

IMPACT 100 SOCIETY - SAMPLE RECEPTION TALKING POINTS

Note: These talking points are just a few suggested themes. What is most important is that you speak from the heart in an inviting, personal and inspiring way.

1. Welcome

- *Thank you for attending this evening I appreciate you making time to learn about the Impact 100 Society for the **Imagine No Malaria** effort.*

2. Speak briefly about why Global Health and malaria in particular are important to you and to your church.

- *As part of the Four Areas of Focus, the leadership of The United Methodist Church has recognized the devastating effects of diseases of poverty.*
- *In a world where a child dies every 30 seconds from malaria, the people of The United Methodist Church know NOW is the time to act.*
- *The world already possesses the treatment and the preventative measures to eliminate more than 1 million deaths each year caused by malaria.*
- *However, in order to do that, the church in Africa needs resources that will enable their communities to overcome this terrible disease of poverty.*

3. Recognize the previous efforts of attendees and your church in overcoming malaria

- *Many of us already have joined [INSERT CHURCH NAME] in the fight against malaria through Nothing But Nets. Together, we have sent [INSERT #] nets to Africa, saving [INSERT #] people. This is truly something of which to be proud!*
- *Three years of Nothing But Nets activities have taught us about malaria and the simple tools to prevent it.*

4. Describe Imagine No Malaria and how it relates to Saving Lives in Sierra Leone

- *Harnessing the passion and momentum sparked by Nothing But Nets, Imagine No Malaria is United Methodism's churchwide effort to overcome malaria in Africa.*
- *As our first step in this effort, The United Methodist Church partnered in an effort to cover the entire country of Sierra Leone with insecticide-treated bed nets.*
- *Please take a few moments as I share an informational video outlining the need and opportunity in Sierra Leone.*

[PAUSE – while video plays (roughly 2.5 minutes)]

- *Thanks to the efforts earlier this year in the Saving Lives in Sierra Leone effort, we, with our partners, will send 1.2 million bed nets to that country next year.*
- *Our efforts may begin with a net, but they do not end there. Prevention alone is not enough.*
- *Community health-care workers are needed to ensure the nets are used properly, and to teach communities about simple ways to prevent malaria and reduce mosquito populations.*
- *Hospitals and health-care clinics need adequate resources and medicine onsite to treat malaria patients quickly and efficiently.*
- *Communications networks encourage the spread of health information, helping to dispel myths that actually still exist that malaria is caused by witchcraft or too much palm oil. Networks also can be used to announce the date of net distributions.*
- *The United Methodist Church already sponsors these programs. Now is the time to strengthen these and other efforts to fight diseases of poverty.*
- *Imagine how much more effective the 1.2 million bed nets will be in Sierra Leone when communities know the best way to use them to prevent malaria, and when hospitals are able to treat patients with affordable care and adequate medications.*

5. Encourage participation in the Impact 100 Society

- *Over the next four years, Imagine No Malaria will seek to affect millions of lives across Africa, joining leaders in global health in eliminating deaths caused by malaria – a goal that world leaders hope to accomplish by 2015.*
- *We can help. I encourage you to join other United Methodists who personally have affected at least 100 lives through a gift of \$1,000 or more to Imagine No Malaria, which you may pledge over three years.*
- *Information on the Impact 100 Society for each of you is now being distributed. Please take this information home and consider our request to join the Impact 100 Society.*

6. Thank guests for their consideration

- *Together, we are creating a powerful foundation that will build a stronger and more broad-based community health infrastructure in the fight against malaria.*
- *Imagine the power of United Methodists working together as instruments of God’s healing.*
- *Imagine 100% of Sierra Leonean children protected as they sleep at night.*
- *Imagine: the spirit of Christ with us as we care for each other in our times of need, for “God is not unjust; [God] will not forget your work and the love you have shown ... as you have helped . . . and continue to help them.” (Hebrews 6:10).*