

PATH Today

A Newsletter for Friends and Supporters

Spring 2011

Hope for an end to epidemic meningitis

In December, the people of Burkina Faso made history. Throughout the West African country, they gathered to get a new vaccine that protects against a disease that has killed or disabled hundreds of thousands in their region: meningococcal A meningitis.

In an earlier issue of *PATH Today*, we told you about the Meningitis Vaccine Project (MVP), a partnership between PATH and the World Health Organization to develop and deliver a vaccine against the strain of bacterial meningitis that causes deadly epidemics in Africa. Last winter MVP achieved this goal. So far, nearly 20 million people have been protected in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger. Widespread use of the vaccine has the potential to end the epidemics forever.

Your support of PATH helps make possible advances with the potential to drastically improve lives. The people of Burkina Faso understand that potential. It showed in their faces as they took part in the campaign that introduced the new vaccine. In this issue, we share some of their stories. For the full story, visit www.path.org/menafrivac/. ●



↑ **Océane Camporé** is only 5 years old. But when she was vaccinated against epidemic meningitis at her school, she didn't cry. She pressed a piece of cotton to the injection site, turned herself around, and walked toward class—and a future free from a disease that regularly kills thousands in her homeland.

→ When **Edwinge Nana**, 19, heard from her teachers that the vaccine was available, she and a group of friends hurried to the village health center. Her little brother Charles, only 7 years old, died during an outbreak of meningitis in 2004. Edwinge has two remaining brothers and two sisters. All of them, she said, would get the vaccine.



↑ **Boubacar Sawadogo**, 41, has been a nurse in the village of Saaba for six years. During the last meningitis epidemic, he says, "It was total panic. We saw many die in Saaba." That was in 2006 and 2007. Since then, Boubacar says, "every year the public is asking for vaccine. Now we have one."



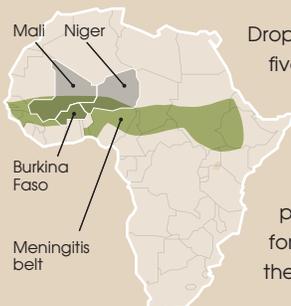
↓ **Pitroipa Boukare**, 3, was one of the first children to receive the meningitis vaccine during a ceremony in Burkina Faso's capital. After she received the vaccine, Pitroipa stood close by to solemnly watch the vaccinations continue—and to mark the beginning of the end of epidemic meningitis in Africa.



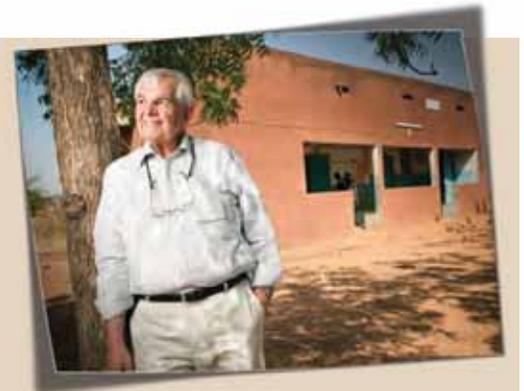
↑ **Thérèse Kafando** is director of a school that serves deaf children in Ouagadougou, most of whom lost their hearing as a result of meningitis. What did she feel when she learned the vaccine would come to her country? "Joy, joy, joy!" she said. "We know meningitis is the largest cause of deafness, and we will see fewer children who are deaf."



↑ **Ida Tapsoba**, 29, brought her 13-month-old daughter to her local health center to get vaccinated. As the two waited in line, Ida explained that her son contracted meningitis when he was only a year old. For three tense days, Ida says, "I felt desolation. I was very anxious." Her son was one of the lucky ones: he survived and is now a healthy 4-year-old. Thanks to the new vaccine, Ida's daughter will no longer face the threat of infection with meningitis A.



Drop **Dr. Marc LaForce** into the middle of a village, and within five minutes he's made connections—with a young man who fashions garden doors, with the village chief's brightest granddaughter, with the beaming nurses who sit under the shade tree, giving dose after dose of vaccine against meningitis. As director of MVP, Marc used his ability to forge partnerships to ensure development of a vaccine specifically for the 25 countries of Africa's "meningitis belt." Marc will be the featured speaker at this year's Breakfast for Global Health.



Project updates: your gift in action

Your support allows us to be flexible and strategic as no other type of funding can. That's why we call it "innovation funding"—to highlight the unique role your gifts play in launching new initiatives, leveraging major funding, and meeting strategic needs. The projects below all received innovation funding at a critical point in their development.

