

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

May June 2018

East Tennessee Chapter

Attn: Deb Miller, 365 Dean Dr., Ten Mile, TN 37880
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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ProjectLinusEastTN/>
Website: www.projectlinuseasttn.org

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

Coordinator's Corner:

I had the pleasure of meeting with the Concord United Methodist Church Project Linus group in February. This is such a great group and always brings back wonderful memories of Kathie Short. I'm so glad her husband Charlie could be there. They continue to make beautiful Project Linus blankets, teach their "tweens" in the church how to sew, and so much more.

I'd like to give a Special Thanks to the Fairfield Glade Library for partnering with us to sell The Valley of the Rhyme fairy tale books as a fundraiser. We appreciate your support.

A big thanks to Bettye Little (who went above and beyond) and all of you that helped reach out to your local Walmart to encourage them to fund our grant applications. I'll let you know when I hear if we got funded!

A special thanks to Patti Stewart for recently redoing/fixing 44 fleece blankets!

We are honored to have sent 60 blankets to TAPS this year. www.taps.org These blankets will be given to children that lost a loved one serving in the military at the annual Good Grief camp in Washington, D.C. over Memorial Day weekend.

Project Linus has now donated over 7 Million blankets – 7,020,362. Each and every one of you have helped to make this possible!

Exciting News from Headquarters: February 2019 there will be a Knit and Crochet Along immediately following National Make-a-Blanket Day. Stay tuned!

Thanks to all of you that came to help and stopped by to see us at the Atomic Fibers Sewing Day on March 20th. As always, Toni was a great host. We "sew" appreciate Atomic Fibers!

A big thanks to those that helped (Karen and John Feltner, & Cathy Hurrell) and those of you that stopped by to see us at the East TN Fiber Yard Sale. Susan Holton and her team donated the profits from this event to Project Linus of East TN. It was a great event and we all had fun!!!

Blessings,
Deb Miller



Financial Donations:

Fairfield Glade Library: book sales
Gail Sharp
Kroger Community Rewards: \$104.73
Donation from Concord United Methodist Church in memory of Robert Yates Parker and Nancy Jane Parker
Fiber Yard Sale Donation: \$100
Dianna Kring

Donations: (March/April)

Concord United Methodist Church: 47 blankets
Mr. Bill Woods: Fabric
Anonymous: Large Fabric Donation
Twisted Sisters: Large bag of yarn
Jill McMaster: 2 blankets and yarn
Barbara Sage: 6 blankets
Stephanie Hannan: 6 blankets
Katherine Bollinger: 2 blankets
Annhara Henderson/Bev Abele: 1 blanket
Bessie Jowers: 3 blankets
Barbara Roberts: 35 blankets, 30 blankets (including 10 quilt tops started by Helen Forbes) and caps
Laurie Byrne: 1 blanket
Wilma Caughron: 13 blankets and caps
Judy Dowker: 2 quilts (finished quilts started by Helen Forbes)
Flo Buffington: 6 blankets
Anonymous: 14 blankets
Carolyn Blocher: 12 blankets
Knifty Knitters/Tellico Village/LorraineMcArdle: 2 blankets
Sandy Rea: 8 blankets
Restorative Justice/Farragut Christian Church: 4 blankets
Concord United Methodist Church: 118 blankets
Ellen Wormesley: 8 blankets
Betty Andreson: 13 blankets
Blount 4-H Homespun Club: 3 blankets
Edna Davis: 3 blankets

- **Mara and Tom Eckhardt** for help with deliveries/pick-ups, mailings of blankets, supplies and MANY other things!
- **Tom Eckhardt for building and maintaining our website!**
- **Doris Cole** for donating postage and mailing the newsletter, and much much more.
- **Karen Eidson** for help sewing labels and all the special extras she does for our group.
- **Judy Dowker and Missy Dowker Green** for help fixing blankets, sewing labels and much more.
- **Denette Flynn, Debbie Petree, Chris Tiller/ETHRA, Tamsin Miller, and Jamie Stringer** for help with deliveries/pickups.
- **The staff at the TN Career Center in Lenoir City**
- **Patti Stewart** for help with deliveries, shopping, cutting fabric and much more!
- **Annhara Henderson** for help with sewing labels, mailing labels, PL correspondence, JoAnne's Discount cards, fixing blankets, deliveries, speaking engagements and more.
- My mom **Irene Hawker** for delivery and pick-up of blankets in Cumberland County.
- **Bev Abele** for ongoing volunteer and fundraising efforts including serving as a drop-off site.
- **Karen and John Feltner for help finishing and fixing blankets, assisting at meetings, hosting sewing days, delivering blankets and more.**
- **Sandy Rees** for all her extra help.
- **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.

