

Project ♥ Linus BLANKET BUZZ

Project Linus news for our dedicated 'blanketeers' and supporters

OVER 15,000 BLANKETS DELIVERED!!!

Our Chapter celebrated its 7th anniversary of making and delivering blankets in June of this year. And we are still going strong. The blankets keep coming in and more importantly, going out. Many more groups and individuals have joined our efforts, making blankets for the children. As of this newsletter we have delivered over **15,300** blankets to children in distress in Hudson, Bergen and Passaic Counties and to the national groups we help such as "My Stuff Bags" and TAPS – The Transition Assistance Program for Survivors – that aids the families of our military personnel who have sacrificed so much for our country.

Thank you to all the blanketeers who have helped make this possible. Without the dedication of our knitting and crocheting groups, our girl scout and youth groups and the individuals throughout the area who make blankets or donate supplies and money, this would not have been possible.

We should all be proud of the work that we do and the comfort that we bring. Keep up the good work!

MAKE A BLANKET DAY - 2010

Mark your calendars. Our next "Make a Blanket Day" will be held on Saturday, **February 20, 2010** at the Secaucus Public Library. We will meet from 10 AM to 3 PM in the Panasonic Room. Come join us and spend the day knitting or crocheting, fringing and tying fleece or tying quilts. Don't forget to bring your completed blankets.

If you can't spend the day with us, come and visit for a while and drop off any blankets you have made. Or donate a skein of yarn or a 1½ yard piece of fleece or cotton fabric.

Fall/Winter 2009/2010

Hudson/Bergen Counties NJ Chapter Information

Liz Zawacki – Tel. 201-437-0272
Email: eliza1115@verizon.net
34A East 31 Street
Bayonne, NJ 07002

Total Number of Blankets delivered
15,389

Visit our web site at:
<http://www.orgsites.com/nj/plhudsonbergen>

WAYS TO HELP

- ♥ Make a blanket out of acrylic yarn or washable fabric. It can be crocheted, knitted, quilted or fleece.

SIZES (measurements are approximate)

Newborn: 30" x 36"
Young Child: 36" x 40" or 40" x 40"
Older Child: 40" x 60" or "45" x 70"

- ♥ Donate materials such as yarn, fabric or batting. A.C. Moore, Michael's, JoAnn's, Staples or Wal-Mart gift cards are also welcome.
- ♥ Donate supplies: postage stamps, cardstock, paper, envelopes, etc.

SECAUCUS BLANKETEER MEETINGS

Afternoon: The "Blanketeers" meet the first and third Wednesday of each month from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at The Church of Our Saviour, 191 Flanagan Way, Secaucus.

Evening: The "Blanketeers" meet the second Wednesday of each month from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Secaucus Public Library, 1379 Paterson Plank Road.

Everyone welcome

SNOWBALL EXPRESS

Snowball Express is a new addition to our list of supported organizations. Like TAPS, Snowball Express helps families of our fallen military personnel. Snowball Express started in early 2006 with a simple idea: provide hope and new memories to the children of military fallen heroes who have died while on active duty since 9/11. America should honor and pay tribute to the children of those military fallen heroes who have died while honorably serving their country.

By attending Snowball Express a child can see that "service above self" is honored by others and is a value they should subscribe to as they continue to mature as adults. They also realize they can honor their fallen hero in ways other than by being sad or at a somber place. Snowball Express gives them a piece of their childhood back, allowing them to have fun and that it's OK to laugh.

This year's Snowball Express event is being held in Dallas, Texas from December 9th through the 13th. It is expected that over 1000 children will attend. In order to help provide a Project Linus blanket for each child, we have donated over 45 blankets from our Chapter. For more information on Snowball Express, visit their website at: www.snowballexpress.org.

STORIES AND THANK YOUs

♥♥♥ "Our second son was born at Hackensack Hospital and had to spend 3 days in the NICU in order to elevate his low blood sugar level. While visiting our son, we were surprised to see that he was wrapped up in a beautiful handmade blanket while comfortable sleeping. I thought to myself that it must be Project Linus as I had heard of the organization. I searched for the tag and discovered that I was correct. I felt that you had given my son a big hug (and one to our family as well.) I can't tell you how much it was appreciated and loved by us all. It was a wonderful present to receive during a time of worry and stress."

♥♥♥ "I just wanted to thank you and everyone in your organization for the blankets donation to NICU in Englewood Hospital. My son is there for three weeks now and the nurses have wrapped him in one of your blankets. Thank you very much!!!"

♥♥♥ "Two years ago my granddaughter was a patient in the Pediatric ICU at St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson. During her six week stay she was given a beautiful blanket from your group. It helped to keep her warm and comfort her. I was deeply touched by the thoughtfulness of your group. I made a promise to replace the blanket, so another child could receive the same gift. I'm sorry it has taken me so long to keep my promise, but please accept this baby blanket to help your group's efforts. Thank you for all you do & God Bless You."

♥♥♥ "My son Owen was born in Englewood Hospital last month several weeks early. He is still in the NICU there. My wife and I have been meaning to write to you to express our sincere gratitude for providing my son, and all the children at the NICU, with the Linus Project blanket. The nurse gave us one of the blankets on the day he was born and he's had it ever since. All of us parents in the NICU talk about what a wonderful project his is and how grateful we are to you and the others involved in this project. Thanks again for all you have done and please convey our appreciation to everyone.



