



# Malaria kills. Send a net. Save a life.

## CAMPAIGN BACKGROUNDER

### Nothing But Nets

*Nothing But Nets* is a global grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. Inspired by ESPN columnist Rick Reilly, thousands of people have joined the campaign that was created by the United Nations Foundation in 2006. Founding campaign partners include the National Basketball Association's NBA Cares, The People of the United Methodist Church and *Sports Illustrated*. Other partners include AOL Black Voices, ExxonMobil, Junior Chamber International, Malaria No More, the Mark J. Gordon Foundation, Major League Soccer's MLS W.O.R.K.S., the National Basketball Association's WNBA Cares, Orkin, Rotarians' Action Group on Malaria, Time Inc. Home Entertainment, Union For Reform Judaism, Unwired Appeal, VH1 and the Wasserman Foundation.

### Malaria Kills

Malaria is preventable, but infects nearly 500 million people each year and kills more than 1 million of those who become infected. Ninety percent of deaths caused by malaria occur in Africa, where the disease is a leading killer of children. Every 30 seconds a child dies from malaria. Children who are able to survive the disease are faced with physical and mental impairments, such as poor growth and development.

Moreover, every day 25 million pregnant African women risk severe illness and harm to their unborn children from a malaria infection. Malaria contributes to low birth weight among newborn infants, one of the leading risk factors for infant mortality.

Malaria incapacitates people and keeps them from working while they recover or take care of sick children. Malaria keeps countries poor. In addition to the burden on the health system, malaria illness and death cost Africa \$12 billion a year in lost productivity.



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### Send a Net

Every \$10 donation to *Nothing But Nets* goes directly toward the purchase, distribution and education about the proper use of a long-lasting insecticide-treated bed net. Bed nets work in two ways: They stop mosquitoes from biting during the night and spreading the disease, and the insecticide on the net kills the mosquitoes when they land on it, stopping them from flying on to find their next victim. Bed nets can prevent malaria transmission by 50 percent and up to 90 percent in areas with high-coverage rates. They are distributed through the Measles Initiative—a partnership led by the United Nations Foundation, the American Red Cross, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization and UNICEF. Working closely with national governments and local communities, the Measles Initiative has reached more than 500 million children in nearly 60 countries.

### Save a Life

With your help, we can stop this deadly disease. Please visit [www.NothingButNets.net](http://www.NothingButNets.net) to send a net and save a life.