The First Annual
National Lifebox Challenge

Background:

Lifebox (http://www.lifebox.org/) is a non-profit organization associated with many anesthesia partners (such as WHO, ASA, WFSA, and ESA) with a goal to make surgery and anesthesia safer in low-resource setting countries. There are an estimated 77,000 operating rooms worldwide where surgery is taking place without monitoring or essential safety checks, and mortality is 100 to 1000 times higher than in the U.S.

Lifebox is going to close this gap.

By negotiating with manufacturers to construct a durable, easy to use, pulse oximeter, Lifebox can produce a device for $250 dollars. Lifebox pulse oximetry packs are distributed to clinics and hospitals in developing countries where anesthesia providers are instructed on how to use the device alongside the World Health Organization (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist. Learning this combination of skills is associated with improved mortality, decreased hypoxic events, and decreased surgical infections. Since the inception of the ASA campaign for Lifebox, residents have played a leading role in supporting Lifebox.

Plan:

• To help Lifebox achieve its mission, the ASA Resident Component will sponsor an annual national competition among anesthesiology residency programs to fundraise for Lifebox called the first annual LIFEBOX NATIONAL CHALLENGE.

Objective:

• To raise a minimum of $250 per anesthesiology residency program. Estimates suggest that this would total approximately $38,000 which can purchase 100 pulse oximeters

• As part of the global Lifebox strategy, ASA is focusing its efforts in Latin America. Rather than selecting a specific country to sponsor, we will highlighting specific medical challenges of different countries in the region during regularly scheduled competition updates to educate the anesthesia community about the scarcity of medical resources in developing countries and how Lifebox addresses these shortages.

Rules:

• Every ACGME-accredited anesthesiology residency in the United States is automatically entered into the competition.

• Funds can be raised by any legal means such as: single donations, or specialized events such as involving sports, bakes sales, or auctions.
• Total funds raised will be adjusted for the number of anesthesiology residents currently in clinical anesthesia years. Interns and Fellows will not factor into calculations, but are encouraged to participate along with members of the faculty and community.
  o Winner = funds raised / (# CA-1 to CA-3 residents)

Funds Collections
• Donations will be made, collected, and tabulated through the ASA charitable foundation website. Participating on-line donors will indicate that the contribution is a tribute gift in the name of the residency program.
• The ASA Charitable Foundation will keep track of the winners and report the results.