♥♥♥ "The staff of the pediatric unit of The Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, NJ would like to thank you for your very generous and thoughtful donations. Our patients are appreciative as well. Play, laughter and smiles help with the healing process and your blankets bring a smile to every patient's face. The children and families are always excited to hear that the blanket was made especially for them. Thank you again for taking the time, effort and care to help us make the hospital experience a better one for every child.

Sincerely,
The staff of the pediatric unit
of The Valley Hospital.

♥♥♥ "Thank you very much for your recent blanket donation. The volunteer blanket makers are so talented, and they continue to do such a wonderful job creating these gifts for our patients at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital. We are so thankful for their hard work and dedication.

The blankets continue to provide warmth and comfort to all of our patients and families. This week there was a little girl in the Pediatric ICU who was given a beautiful fairy blanket. It was the first smile we have seen out of her in a long time. Her parents, like many others on the unit, were so thankful to receive a blanket to brighten their child's day. Please pass along our thanks to all the people in Project Linus who help make this monthly donation possible.

Kristin Gerasimow
Child Life Fellow

THANKS TO OUR BLANKETEERS AND SUPPORTERS

A special thank you to those who help me regularly by delivering to some of our recipients, picking up blankets from various people or being drop-off points for blankets and other donations: Carol Schultz, Joan Gasser, Joyce Geils, Beth Bogdanowicz.

Thank you also to all the ladies who help me sew labels on blankets at the meetings of the Secaucus Blanketeers.

Thank you to the following groups for the wonderful blankets and supplies they have donated to our Chapter **over the last several months:**

- Secaucus Blanketeers
- Blanketeers of Secaucus Senior Housing
- First Presbyterian Church Blanketeers, Elmwood Park
- Warren Point Presbyterian Church Blanketeers, Fair Lawn
- Need-L-Wits of Elmwood Park
- Ladies of Wallington Senior Center
- Washington Grand Hookers
- Ladies of SunRise Senior Living in Cresskill
- Ladies of St. Peter the Apostle Church in River Edge
- "Peace through Knits and Purls of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Dumont
- Blanketeers of Fewsmith Memorial Presbyterian Church
- Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Paterson District
- Amy Sedlak – Girl Scout Gold Project – over 75 Blankets, yarn, and fleece throws
- Girl Scout Troop 898, Hackensack – over 200 skeins of yarn, fleece blankets
- Girl Scout Troop 2312, Secaucus – Yarn, Fleece blankets

And, thanks to all the individuals who create wonderful blankets at home and donate them for the benefit of the children.

With so many groups working so hard for Project Linus, I hope I have recognized you all. If not, I apologize. Know that your efforts are very much appreciated.

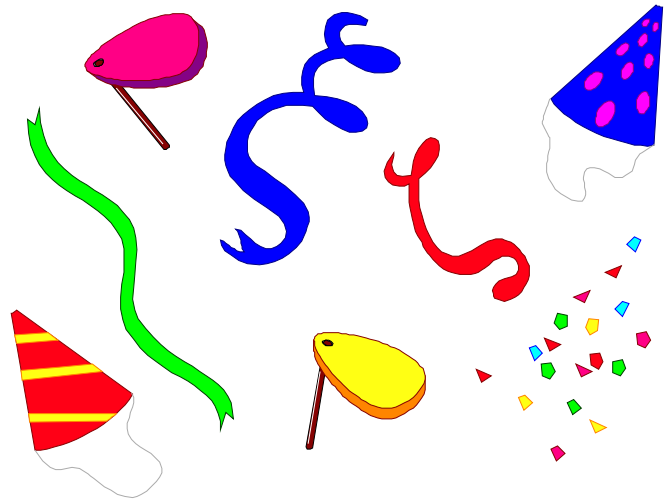
BLANKET REMINDERS

Please do not make Double Tied Fleece blankets. They are very heavy and only usable during the coldest months of the year. Single fleece is quite warm, and you get more bang for your buck if you don't double it.

Remember to leave yarn ends and weave them into the blanket. I have had blankets start to unravel because of the tiny knots joining yarn ends. It is best to leave a few inches of yarn and weave the ends in.

Please do not put fringe on the knitted and crocheted blankets. It is safer in the hospitals if the blankets don't have a fringe that can get caught in equipment or tangled in itself. This is especially important for the smaller blankets which are delivered to the Neonatal Intensive Care Units.

Remember that the blankets are for children, so please choose colors and designs that are appropriate. Bright primary colors are especially cheerful and coveted by the children. Soft pastels are especially good for babies.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HANNUKKAH,
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!**

Everyday you stitch and stitch
And then you stitch some more,
Creating lovely blanket hugs
For kids, both sad and sore.

I thank you for your caring hearts
And hands so sure and strong.
God bless you for your loving work,
Both now and all year long!

Project  Linus

Hudson/Bergen, NJ Chapter

Liz Zawacki
34A East 31 Street
Bayonne, NJ 07002

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.