

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

March 2008

East Tennessee Chapter

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*The best kind of sleep under
heaven above, is under a blanket
handmade with love.*

Coordinator's Corner

We had a Wonderful Winter Meeting. There were over 50 in attendance. Attendees had the opportunity to see Patti Stewart demonstrate the Skip-Stitch Blade for fleece, Karen Feltner make her beautiful peek-a-boo quilts, Brandi Kennedy show the crochet on the double stitch and were able to make a beautiful small gift box for their own "gift" thanks to the guidance of Pat Phillips. Snacks and drinks were served thanks to Pat Phillips, Karen Feltner and Patti Stewart. In addition to all those activities, volunteers pitched in to fold brochures, add an East Tennessee label to the national brochure, cut out blanket tags, sew labels on blankets and more. Bev Abele was there to sell our cookbooks. Everyone won a door prize and had the opportunity to order Project Linus patches, window clings and other items. Thanks to all that helped make this event a success including the ladies mentioned above, Helen Forbes and all of you that helped us carry stuff in and out. Although Doris and Jim Cole were in Florida and unable to attend, they put me in touch with Carrie LeSage who made sure we had what we needed at the church – we appreciate her support. Most of all, thanks to all of you that attended – I love being able to put faces with names. It was wonderful to meet Alice Suffern and so many others of you that have been regular faithful supporters of Project Linus over the years and to get to meet some new volunteers interested in Project Linus. Our next meeting will be this Fall. If you have ideas for it, please share them with me.

As with our winter meeting, Project Linus of East Tennessee couldn't be a success without the help of many people. I am privileged to be the one to help coordinate your efforts, but it is each of you that truly makes our organization successful. Thank you for what you do!

Please keep the following volunteers and their families in your thoughts and prayers:

- Jane and Mick Crowley as they deal with Mick's health problems
- Betty Keller as she recovers from both eye and shoulder surgery
- Jim and Doris Cole as they continue to deal with Jim's health problems
- My folks, Irene and Don Hawker, as my Dad recovers from back surgery
- Clara Smathers receiving good care at her daughter's home
- My husband Bob as he recovers from the effects of radiation for prostate cancer and a variety of health problems related to congestive heart disease

For others of you that are facing health difficulties, I sincerely hope you will be feeling better soon.

Deb

Your Donations of Blankets and Other Items Truly Make A Difference in the Lives of Area Children. PLET has recently or will soon be delivering donated items to the following recipient organizations:

- ❖ **Ronald McDonald House - Knoxville: 35 blankets**
- ❖ Hope Resource Center - Knoxville:
- ❖ Pathways Family Shelter – Harriman:
- ❖ Smoky Mountain Children’s Home – Sevierville:
- ❖ **East TN Children’s Medical Center – Knoxville: 85 blankets and a bag of caps**
- ❖ UT Medical Center–Knoxville:
- ❖ **Baptist Hospital West/Baptist Hospital for Women (Nursery/Emergency Room): 45 blankets**
- ❖ YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter – Oak Ridge:
- ❖ CEASE Domestic Violence Shelter & Program – Morristown:
- ❖ Katie Miller Group Home/Child and Family, Inc. – Knoxville:
- ❖ New Life Inn/Knox Area Rescue Ministries:
- ❖ Children’s Center of the Cumberland (Scott County):
- ❖ Campbell County Children’s Center (used to be REACHS):
- ❖ **REACHS House of Hope (domestic violence) in Jacksboro, TN: 30 blankets**
- ❖ **Child Advocacy Center of the Ninth Judicial District (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan and Roane): 30 blankets plus handmade bags**
- ❖ Cumberland Medical Center – Crossville:
- ❖ Mission of Hope:
- ❖ Department of Human Services:
- ❖ Good Samaritans – Cumberland County:
- ❖ Avalon Center–Cumberland County:
- ❖ Avalon Center – Morgan County:
- ❖ A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of TN – Maryville:
- ❖ Martin Funeral Home in Oak Ridge:
- ❖ CHILDHELP USA (East TN):
- ❖ Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep – East TN:
- ❖ Saving Little Hearts (East TN):
- ❖ **Faces of Hope: 50 blankets**
- ❖ **TAPS Program for a Good Grief Camp in Michigan (www.taps.org): 15 patriotic blankets**
- ❖ **2 children in Oliver Springs whose mother is very ill with cancer**
- ❖ **Family Promise: 9 blankets**
- ❖ **In the January newsletter, we had a thank you note from Amy Morrison of Rutledge and the tragic story of her family home invasion and birth of her baby with health problems. Thanks to volunteers Dorothy Cameron and Lois Noe, all 3 of these children now have blankets.**

