



# LOCK OUT EVENT PLAN

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Sweet Sleep's "Under the Stars" lock-out event is designed for high school and college students to experience what the night is like for orphaned and children around the world. In places like Uganda, orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children go to sleep each night on the cold, hard ground, either because they simply have no bed in which to sleep, or because they have been displaced from their families - abandoned into the streets to care for themselves - and must sleep wherever they can find a place to lay their heads.



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In northern Uganda, AIDS and a civil war that occurred from 1986 to 2008 have left thousands of children without parents. These children either live in child headed households or with elderly relatives who can barely afford to keep them fed and in school. These children sleep in simple straw mats laid on the bare ground, with no mosquito nets to protect them from the deadly malaria virus.

A Sweet Sleep bed for one of these children costs just \$5. and includes a straw mat, a thick foam mattress, a blanket, a life-saving mosquito net and a Bible in their language.





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In Kampala, Uganda, children who have been removed from dangerous, abusive, and neglectful living conditions to live in orphanages and children's homes, under the care of Christian couples. These orphanages struggle just to feed and educate the children in their care, and often don't have the ability to provide beds for the children to sleep in, leaving them to sleep on dirty scraps of foam on concrete floors.

Beds for children in these orphanages cost just \$140 and include a sturdy metal bed frame, a thick foam mattress, sheets, a blanket, a life-saving mosquito net and a Bible.





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In all of these cases, children are displaced from their families by poverty, disease and war. We're asking students around the country to join us at an Under the Stars event and to displace themselves in a "camp" outside on the campus of your church, school or a central community location in order to help us raise awareness about the needs of these children and to help raise funds to provide the beds and families that they need.

### PREPARING

**7:30PM:** Arrive at designated location – check in, give each student an Experience Guide

**8:00PM:** Watch video

**8:15PM:** Receive instructions for the evening and pray

**8:30PM:** Displacement – walk together to the displacement site

**8:30–10:30PM:** Activities – bands, speakers, worship

**10:30PM:** Bed/Journaling Time

**7:15AM:** Wake-Up/Quiet Time

**7:45AM:** Closing remarks/prayer

**8:00AM:** Dismiss





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## PREPARING FOR UNDER THE STARS

1. Set a date for your event.

2. E-mail [madelene@sweetsleep.org](mailto:madelene@sweetsleep.org) to register your event. We'll add your event to our calendar and pray for you as you prepare for your event as well as send you resources as they become available.

3. Gather students to help plan your Under the Stars event. You'll need teams for: Promotions, People, Program, and Project. Set deadlines and assign adults to oversee each team.

**Promotions Team will:** promote event, work with tv and radio, newspapers, partnering with other churches or groups.

**People Team will:** secure supplies for each attendee, head up registration, gather permission slips/waivers, work on safety/security of attendees, securing restrooms – managing the attendee experience.

**Program Team will:** plan what activities happen during the evening – worship, music, bands, speakers, etc., secure locations, stage, sound, permits, water, etc. Program team will work with event coordinator/student pastor/campus minister to ensure event meets legal requirements for restrooms, safety, etc. Note: Consider separating High School/ College Students into different event areas.

**Project Team will:** plan involvement with Sweet Sleep, coordinate follow up, collect funds for Sweet Sleep, look into trip opportunities to work with orphans and vulnerable children through Sweet Sleep, etc.





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4. Communicate event details to students/attendees. Let them know dates, times, places and what to bring (Bible, beach towel or tarp or a piece of cardboard – just one of these items) as well as what not to bring (weapons, outside food/drink, no sleeping bags/blow up beds, video games, etc.) Also, make sure students bring flashlights and small notebooks to write in...

5. Prepare event location. Consider safety – do you need temporary fencing? A road closure? Security/Police Officers? Map out location – where portable bathrooms will be, stage, etc.

6. Host Event.

7. Work with students to commit to and follow through on continuing to raise awareness about the needs of the orphaned and vulnerable children Sweet Sleep serves and raise funds to provide for those needs.

After your event, and after the designated collection time, send all donations, along with the copied registration forms with amounts filled in for how much each student raised, to Sweet Sleep, P.O. Box 1546, Brentwood, TN 37024