



“Under the Stars” 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 it is like for orphaned and abandoned children in northern Uganda to sleep on the cold, hard ground and not in a healthy, comfortable bed. Since the more than 22-year war there is now in a time of “peace,” the government has closed the IDP (internally displaced persons) camps – leaving no services or resources for those EVIs (extremely vulnerable individuals) left in the camps. More than 750,000 orphaned and abandoned children call these camps home. For most, the camps are the only homes they’ve every known.

Sweet Sleep is resettling these children back into their now safe home villages and we need your help. A resettlement kit for one of these children, including a straw mat, thick foam mattress, warm blanket, life-saving mosquito net and a Bible in their language is just \$50. Even those who have been afraid to leave the camps are now lining up by the hundreds to resettle. We’re asking students around the country to join us Under the Stars by displacing themselves in a “camp” outside on the campus of your church, school or a central community location to help us raise awareness about the needs of these children and help raise funds to provide resettlement kits to the 750,000 children waiting to go home.

Schedule

7:30 pm	Arrive at designated location – check in, give each student an Experience Guide
8:00	Watch video (provided by Sweet Sleep)
8:15	Receive instructions for the evening and pray
8:30	Displacement – walk together to the displacement site.
8:30-10:30	Activities – bands, speakers, worship
10:30	Bed/Journaling Time
7:15 am	Wake-Up/Quiet Time
7:45	Closing remarks/prayer
8:00	Dismiss

Preparing for Under the Stars

1. Set a date for your event.
2. E-mail underthestars@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, 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, collecting funds for resettlement kits, continue project after event, look into trip opportunities to work with orphans in Uganda through Sweet Sleep, etc.
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, cd/mp3 players, 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 these children in northern Uganda and raise funds to provide beds for these orphans.

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, PO Box 40486, Nashville, TN, 37204-9998. Students will receive the following thank you gifts from Sweet Sleep for their support of our work to resettle these orphaned children in northern Uganda:

- 1 kit (\$50) – I Helped An Orphan Sleep Sweetly window cling
- 2 kits (\$100) – I Helped An Orphan Sleep Sweetly t-shirt
- 4 kits (\$200) – Sweet Sleep BPA-Free Nalgene water bottle
- 8 kits (\$400) – Sweet Sleep Sweatshirt Blanket

To receive these gifts, we must have a copy of a completed registration form for that student, with their address and amount raised. Gifts will be sent to the church/event sponsor.