- The **Woman's Condom** recently received funding that is helping PATH move forward with plans to introduce this potentially lifesaving technology in China and sub-Saharan Africa.
- We've also begun a new collaboration that has the potential to advance clinical research on delivering vaccines using **disposable-syringe jet injectors**, which may reduce risks associated with reusing needles.
- After extensive user testing in India, PATH is unveiling recommendations for designing **water filter devices for low-income** households in hopes of encouraging more manufacturers to enter the marketplace.
- In South Africa, we're matching new mothers who are HIV-positive with "**feeding buddies**"—advocates who can help support their decisions to breastfeed and provide the best nutrition possible while avoiding transmission of the virus to their babies.



PATH/Glenn Austin

Another top rating from Charity Navigator

Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of nonprofits, has awarded PATH its highest rating for sound fiscal management—a designation we've received for seven years in a row! Only 2 percent of the rated charities have received four stars for at least seven consecutive years.

2011 Breakfast for Global Health sponsors

We thank these sponsors for their support of the 2011 Breakfast for Global Health, held this year on May 24 and featuring stories from the recent launch of a new meningitis vaccine. The Breakfast for Global Health is PATH's only annual fundraising event, supporting the Catalyst Fund. For information about sponsoring the 2012 Breakfast for Global Health or other events at PATH, please contact Catherine Endicott at cendicott@path.org or 206.302.4564.

Visionary sponsors



Partners

- Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- Bell Harbor International Conference Center
- JPMorgan Chase
- Seattle Children's
- Temptime Corporation
- UST Global
- Vulcan Real Estate

PATH'S MISSION

*is to improve
the health of people
around the world by
advancing technologies,
strengthening systems,
and encouraging
healthy behaviors.*

Board of Directors

- Dean Allen, USA (treasurer)
- Supamit Chunsuttiwat, MD, MPH, Thailand
- Awa Marie Coll-Seck, MD, PhD, Senegal
- Vera Cordeiro, MD, Brazil (vice chair)
- Molly Joel Coye, MD, MPH, USA (chair)
- Alex Chika Ezech, PhD, MSc, Nigeria
- George Gotsadze, MD, PhD, Republic of Georgia
- Eivor Halkjaer, Sweden
- Vincent McGee, USA
- Kevin Reilly, MBA, USA
- Jay Satia, PhD, India (secretary)
- Christopher J. Elias, MD, MPH, USA (ex officio)

Sign up for Bridging the Gap

To receive regular email updates on PATH's projects, the impact of your support, and the latest and best ideas in global health, send an email request to development@path.org.

Contact us

For information about upcoming events, contact events@path.org.

For questions about giving opportunities or other feedback, contact Jan Jacobs, director of Donor Relations, at jajacobs@path.org or 206.302.4565.

Company embraces role as global citizen

As the world’s largest commercial real estate services company, CB Richard Ellis (CBRE) operates in many of the countries where PATH works. So it’s a logical fit that the company chooses to support PATH and our mission to improve global health.

“It’s our responsibility as a global corporate citizen to help better the communities where our employees live and work,” says Kathleen Thompson, director of the CB Richard Ellis Foundation, which funds and executes the company’s philanthropic programs. “The company is invested in helping individuals in need all over the world and encourages its employees to do the same.”

Roy Mann, a vice president in the firm’s Seattle office, long ago forged a

connection with international health. Before working in real estate, Roy spent nine years living and studying all over the world as he prepared to become a Jesuit priest. He witnessed poverty, malnutrition, and the toll poor health can have on communities.

Roy later brought that compassion and experience to the business world with CBRE. He developed the Nonprofit Management Group at CBRE, which is helping the global health and development community save money in real estate so that organizations like PATH can put their resources into saving lives. When PATH began searching for a new global headquarters in Seattle, Roy was instrumental in helping us find a sustainable solution that matches our philosophy and furthers our mission. In 2010, he traveled with PATH to Zambia through a partnership with

Seattle Rotary and got an even closer look at how PATH works within communities to improve health.

“PATH does amazing work,” Roy says.

Like Roy, the CB Richard Ellis Foundation strives to have a positive influence worldwide. “PATH’s global footprint really matches CBRE’s, so I think the partnership is a good fit,” Kathleen notes. “It’s part of our corporate fabric to support opportunities like this.” ●

Help change lives for the better

You can help us bring life-changing advances in health to people in need. Make a gift at www.path.org/donate/.

Printed on recycled paper.

Please let us know if you would like to add someone’s name to our mailing list or if you would like your name removed.

www.path.org

info@path.org

F 206.285.6619

T 206.285.3500

Seattle, WA 98109 USA

PO Box 900922



Nonprofit Org
US Postage
PAID
Seattle WA
Permit No. 600