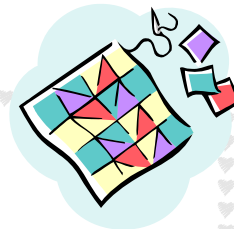


Blanket Threads

Chapter Update



July! It's already July! Where has this year gone? With all the hustle and bustle in the world around us, I'm go very grateful for the time you share for Project Linus activities. I know you don't have to share your time with us, and we thank you for what you do!

We've had a busy half-year with Kids Helping Kids presentations, Make a Blanket Day, and our usual labeling events. Just when you'd think things might slow down, we're still going strong! We have an opportunity to work with the Young Adult Transition Corps during the summer day camp, and we've been invited to the Ohio State Fair!! This truly is an exciting time for our chapter and all of the children in the Columbus Area.

PLEASE NOTE: ALWAYS check the website before labeling in case there is a change in site or time. Watch the website for more information and, as always, feel free to call or email with questions.

As always, thank you for your generosity and support.

♥ Amy & Chris

colsprojectlinus@gmail.com

Donation Update:

2nd Quarter: 693

Chapter Total: 11,203

Blankets were provided to Bobby's Books, Nationwide Children's Hospital, YWCA Family Center, Franklin County Children's Services, Heinzerling Developmental Center, Homeless Families Foundation, Odyssey Health Systems, Royal Kids Camp, and several individual children by request.

Project Linus at the OH State Fair!

We've been asked to participate in a special "exhibit" featuring charities accepting handmade items. The organizer for this event will have several groups present during the run of the fair, sharing their crafts, giving information on the charity, and spreading the word on what we do. We'll be there on Sunday Aug 2 from 10am to 8pm. If you'd like to participate, contact Amy ASAP

Did You Know

♥ Project Linus has over 400 chapters, and is present in all 50 states.

♥ Project Linus has distributed almost 3 million blankets since inception in 1995.

♥ Project Linus has close to 60,000 volunteers across

the country!

♥ Project Linus Headquarters is located in Illinois.

♥ Project Linus has a new fabric line, Komfort Kids, designed by Patrick Close. These bright & cheery prints can be purchased through Quilter's Ware-

house online. Check www.projectlinus.org/fabrics.html for more information!

♥ We couldn't do this without you! THANK YOU!



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2009 MAKE A BLANKET DAY

Our 2009 Make A Blanket Day was held on May 16, with 30+ volunteers attending throughout the day, from young kids to college students, first timers to veteran blanketers. By the time the fleece stopped flying and the machines stopped whirring, we had 283 blankets tagged & bagged and ready for delivery to area children! AWESOME!

Donna Wagner was the recipient of the Janome Magnolia Serger, made possible by the generosity of our local Sew -N- Save shop in Westerville. Other raffle prizes awarded included restaurant gift certificates, retail certificates, bath products, sewing notions, special Project Linus merchandise and more.

Through a partnership with McGraw-Hill's "Global Volunteer Day" program, lunch was provided for all volunteers who showed up to participate.

It was a wonderful time for all!

THANK YOU for all of your support!



Smiling faces and hard work paid off! This is a sampling of the squares made, and the finished blankets, for our Make a Blanket Day.



The 2009 Make A Blanket Day Volunteer Team consisted of veteran Blanketeers, first timers, employees from McGraw-Hill, and local students ... all coming together for one purpose!



Special News from Across the Miles

Every Project Linus chapter across the country serves a special population of children who fit the "in need" status from our mission statement. A chapter serving Idaho & Washington recently shared this request with other chapters, asking for assistance for a very unique group in Florida. While the needs were met very quickly, I wanted to you know how far reaching the effects of Project Linus truly are.

This morning I received a request from Col Mathewson that stated that TAPS would need 110 blankets by the 17th of July in FL.

