERN school to sponsor an eligible student. It will help pay a child's school fees and cover the costs for classroom supplies, room and board, and medical and hygiene care.

Dollars Go a Long Way in Niger

\$120^{US} will pay all of a child's school expenses for one year. This level of sponsorship will be used to support orphans and abandoned or destitute children.

\$90 will pay 75% of the annual cost for a child to attend an EERN school. This level of sponsorship will be used to support the children of evangelists and other eligible church workers.

\$60 will pay 50% of the cost for a child from a poor family to attend an EERN school for one year.



When you sponsor a child, you will be emailed a group photo of all of the sponsored children. You will also receive updates on the activities of the school the child attends.

Please take a few minutes right now to send your gift. Help open the door for a child in Niger to get a decent, Christian education.

Send your check, made out to Reformed Church in America and designated "EERN Scholarship," to:

**Reformed Church in America
P.O. Box 19381
Newark, NJ 07195-1938**

or, in Canada, to:

**Regional Synod of Canada
201 Paradise Road, N
Hamilton, ON L8S 3T3**