Wish List



- Stamps
- Standard white 8 ½ x 11 copier paper
- Safety Pins – small to medium
- Yarn (bright child friendly colors – washable)
- We NEED \$\$\$: We always welcome financial donations to help with PL expenses including publishing the newsletter, brochures, buying labels for the blankets, etc. If you want to make a donation, please send it to Deb. We’d prefer a gift card (Staples, Target, Walmart, , K-Mart, etc.), check made out to Project Linus or cash.
- Remember Project Linus is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization. Be sure to check with your tax advisor regarding applicable tax deductions.

From Avalon Center in Crossville, TN:
Thank you for your donation of handmade quilts for the children in our emergency shelter. These quilts gave much comfort at the holiday, an especially difficult time for our clients. As always, your support is much needed and greatly appreciated. Gifts to the Avalon Center assist in providing emergency shelter, a 24 hour crisis line, professional counseling, court support and financial assistance to individuals and families that have suffered abuse. Your assistance also supports our work in the community to break the cycle of violence for future generations. Thank you for joining with Avalon Center’s efforts to make our communities even more wonderful places for us all to live.

**Sincerely,
 Carmen Kington
 Executive Director**

Important Dates

**Children’s Hospital T-Tops Program blankets due to drop off locations:
 March 15, 2008.**

**TAPS Program patriotic blankets due to drop off locations:
 April 15, 2008.**



Park West Quilters: 21 blankets
Jean Altshuler: 11 blankets
Tom and Mara Eckhardt – 1 blanket
Mabeline Sizemore 9 blankets with 3 matching caps
Beth Combs: 3 blankets
Wanda Nance: 3 blankets; 1 Care Bear pillow
Hilari Frederick: 3 blankets; 8 hats
Judy Montgomery: 1 blanket with matching cap; one scarf/hat set
Barb Knight/Farragut Christian Church: 6 blankets
Lucile Sherrod: 33 blankets
Shirley Kate: Yarn
Sheila Baker: 4 blankets
Carol Brown: 1 blanket
Sam Hanson: 1 blanket
Dawna Gray: blanket squares
Kathy Minter: 20 blankets
Mary Mize: LOTS of Yarn and squares
Beaver Creek Helping Hand Ministry: 19 blankets and 2 matching caps
Joan Pfrommer and Sewing Buddies: 32 blankets
Annhara Henderson: 2 blankets
Sandy Rea: 2 blankets
Sharon Carey: 24 blankets and one stuffed toy
Carol Norts: 5 blankets
Shelby Thrower: 1 square for a blanket
Betty Keller: 7 blankets
Ms. Mills and Ms. Suffern: 23 blankets, 5 bags, 1 scarf, cap/scarf set, 12 caps, safety pins and 3 bags
Helen Low: 3 blankets
Helen Forbes: 10 tote bags
Dorothy Camerson and Loraine Roach: 10 quilts
Ruth Krickler: 3 blankets
Maribeth McHone: 36 blankets
Helen Forbes, Dorothy Cameron and Ruth Rosenbaum: 37 blankets
Jack and Lynn Thompson: \$10
Carolyn Phipps: 3 blankets
Sam Hanson: 2 blankets
Linda McPherson: 4 blankets
Crystal Winstead: 2 blankets, printer paper, yarn and LOTS of wonderful clear garbage bags for packing blankets in
Cathy Prater: 1 afghan, yarn
Wendy Prentice: bags for blankets

There were LOTS of blankets turned in the day of our meeting. Some of the names may have gotten separated from the blankets. I have 26 unidentified blankets. If these are possibly yours, let me know.

