

COMMUNITY SERVICES

PROJECT LINUS BLANKETS

PROJECT LINUS BLANKETS is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization with a two-fold mission:

First, it is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth, and comfort to children ages 0 - 18 who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need, through the gifts of new, hand-made 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.

Several years ago, the ladies of the Ontario Canada Unit of WBCCI responded very enthusiastically to this call. They found they could continue to enjoy their handi-crafts, while at the same time contribute to a very worthwhile cause.

For some years, Ivy Cobo worked hard, collecting and distributing these items to Chapters of the Project Linus Blankets. Then Project Linus Blankets was named as a Committee of our Ontario Unit, with Pat Smyth and Beverley Mantell serving as co-chairs.

The ladies continued to quilt, knit, crochet, and cro-knit at home, and at gatherings or workshops at our Spring and Fall Rallies.

Because of this overwhelming response, in 2009 the Committee reviewed its goals and direction. We recognized that in every Member's community, there are several institutions and agencies that would be pleased to receive such beautiful hand-made articles.

For example, while continuing to make blankets for Project Linus, we could also make lap robes for nursing homes, quilts or afghans small and large for missions, or for single moms and their babies, or for emergency services, such as fire or police.

And so "COMMUNITY SERVICES" was born, with Project Linus Blankets serving as one "arm".

The ladies are continually proving to be ever more creative and productive.

You'll see at every rally, rendezvous, or dinner, a table overflowing with beautiful hand-crafted articles, on their way to "giving a big hug" to a special someone. We've found that keeping the blankets in the local area leads to a more personal giving, so we attempt to distribute these items to Chapters of Linus Blankets and/or to these other agencies within the area where our Spring and Fall Rallies are held. We rely on the local Ontario Unit Members to advise us of potential recipients.

At our 2010 Fall Rally in Blackstock we welcomed Penny Green to the COMMUNITY SERVICES Committee

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Sizes of Blankets and Afghans:

Our blankets and afghans are usually made to approximately the following sizes:

Preemie	18" x 24", or no larger than 24" x 24"
Child	36" x 48"
Youth or Crib	48" x 60"
Adult	50" x 70"

Some Internet Links:

You might like to check the following links for further information and/or patterns:

Project Linus Blankets	www.projectlinus.org
Victoria's Quilts	www.victoriasquiltsCanada.com
The Premie Project	www.premioproject.com
Red River Quilters	www.redriverquilters.com
<i>(many, many quilters' links)</i>	
ConKerr Cancer	www.conkercancer.org
<i>(Pillowcase patterns for children with life-changing illnesses)</i>	

We're looking forward to sharing as much project information as possible on this web page, so if you've found a great pattern, or a wonderful resource, or even a special "act of kindness" you'd like to share, please e-mail me at:

Beverley Mantell bmantell@sympatico.ca
(Please be sure to state clearly your subject in the Subject Line of your e-mail)

Please check this web site from time-to-time - we'll be adding information and patterns that you may find useful