The organization was founded after a Ugandan educator who started schools for children asked for nets for his students, so they wouldn’t miss school and could pass to the next grade.

The organization works through Schools, Women’s Groups, local elders and community leaders.

The local people are educating each other in their local dialects in the way they see most effective.

NETwork Against Malaria’s model has proven to be effective. In fact, local community leaders now use NETwork’s model as a prototype for other community education programs.

NETwork Against Malaria establishes relationships with our Ugandan volunteers, requiring full accountability in their purchase, delivery, and documentation of providing nets.

The organization is run by US volunteers and a volunteer board of directors. There is little overhead, so money raised goes directly toward buying nets.

Run through personal relationships = in depth knowledge of the needs/desires of the people.

Run/funded through US involvement

Education/implementation through multiple aspects of the village

Culturally sensitive = more effective
In Depth: Overview of NETwork Against Malaria

Malaria stats (determined by many sources including WHO):
Malaria claims the life of 1 child every 30 seconds, Hospitalizes 2/5 of African children, Costs families about ¼ of their income, and Causes children to miss up to 60 school days/year.

**Summary:** Clearly, the burden of malaria takes a significant toll on lives lost as well as Ugandan families’ ability to achieve education and financial stability. *Fortunately, malaria is preventable:* when children sleep under insecticide treated malaria nets, malaria transmission is reduced by over 90%.

Why NETwork Against Malaria?
National 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded by five sisters who believe they can make a difference. There are many organizations out there that raise money for malaria nets, but this organization is **DIFFERENT** because:

1. **The idea came from the Ugandan people where we distribute the nets,**

   The organization started **after a conversation with a Ugandan man who is a friend of our family’s.** For years, he started girls’ schools **(which is significant because in the rural area where he started schools, they don’t believe in educating women),** and he started co-ed schools in areas where there were none. When we asked if we could contribute to his schools, he said one thing we could do was buy malaria nets for his students because they miss about 60 days annually with malaria making it impossible for them to pass on to the next grade, so they drop out.

2. **We have no US or Ugandan employees,** and we work through **only Ugandan volunteers in Uganda,** so we have little overhead

3. **The people running the Ugandan aspect of our program do it in a way in which the local people are receptive.**

4. **We have an educational component for US students.**

   The organization began in 2007. To date, we have sent 4,400 malaria nets. **Our Model:**

   1. **Weeks before nets are distributed:** Adult Education—our Ugandan volunteers start radio programming about the benefits of malaria nets (1 million listeners hear the radio broadcast). The Ugandans believed this was the best way to educate the adults.

   Children’s education—In the schools where the nets will be distributed, teachers give lessons to the children about malaria nets.

   Women’s Education—Women’s groups (started by our family friend) are educated by Ugandan volunteers and talk to each other about the benefits of malaria nets. Local Elders—Our volunteers educate the elders who play a role in the distributions.

   2. **During distributions:** Volunteers demonstrate how to hang and sleep under malaria nets and reinforce the benefits of malaria nets. The nets are given at schools and to women’s groups.

   3. **After distributions:** Educational programming continues over the radio, through the women’s groups, and at schools.

   4. **Accountability:** The volunteers provide receipts, photo, and video footage. Also, every location has several contact persons (teachers, NETwork volunteers, elders, women “leaders” in the community) who we contact to ensure that they received the correct number of nets. We know our volunteers personally and know they are trustworthy, but taking these additional measures and letting our volunteers know how accountable they really are removes temptation.

**Success:**
We know our work has been successful on multiple levels.

1. Fewer individuals getting sick decreases both lives lost and financial burden

2. More students are in school during malaria season

3. It is also significant to note that more children have enrolled in the schools where we distribute nets. Our Ugandan volunteers said that if you reward parents for sending their children to school, they will keep them in school, and the parents who don’t send their children to school will send them to school. We have seen this effect.

**NETwork in the United States**
NETwork believes it is important to educate US students about Ugandan people, culture, malaria, and how these US students can help Ugandan students. Over 20,000 US students have participated in NETwork events through chapters in eleven states. NETwork also has an educational curriculum schools can download.

**NETwork in the Future**
NETwork has expanded to an additional location in Gulu, and other NGO’s that run programs in additional countries have contacted us to see if we would be interested in giving nets to the people they work with. Beginning successful programs take a lot of time in rural African areas, so we are carefully working to get everyone nets who needs them.

Check out our website: NETworkAgainstMalaria.org
AND If you want to meet the bednet recipients, we have pictures and video footage on the website. You can also go to YouTube and Search: NETwork Against Malaria