

## ***NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> Inspiration Fund World Malaria Day 2012**

### **What is World Malaria Day?**

*April 25-* World Malaria Day is a day to raise awareness of malaria as a disease that is preventable and treatable and to mobilize communities across the world to get involved in the fight against it.

World Malaria Day represents a chance for all of us to make a difference. It is a perfect rallying point to educate people about malaria and to give them a focus on which to support with their time, talent, and desire to give. Whether you are a member of a faith community or just interested in advancing the issue of malaria prevention, you can be part of the solution!

Reducing the impact of malaria significantly propels efforts to achieve the U.N. Millennium Development Goal of combating the disease itself, as well as goals related to women's and children's rights and health, education and the reduction of extreme poverty.

### **How does *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> and the *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> Inspiration Fund Help?**

In partnership with corporations, foundations, NGOs and faith-based organizations, *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> implements integrated malaria-prevention programs in 17 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

Since 2006, *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> has distributed over 8.5 million nets as part of its campaign to fight malaria resulting in less sickness, fewer deaths and stronger communities. Combined with the community education and net monitoring work of nearly 74,000 trained Malaria Control Agents, these nets have saved the lives of over 100,000 children under five and reduced the overall malaria-related death rate by 45% in communities where *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> is active.

*NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> combats malaria by training community agents to deliver life-saving nets, educate community members about proper net use and maintenance, and provide ongoing monitoring and evaluation of net use. Launched in 2006, the program is now active in 17 countries throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Five of these countries – Angola, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Zambia – have adopted aspects of *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup>'s methodology as part of their national malaria policy, and many more have solicited the program's input in country-wide strategic planning.

The *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> the Inspiration Fund is a grassroots effort to educate, engage, and unite Episcopalians to support the MDGs through the fight against malaria. Our goal is to build awareness about this disease, how it can be prevented, and raise \$5 million by December 2012.

### **Resources for World Malaria Day**

We have developed free educational materials to engage your community about World Malaria Day, the work of *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> and the importance of the Inspiration Fund. Just visit our website at [www.inspirationfund.org](http://www.inspirationfund.org) and go to the [resources](#) section.

#### **The Tool Kit includes:**

- [Stories from the field](#) and [Informative FAQ sheets on malaria, Mosquito nets, etc](#)
- [Curriculum resources for every age group](#)
- [Liturgy](#)
- [Photos of \*NetsforLife\*<sup>®</sup> work across the continent](#)
- [Videos and Audio slide shows of our programs in action and the work to prevent malaria](#)
- [And MUCH more...](#)



**Here are a few creative ideas to take part in World Malaria Day and to support the *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> Inspiration Fund!**

**Within the Church or School:**

- Plan [worship services](#) with World Malaria Day awareness themes. *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> Inspiration Fund resources can help you to make this a deeply moving, and impactful experience! Try a "flash mob" or other creative announcement during the church service.
- Hang [mosquito bed nets](#) in the sanctuary: from the ceiling, on the walls, outside on the building or the church sign, or create a display using a mosquito net to promote World Malaria Day and *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup>. Invite people to make a donation, then sit inside the net to have their photo taken -- then email the photo to the donor.
- Make a World Malaria Day mural. Each day 3000 children die from [malaria](#)...create a visual depiction of this fact by making a mural of 3000 handprints. Get a large banner, paint and wet wipes, and ask the children to make numerous handprints until you reach 3000!
- Create a healthy competition between different groups in the church. Have a celebration for the group that raises the most nets for World Malaria Day!

**Simple Ways to Give:**

- Twelve-Day Fast: As a group, decide on something you might purchase each day for \$1. Give up that item for 12 days and "earn" \$12 to [buy a net](#). Emphasize fasting with a purpose.
- Sale, Sale, Sale: Polish your cooking skills for a bake sale during coffee hour. Hand out a [facts sheet about malaria](#) with each purchase to give your customers both knowledge and nourishment, or hold a silent auction with items related to nets (...i.e. basketball tickets, or a fishing trip).
- Nickels for Nets: Encourage people to fill a jar with pocket change. Decorate the drop off area with a mosquito bed net or hand out [photos](#) that people can attach to their jar as a reminder that "change can happen with a little change!"

**Going Beyond the Parish Walls:**

- Hold a golf tournament and ask local businesses/clubs to sponsor a hole on the course. [Create a display](#) in the clubhouse to bring into the FORE-ground the PAR-pose of the tournament!
- Throw a house party! Charge a \$12 admission and donate the proceeds to *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup>! Show the [NetsforLife](#)<sup>®</sup> video, and share about World Malaria Day and *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup>.
- World Malaria Day Three-on-Three Tournament: Invite basketball players from your church and community to pay \$12 entry fees per person. Each team will buy three nets simply by entering. Use [facts about malaria](#) to add color commentary about malaria and remind the spectators each time the ball goes into the net...nets save lives!
- Wear a net to work in honor of World Malaria Day. Provide a square net and blue ribbon to each member of your parish to signify commitment and raise awareness outside of the church, or invite friends or your employer to sponsor or match you in raising money to [buy bed nets](#).
- Donate your birthday, graduation, or anniversary to *NetsforLife*<sup>®</sup> and generate support on the internet. Add links to your blog, or [Facebook](#) page, or re-tweet our messages on Twitter. Use your existing network and encourage friends to donate, etc.
- Organize a World Malaria Day [public event or forum](#) with public health officials, doctors, and professors who can help your audience understand malaria. Be sure and invite the public. This is an excellent way to reach out to your community!

**Learn more at [www.inspirationfund.org](http://www.inspirationfund.org)**