There is a large shipment of returning wounded warriors and the families and children will be there in FL to welcome them home. If you have ever wondered what "traumatized" means in our Project Linus Mission Statement, then think about this:...children seeing for the first time, their wound parent, sibling sightless,...limbless, badly wounded, on a stretcher being

off loaded from a hospital aircraft...that is what "traumatized" means!

This evening, I am wrapping a dozen blankets to mail of tomorrow morning. Can you help, please? Please let me know so I can keep an inventory and advise you when we have filled the need.

As always, I am so grateful for you who care so much. God Bless You All.

Barb McLean, PL Coordinator, No Idaho and Spokane Wa.

Tips & Reminders

- ♥ Our chapter accepts all sizes of blankets.
- ♥ Our chapter is always in need of blankets with boy colors and prints.
- ♥ Our chapter is always in need of teen-sized blankets.
- ♥ Blankets should be washable and made in child-friendly colors.
- ♥ No wool, polyester double knits, upholstery, or vinyl.
- ♥ Blankets should be made with all new materials. Do not use recycled fabrics and yarns. They must be "never-been-used" fabrics/yarns.
- ♥ Check to make sure all pins are removed when finishing up your quilts and

blankets.

- ♥ NO STRONG ODORS (CIGARETTE SMOKE, FABRIC SOFTENER) OR ANIMAL HAIR.

- ♥ Please don't cut too close to the knots when crocheting and/or knitting (they come untied).

- ♥ If you are making fleece blankets, PLEASE CUT OFF THE SELVAGE SIDES! The selvage sides are the curly edges.

- ♥ Please provide your email address, if you haven't already, to receive the newsletter and other news.

- ♥ Please thread all your yarn tails within the afghans.

- ♥ Remember to label your bag/s when dropping off blankets. Include your name & contact information, and indicate that they are for Project Linus. Several drop off locations serve different non-profits so we want to be sure your items get to us!

- ♥ If you are willing to make deliveries to our recipient locations, or pick up from our drop-off sites, please let Amy know! We are always in need of drivers before and after labeling days!

Drop Off Locations

Donations may be dropped off at the following stores during regular business hours.

Westerville Sew-N-Save

769 S. State Street
Westerville
(614) 523-0602

Quilt Beginnings

3409 East Broad
Columbus
(614) 237-1322

Always in Stitches

3937 Broadway, Suite B
Grove City
(614) 539-7845

Beth's Creative Stitchery

5324 North High Street
Columbus
(614) 436-2611

The Yarn Shop

1125 Kenny Centre Mall
Columbus
(614) 457-7836

The Yarn Shop

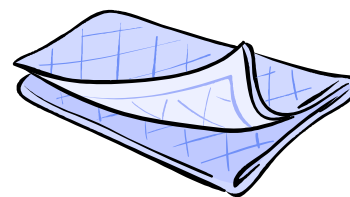
1226 Hill Road North
Pickerington
(614) 577.1137

Red Rooster Quilts

48 Corbins Mill Dr.
Dublin
(614) 734.9007

OR:

3701 Batavia Court
Westerville OH 43081



Please remember these generous shop owners when deciding to purchase fabric, supplies, machines, etc.

Upcoming Events

Blanket Labeling/Work Day

Wednesday, June 17, 2009
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Quilt Beginnings (East)
3409 East Broad St, Columbus

Blanket Labeling/Work Day

Sunday, July 26, 2009
12:00 - 3:00 PM
Children's Close to Home/Dublin
Medical Office Bldg
5665 Venture Dr, Dublin

Project Linus at Ohio State Fair

Sunday, August 2, 2009
10:00 AM—8:00 PM

Blanket Labeling/Work Day

Sunday, August 16th, 2009
12:00 - 3:00 PM
Always in Stitches
3937 Broadway, Suite B
Grove City

Blanket Labeling/Work Day

Wednesday, September 16, 2009
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Quilt Beginnings (East)
3409 East Broad St, Columbus

Blanket Labeling/Work Day

Sunday, October 18, 2009
12:00 - 3:00 PM
Children's Close to Home/Dublin
Medical Office Bldg
5665 Venture Dr, Dublin

Blanket Labeling/Work Day

Sunday, November 16th, 2009
12:00 - 3:00 PM
Always in Stitches
3937 Broadway, Suite B
Grove City



Chapter Wish List

As a volunteer organization, we rely on the generosity of others. Our chapter can always use any of the following items:

Volunteers...

