



*Minsi Trails Council
Nothing But Nets*

Nothing But Nets is a grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. A \$10 donation allows the organization to purchase a mosquito net for a family in Africa. Sports Illustrated columnist Rick Reilly helped launch the campaign by writing a compelling article that challenged each of his readers to donate at least \$10 for the purchase of an anti-malaria bed nets -- and the incredible response from thousands of Americans across the country -- that led to the creation of the *Nothing But Nets* campaign.

The UN Foundation has now partnered with groups as diverse as The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, National Basketball Association's NBA Cares, The People of the United Methodist Church and Sports Illustrated to bring *Nothing But Nets* to the American public.

This summer, the Boy Scouts of America committed to partnering with the organization. Scouting's connection to Africa dates back to when Lord Baden-Powell served on a military mission there. Baden-Powell loved Africa and took the outdoor skills he acquired there back to England to develop the scouting program.

The statistics: nearly 500 million people are infected with malaria each year and more than one million people end up dying from it. 90% of these deaths are in Africa. Every thirty seconds a child dies of malaria. Malaria is preventable. One of the most simple and cost effective ways of preventing malaria is through insecticide treated bed netting ... that's where the Scouts come in.

How to Help:

1. Dedicate meeting time at a January meeting to educate scouts about malaria and *Nothing But Nets*. Use the Minsi Trails Council website (posting soon) and www.nothingbutnets.net for Public Service Announcements and meeting activity guides.
2. By **January 1, 2010 get commitment from your unit for one net (\$10) for every ten scouts** and email your pledge to Amy Frantz, afrantz@minsitrails.com. This will enter you in a drawing for chance to win free basketball tickets for one game for youth in your unit. Lehigh University, Lafayette College and East Stroudsburg University will donate tickets.
3. During the month of January have scouts collect change "Nickels for Nets" to purchase the **\$10 nets**. (Encourage your scouts to decorate coffee cans to use as "Mosquito Banks") Use posters and other resources found on the *Nothing But Nets* website. Be creative. Encourage your chartering organization to participate, as well (we already have some donations from area churches).
4. Return change/donation to your district executive at your February Roundtable or to the council office no later than **February 12, 2010**.
5. An upcoming Minsi will publicize the units that participated as well as how many nets the Minsi Trails Council has purchased.