

## A Message from the Executive Director

Mohandas Gandhi said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." During the summer of 2007, I had the opportunity to work with Women's Health and Education Prevention Strategies Alliance (WHEPSA), located in the Kaolack Region of Senegal. While interning with WHEPSA, I learned first-hand that one person can make a difference. Girls with dreams that require a secondary education face enormous challenges in completing high school in Senegal. I formed ELEVEate (*e/leve* means student in French) with the goal of helping the girls of Kaolack rise up and realize their dreams by providing them with birth certificates, which are needed to enter high school, and other forms of support.



Photo by Allyson Goldsmith

With your help, more girls in Senegal will be able to live rich and fulfilling lives through the acquisition of a high school degree. Please consider helping ELEVEate reach this important goal.

*Allyson Goldsmith*, Executive Director  
ELEVEate



### *Empowering Girls Through Education*

- In Senegal, half of rural births and 20% of urban births are unregistered.
- Only 14% of girls enroll in secondary school in Senegal.
- Seven out of ten adult women in Senegal are illiterate, or lack basic reading, writing, and computational skills.

### Empower a Girl by Donating:

- \$25 Purchases a Birth Certificate
- \$50 Purchases a Birth Certificate plus School Supplies

[www.ELEVEate.org](http://www.ELEVEate.org)

501(C)(3) non-profit application pending



*Opening the Doors to Education*



Photo by Antonio Muñoz de Mesa

**"There is no tool for development more effective than the education of girls."**

*Kofi Annan,*  
Former Secretary General of the United Nations

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## Mission Statement

**ELEVEate is dedicated to promoting the education of youth in developing countries by providing charitable contributions and grants. ELEVEate is committed to advancing opportunities for learning, including greater access to education, training, and personal development.**

*ELEVEate is a non-profit organization, based in the United States, committed to helping families overcome the financial obstacles that prevent their female children from obtaining a high school education. More girls will have an opportunity to fulfill their dreams and to develop a strong sense of dignity, self-efficacy, and self-esteem.*



Photo by Allyson Goldsmith

## Programs

The primary purpose of ELEVEate is to make high school education available to more girls in the Kaolack region of Senegal. ELEVEate aims to accomplish this goal through five initiatives.

- **Birth Certificates**  
Provide birth certificates for girls who are unregistered so they can attend high school.
- **Public School Supplies**  
Provide school supplies, including books, for girls attending public school in the Kaolack region of Senegal.
- **Kaolack Summer School for Girls**  
A summer school (KSSG) dedicated to preparing girls for the High School Entrance Examination.
- **Summer School Supplies**  
Provide school supplies for girls attending the Kaolack Summer School for Girls.
- **Health Awareness and Promotion**  
Provide knowledge needed to promote the adoption of nutrition-rich diets and sound sanitation practices and to reduce the prevalence of communicable diseases, including STIs such as HIV/AIDS, among girls and their families.

## Why Education

***“Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope...and the means through which every man, woman, and child can realize his or her full potential.”***

Kofi Annan  
7th Secretary-General of the United Nations

**Literacy and numeracy skills acquired through education provide an individual with the capability to succeed in an increasingly technical and global economy.**

***“There is no substitute for formal training in reading, writing, and arithmetic. These are the skills that foster well being, promote human rights, and reduce human insecurity.”***

Amartya Sen, Nobel Laureate in Economics

**About half of the Senegalese families live on \$1.25 per day. It is a struggle to purchase a birth certificate for \$25 and to cover the other costs of schooling.**