Individuals, youth and church groups, quilting/sewing guilds, knitting/crocheting guilds, businesses, schools, civic organizations

Blankets...

Quilted, crocheted, knitted, fleece
New, handmade, & washable, in child-friendly colors

Supplies...

Washable cotton fabric, flannel or polar fleece, batting, yarn, thread
Postage stamps (to mail thank you

notes and requested Project Linus information)

Donations...

Gift cards from local merchants (Jo-ann, quilt shops, Staples, Office Max, Michael's, Hobby Lobby, etc)

Cash to help cover chapter expenses and to purchase

Receipts available upon request.

IF you would like to become a donor, your tax deductible check made payable to PROJECT LINUS should be sent to:

The best kind of sleep
Under heaven above

Is under a blanket
Handmade with love

PROJECT LINUS

Columbus Area Chapter

3701 Batavia Court

Westerville, Ohio 43081

All donations and monies are used solely for Project Linus expenses.

They are sent by our chapter to Project Linus National Headquarters where they are placed in the Columbus Area Chapter account to be used as our needs arise (purchasing fabric, batting, labels, etc). Twenty percent (20%) of the donation is kept by headquarters to defray their costs of mailings, accounting fees, etc.

Kids Helping Kids Program

KHK is a wonderful community service opportunity that enables children to help other children, bringing comfort when they need it most.

Children are encouraged to decorate pre-cut muslin squares with fabric markers, drawing and doodling from their hearts. The squares are then sew to coordinating fabrics and turned in to quilt tops, and ultimately fleece backed quilts that will be given to other children in need of comfort.

Currently, Pam travels around the Columbus area with her inspiring and heartwarming presentation. She speaks to school children, scout groups and others. We are looking for volunteers to help as the program continues to grow.

We have meet with several classrooms within Columbus & Gahanna school districts. We worked with kids attending a "sleep over" camp sponsored by the Homeless Families Foundation. Supplies were provided for students at Bishop Ready High

School. Several girl scout troops have sent completed squares. And, we're getting ready for another set of presentations with the YATC, during their summer day camp for disabled teens.

If you would like to learn how you can help or you are interested in having Pam speak to your group, please call her at (614) 890-6796.

More information can be found on the chapter website at www.orgsites.com/oh/colspjrojectlinus



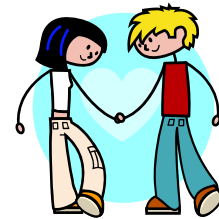
A very special KHK project was completed by moms of students at an area elementary school in May. After the unexpected death of a young student, the moms wanted to do a Kids Helping Kids project for her family and classmates. The student has younger siblings they wanted to comfort through the grieving process.

Unfortunately the request came during our Make A Blanket Day prepara-

tions and finding time to meet with them was going to be difficult. One mom called to get all the specifics on how the program works, came by our Make A Blanket Day to donate fabric, and said she would "oversee" the project by our guidelines.

She organized the other moms, provided supplies to the students, and make enough squares for two quilts. Knowing the end of the school year was looming, these moms decided to assemble the squares themselves, using our web photos as guides.

When completed, they presented the quilts to me for "approval" and application of labels & tags so they could present the quilts to the family at the end of the school year party. Another touching example of how Project Linus reaches out to so many!



Other Ways You Can Help

Often, I'm contacted by people who love the mission of Project Linus, but do not have the experience in making blankets.

