2015 was another year of growth for Friends of Guinea (2015). We increased our membership, social media presence, and provided our members with a regular quarterly newsletter. Our work with the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) Ebola Relief Fund also continued. In addition to monetary support, FOG representatives served on the NPCA Ebola Relief Fund’s steering committee to help review and select aid groups in Guinea to receive funding. FOG also conducted a fundraising drive in 2015, and made a $1000.00 gift to Dare to Innovate. Dare to Innovate is a non-profit group run by RPCVs which provides support to young entrepreneurs with creative and inspiring ideas to promote social growth and change in Guinea.

FOG officers also have been networking with other West African “friends” organizations to glean ideas for further growth and expansion. This led to our decision to pursue a 501c3 status. The new year has already seen some preliminary goals met in this direction. Other networking efforts included sending a FOG representative to the Peace Corps Connect Conference in California.

The FOG officer ranks have also expanded with the successful recruitment of two Advocacy Co-Chairs. With this addition of human resources, as well as the 501c3 goal in sight, FOG is poised for continual growth and impact in the future.

Prepared by Teresa Pope, Friends of Guinea, March 18, 2016