



Kris Perry, DM, Nigeria, 2009

Why is it important to advocate for funding to contain malaria?

- **Nearly 800,000 people die of malaria each year**
- About **3.3 billion people**, or about half of the world's population, are affected by malaria
- **People who are living in poverty are most vulnerable to malaria**
- There are nearly **250 million cases** of malaria each year
- **Pregnant women are particularly at risk for malaria; approximately 10,000 die each year** (CDC, 2010)
- **85% of malaria deaths occur among children**; most are in Africa
- In 2008 in Africa, **715,900 children under 5 died from malaria** (Lancet, 2010)
- Yearly, an African child has on average **1.6 to 5.4 malaria episodes**
- **A child dies from malaria every 45 seconds**; malaria causes **16% of under 5 childhood deaths in Africa**
- Malaria costs Africa approximately **\$12 billion** a year in lost productivity
- **Malaria is preventable and treatable!**

For this and more information from the World Health Organization, visit:
<http://www.who.int/malaria/en/>

How can we get involved?

An Easy Format for a Quick Advocacy Conversation, Call, Letter, or E-mail:

- **State the problem.**
Malaria is preventable and treatable, yet yearly 800,000 people, especially children and pregnant women, die from it.
- **Explain why it is important to you; use a brief story and/or a few statistics.**
When I was in Africa, I saw families living in poverty whose children died because they were too poor to prevent or treat malaria. Or, By preventing malaria, \$12 billion/year will be saved in lost productivity and families can move out of poverty.
- **Ask for an action or response.**
 If possible, ask for support of a specific bill; give the bill's number and title.
Please support funding for the Global Health Initiative. Or, Please fund The Global Fund and its work with MDG 6.
- **Sign your name.**
Indicate if you are a constituent; include your address and contact information.



ELCA Malaria Campaign, Mozambique

Our Malaria Work supports the global movement of education, prevention, and treatment to contain deaths from malaria in Africa by 2015.

Our Malaria Work's approaches:

- pray** for people suffering from malaria and people who are working to contain the disease,
- educate** U.S. Lutherans about malaria,
- contribute** financially to help contain malaria, and
- advocate** for global health initiatives.

This pamphlet will answer four essential questions:

- Why does the ELCA advocate?
- To and with whom do we advocate?
- Why is it important to advocate for funding to contain malaria?
- How can we get involved?



Our Malaria Work *A Global Community Gathered by Christ: From Stranger to Neighbor*

Why does the ELCA advocate?

Lutherans believe advocacy is a public witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ where the Church speaks with and on behalf of people who are in need.

To find out more, visit:

www.elca.org/socialstatements

To and with whom do we advocate?

ELCA Advocacy is a valuable resource to inform, inspire, and guide our advocacy efforts as they relate to Our Malaria Work and poverty.

Visit the ELCA Advocacy website at <http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Advocacy.aspx>

Use this site to:

- Find your government representatives and their contact information
- Sign up for the ELCA's e-advocacy network
- Find advocacy resources for you and your congregation
- Find information about current justice and advocacy focus issues
- Learn more about the ONE Campaign, which relates to the Millennium Development Goals

Our Malaria Work relates to the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Our Malaria Work primarily relates to:

MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Our Malaria Work is part of a comprehensive international effort to reduce infant and child mortality and the overall incidences of malaria in Africa by 2015.

Our Malaria Work also relates to:

MDG 4: Reduce child mortality

MDG 5: Improve maternal health

MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Because malaria occurs most frequently among people living in poverty, Our Malaria Work relates to:

MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

How are Lutherans engaging with the MDGs?

To find out more, visit:

<http://www.elca.org/Advocacy/ONE-Lutheran-Campaign>

Our Malaria Work relates to The United States' Global Health Initiative (GHI)

In GHI's own words, "GHI is a six-year, \$63 billion initiative to help partner countries improve measurable health outcomes by strengthening health systems and building upon proven results, It places a particular focus on improving the health of women, newborns and children. Pursuing a comprehensive approach, GHI includes programs addressing HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, maternal and child health, nutrition, family planning and reproductive health, and neglected tropical diseases."

For more GHI information, visit:

<http://www.globalhealth.gov/index.html>

Our Malaria Work engages with our companion churches in:

- Angola
- Central African Republic
- Ethiopia
- Liberia
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Nigeria
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Companion churches and ELCA Global Mission work with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Lutheran World Relief, and Lutheran World Federation.