There are many other ways you can help support Project Linus without making a single blanket. Here are just a few ideas for you to consider:

- ♥ Hold a fundraiser for Project Linus- such as a car wash or bake sale
- ♥ Host a blanket making day with a

service organization

- ♥ Organize a fabric drive for Project Linus
- ♥ Cut cotton muslin fabric into 8 1/2" squares
- ♥ Volunteer to deliver blankets to area facilities or pick up donations from our drop off locations.
- ♥ Help with the Kids Helping Kids program through workshops and presentations.
- ♥ Volunteer to sew the Kids Helping

Kids squares into quilts.

- ♥ Ask if your employer offers "Volunteer Grants" to the organizations you spend time helping. This is an easy, great way to promote Project Linus and raise funds!

We are a 501(c) 3 organization Receipts are available for your donations upon request.

Project Linus, Columbus

Columbus OH Chapter
Amy Butterfield, Coordinator
3701 Batavia Court
Westerville, OH 43081

Phone: 614-327-1041
E-mail: colspjrojectlinus@gmail.com
Www.orgsites.com/oh/colspjrojectlinus

Providing security through blankets

Project Linus is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization with a twofold mission.

*First, it is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "Blanketeers."

*Second, it is our mission to provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.

On A Personal Note

I would like to say Thank You so much for what you do. I have a daughter that is 21 months old and has cystic fibrosis and is in and out of Nationwide Children's a lot. We have received a couple of your blankets on our admissions that we are not expecting since a blanket is Kenzie's security. She loves blankies and is always using them to feel more comfortable. She always has one that she is cuddling with and won't let go of. Your program has been a lifesaver for us several times and we have received some absolutely gorgeous blankets from you. Thank you for all you do from a family who truly appreciates it. ~ *Kenzie's Mom & Family*



Thank you for coming to participate in the Sleepover! The kids are still talking about the squares they made! We look forward until the next time! Thank you for everything Project Linus does for the Homeless Families Foundation! ~ *Stacey G*



Hi, my name is Makenzie B. I am 8 yrs old. I just got released from NCH. I received a very nice blanket after my surgery. I wanted to thank you for the blanket. It made me very warm and comfortable. I really appreciate it.

From time to time, we get news of special thank yous received by the Project Linus headquarters that are worthy reminders to all of us why we do what we do. Here is just a couple recent ones to share:



My son was given a quilt from your organization tonight. It was a very personal quilt, designed with fish all over it because someone had read in the newspaper that my son loves to fish. I want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this special gift. It was a wonderfully emotional and sentimental gift. We can't thank you enough! I have tried quilting and can't do it too well, but I can and love to crochet if there is anything I can ever help you with. *Sincerely, Carrie, Wayne's mom*



My name is Danielle and I am from Massachusetts. On Sept 18, 2008 I had my beautiful miracle Isabella Christine 3 months early at 29 weeks. She weighed just 2 pounds and I became septic from a Strep B infection immediately after she was delivered. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for providing the blanket that wrapped my child when my arms were too sick to. Thank you again.



I was pregnant, due 6/20. On Palm Sunday, I woke up feeling absolutely awful. My doctor had seen some jumps in my blood pressure and put me on bedrest the week before. At my doctor's appointment the next day, I was nauseated, my blood pressure was off the charts, and I begged her to admit me. A couple hours later, a very severe form of pre-eclampsia (HELLP Syndrome) hit and I had to be ambulated for an emergency c-section at 29 ½ weeks. Daniel was born on 4/7 and spent the next two months in the NICU. It was a really excruciating first week and one of the few bright spots was looking in the bag of stuff they give the NICU parents, & finding a Project Linus blankie from someone in MI. About a month later, he was moved into a covered isolette and the blankie they put on him in there was another Project Linus - one that is now in his crib. It was so humbling to be on the receiving end of the blankets after having made them for the last couple years. ~ *from a Project Linus Blanketeer*