Special thanks to:

- **Doris and Jim Cole** for donating postage and mailing the newsletter, deliveries/pick-ups and much much more.
- **Mara and Tom Eckhardt** for help with deliveries/pick-ups.
- **Sheila Lappen** for help with deliveries/pick-ups.
- **Barb Loadholtz** for picking up blankets at Lucille Sherrod's, sewing labels and for providing yarn to Lucille.
- **Denette Flynn, Kelley Thomas, Debbie Petree and Sug Sexton** for help with deliveries/pick-ups.
- **Thanks to the staffs at the TN Career Centers in Alcoa, Lenoir City and Rockwood**
- **Thanks to the Debbie Petree and the gang at ETHRA Workforce Development**
- **Dorothy Cameron** for her quilting services for Project Linus.
- **Patti Stewart** for help with deliveries, shopping, cutting fabric and whatever I need!
- **Kathy Bates** for sewing on labels.
- my folks **Irene and Don Hawker** for delivery of blankets in Cumberland County
- **Wanda Nance** for the the website.
- **Teresa Chasteen and WIN** for paying for the PL storage unit each month

If I missed thanking you for a donation, please accept my apologies and let me know so I can recognize you next time! Sometimes we get behind in picking up and unpacking blankets – please don't be offended; just let me know and we will be sure to get your items logged in and passed on to recipient organizations.

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THANKS

On behalf of Campbell County Childrens Center, I wanted to say thank you for your donation. Please send our gratitude to all the volunteers who work so hard on these beautiful blankets. They are very much needed for comfort to our clients.

Tena Way, Victim Advocate
Campbell County Children's Center

Thank you so much for your generous gifts to the abused and neglected children we serve. Our children are very blessed to have such caring individuals around them. Someone once said, "No man stood so tall as when he stooped to help a child." Thank you for helping our children. They feel the love that is in every stitch, wrapping around their heart. Thank you again for your generosity. The door to the Children's Center of the Cumberlands is always open, please come visit. We know you will be blessed by what you see.

Tammy Foster
Executive Director
Children's Center of the Cumberlands
Oneida/Scott County, TN

More THANKS for Blankets and other donations:

Sales of Cookbooks at the Winter Meeting: \$40
(Thanks Bev Abele for coordinating this fundraising project)

Helen Heatherly (Friend of Dorcus Quilters): \$100

Special thanks to those of you that volunteered to go the extra mile to make the blankets for Children's Hospital and the Teen Parent Workshop.

Lakeview Club of Grainger County FCE: 12 blankets

Margaret Lindsey: 1 blanket, 2 caps

Jackie Godden: 2 afghans, caps and booties

Irene Hawker: 6 knitted Easter bunnies

Dorcus Quilters: 14 blankets

Lois Alred: 3 blankets

A candle loses none of its light by lighting another candle. Thank you for being that light in the shadow of darkness for our children.

From the staff of the Childrens
Center of the Cumberlands
Oneida, TN

From the Childrens Center of the Cumberlands (Scott County, TN):

Thank you for your faithfulness to support the Children's Center. Your donation of blankets for our children at the Center was received on January 18, 2008. We, at the Children's Center, would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation for you making a commitment to share in this GREAT task of providing services for the children and the families we serve. The Children's Center and the services we provide for so many children and their families would not be possible without your continued support. Someone one said, "No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor was undoubtedly the reward for what he gave." Your blankets will and have helped change the lives of so many abused and neglected children. We will see that your contribution is used to benefit the children and their families in the best possible way.

"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure, ye meet with all it shall be given unto you again." (Luke 6:38) As you have shared in our vision of providing hope, help and healing to our children, who have been victims of abuse, we pray this special blessing up you.

Thank you again for being God's hands as we continue his work for our children.

Sincerely,
Tammy Foster
Executive Director

Thinking of You

*To those of you that have lost loved ones recently,
our sympathies are with you.
To those of you that are ill, we hope you are feeling better soon.*