

**Against Malaria Foundation LLIN Distribution  
Hohoe, Ghana  
August 4<sup>th</sup>- August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Post-distribution summary**



During the first week of August 2008, Ashley Schoettle, with the help of Pro-Link organization (Christine Kafe), delivered 400 bed nets to the community of Hohoe in the Volta region of Ghana. The distribution took place over 4 days, in which pregnant women, children (primarily those under 5 years of age), and HIV/AIDS infected individuals were the primary targets.



On Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, Pro-Link held a community gathering of HIV/AIDS positive individuals, in which a skit with local student volunteers demonstrated the importance of bed nets, followed by an educational speech on malaria (translated into the local language, Ewe) and the importance of preventative techniques.

Following these educational materials, **100 bed nets** (with the outer package ripped open to discourage individuals from selling the nets) were handed out to individuals living with HIV (primarily children, many of whom are orphaned due to HIV/AIDS), as names and signatures (or thumbprints in the case of the many illiterate attendees) were taken to aid in the follow up process.

Following this distribution, Ashley and members of Pro-Link traveled to the nearby district clinic of Hohoe to distribute nets to HIV/AIDS individuals who were not able to attend the Pro-Link distribution due to their medical appointments and level of illness. **50 additional nets** were handed out here, with a demonstration and instructions for use.



On Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, Schoettle and Kafe traveled to the neighboring community of Atabo, where an outdoor assembly was gathered (all women and children, many living with HIV/AIDS) to conduct an educational session on malaria and prevention techniques, followed by the distribution of **50 nets**.

Following this, another neighboring community, Kladjo, was visited, where orphans (ages 1-8) were gathered with their foster parents in a small storage shed to learn about malaria and the efficacy of bed nets.

When asked about the prevalence of malaria, almost all of the children acknowledged having suffered from the disease recently, while none of the children had used a bed net before. **30 nets** were given out at this site.



Finally, a short distance from this distribution was Hope Orphanage of Kladjo, where another malaria presentation was given followed by the distribution of **20 nets** to comprehensively cover the orphanage's sleeping quarters. The head of the orphanage, Elizabeth, was very enthusiastic about the donation and said that she would start preparing the room for hanging the nets immediately.

On Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, Ashley and Christine, with the help of a local nurse at the children's welfare clinic, Nurse Judith, traveled to the tiny rural community of Oklahoma, where a monthly infant immunization (against measles, yellow fever, and polio) was taking place.



ITN's have been distributed periodically in the past to this village, so although many of the residents do not have access to bed nets, they are aware of the importance of them.

At Oklahoma village, house calls were conducted, in which pregnant women and new mothers were interviewed and then helped to hang up bed nets if they demonstrated need and compliance with using the nets.

Most of the women interviewed were very knowledgeable about the importance of prevention against malaria and were enthusiastic about receiving the bed nets. **50 bed nets** were given out at this site. Finally, the Christ Shalom Daycare Orphanage in Hohoe was visited, where **30 nets** were distributed to cover the children's beds.

The remainder of the nets (**70 bednets**) will be distributed by Pro-Link over the next week (there was not enough time to distribute the full 400 during the first week) to the children's ward at Hohoe district hospital, to the children's immunization health clinic the following Tuesday, and to the remaining HIV positive children associated with Pro-Link who were not available at the initial net distribution.



A follow up on all of the distributed nets will take place during the final week of August, and again in the beginning of October (by revisiting the sites where nets were distributed with the help of the comprehensive list of all net recipients) to ensure that the bed nets are being correctly utilized.

Christine Kafe from Pro-Link will take charge of the follow-up process and will contact Ashley Schoettle and Against Malaria foundation with the results.

Ashley Schoettle  
Hohoe, Ghana  
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