



**MATTER GROWS PARTNERSHIPS WITH NBA BASKETBALL PLAYERS THROUGH LIFE CHANGING PROJECTS IN CONGO, SENEGAL AND SOUTH SUDAN**

*Players surpass their stature on the court by engaging in efforts that change the world*

**MINNEAPOLIS (February 16, 2018)** – MATTER, a Minnesota-based global health nonprofit on a mission to move people forward by eliminating barriers to a healthier life, today announced the continued growth of impactful partnerships with three basketball players in several African countries.

Quenton Marty, President of MATTER, commented, “MATTER is privileged to collaborate with the Gorgui Dieng Foundation, the Bismack Biyombo Foundation and the Luol Deng Foundation. By partnering with these players and their foundations, we are able to accelerate the progress of changing countless lives in their home countries of Senegal, Congo, and South Sudan.”

**Senegal**

MATTER partners with the Gorgui Dieng Foundation, started by Minnesota Timberwolves player Gorgui Dieng, to expand access to health and opportunity in his home country of Senegal. Since 2015, MATTER has worked with the foundation to procure and ship seven containers and \$2.2 million of life-saving medical equipment and supplies for the main hospital in Kebemer, partnered with the Roger and Nancy McCabe Foundation to equip a new dialysis center in Dakar, and worked with Gorgui to design and implement a demonstration farm utilizing ecologically sustainable practices.

“I always had it in my mind that one day, when I got the chance, I would help my country,” stated Gorgui Dieng.

On March 6, 2018, MATTER is hosting the, “MATTER Presents the Gorgui Dieng Foundation” event in Minneapolis. Guests will learn about MATTER’s partnership with Gorgui and have the opportunity to invest in the efforts in Senegal including equipping the Diamniadio Children's Hospital in Senegal. To order tickets, visit: [thegorguidiengproject.eventbrite.com](http://thegorguidiengproject.eventbrite.com).

**Congo**

MATTER’s efforts with Orlando Magic player Bismack Biyombo and his foundation will focus on equipping large hospitals in urban centers, as well as rural clinics serving displaced mothers. MATTER will also assist in establishing a demonstration farm to improve farming and agriculture practices in Congo. In Goma, a self-sustaining medical “pod” will be implemented, allowing the community to thrive “off the grid.” In total, this partnership will impact the cities of Kinshasa, Goma, and Lubumbashi.

**South Sudan**

MATTER will partner with Luol Deng, a player with the Los Angeles Lakers, and his foundation, to help provide basic needs in the communities in the Aweil State of his home country. In this inaugural project, food has been identified as the greatest initial need due to the famine identified by the United Nations and the continued

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emergency levels of hunger. MATTER will deliver nutritionally-fortified healthy meals with a long-term vision of providing tools and resources to local clinics, hospitals, and farms to create a sustainable future.

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**About MATTER**

MATTER is a Minnesota-based global health nonprofit on a mission to move people forward by eliminating barriers to a healthier life. Internationally, MATTER addresses these barriers by giving hospitals the tools they need to care for the sick and injured in dignified ways, and by designing solutions to create diversified and resilient farms. Locally, MATTER activates healthy eating for kids and families with the MATTERbox program, an innovative solution to healthy food access and nutrition education. Learn more at [www.matter.ngo](http://www.matter.ngo)