- 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: (March) 45 blankets
- ❖ East TN Children's Medical Center– Knoxville: (March) 80 blankets and hats
- ❖ UT Medical Center–Knoxville: (April) 110 blankets/hats
- ❖ Helen Ross McNabb: (March) 40 blankets
- ❖ Hope Resource Center:
- ❖ Children's Center of the Cumberlands (Scott):
- ❖ Community Health of East TN (Campbell):
- ❖ Campbell County Children's Center:
- ❖ Kids First Child Advocacy Center - 9th Judicial District (Loudon/ Meigs/Morgan/Roane):
- ❖ Mission of Hope:
- ❖ Clinch Valley Childrens Center (Anderson Cty):
- ❖ Smoky Mountain Children's Home – Sevierville:
- ❖ Smoky Mountain Family Matters – Sevierville:
- ❖ Roane Medical Ctr./Covenant:
- ❖ Avalon Center–Cumberland County:
- ❖ Cumberland Medical Ctr:
- ❖ CHILDHELP USA (East TN):
- ❖ **Methodist Medical Center – Oak Ridge: 47 blankets (including 15 Hugs for Heroes) and hats**
- ❖ Blount Memorial - Maryville:
- ❖ IVA's Place:
- ❖ **Susannah's House – Knox County: 10 blankets**
- ❖ Tenth Judicial District Childrens Advocacy Center - The H.O.P.E. Center:
- ❖ **Special Requests:** 4 for children in special need
- ❖ **TAPS: 60 blankets**

Are you a young adult or part of a youth group that would like to make blankets for Project Linus? We know fabric can be expensive. This opportunity "might" help fund your project.

http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/rfps/rfp8762-karma-for-cara-foundation-invites-applications-for-youth-grants?utm_campaign=rfps%7C2018-04-27&utm_source=pnd&utm_medium=email

Exciting News from JOANN's

Joann Plus is a great way to save money when buying materials for Project Linus blankets and it is for everyone who makes blankets for Project Linus. You must order in bulk to get the great prices. Be sure to check them out at:

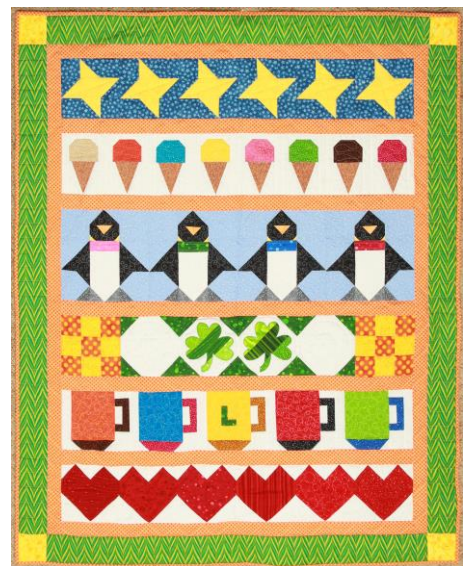
www.joannplus.com .

JoAnn stores will soon be drop off locations for Project Linus donations. More info to follow soon. Watch for signs and bins in the stores. Please don't drop off blankets until you see these signs and bins. We are still working out details with each store.

Pictures of Blankets: Are you looking for blanket ideas or just want to see what others are doing? Be sure to check out the website and Facebook page for pictures of recently donated blankets and blanket patterns.

Double-Layered Fleece Blankets: We have a VERY limited need for these blankets. Please do not make these without checking with Deb first. Fleece is expensive and you can make twice the number of blankets making single layered fleece blankets. There are some great ideas and patterns on the website and by searching the internet including:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8_qRIu5Aq0&feature=youtu.be



Concord United Methodist Church (CUMC): The Project Linus group at Concord has been very busy as you can see from our donations.

A Blessing of the Blankets was held at all four services on Sunday April 29th at Concord United Methodist Church of Farragut. An array of styles were displayed, including quilts, self-binding baby blankets, fleece throws, and flannel swaddlers. Several of the teen-sized blankets were made during an April workshop with 20 CUMC Tweenagers as a missions project for 4th-6th graders. It was a lovely way to celebrate the work of Project Linus in our community and dedicate the blankets in their mission to comfort children in need. Thanks to everyone who supported this effort and who continue to serve as donors and blanketeters!



Website, Facebook and Newsletter

You can now access lots of information on the website – links to patterns, drop off locations, newsletters, pictures, and more. Check it out at www.projectlinuseasttn.org.

It is very easy to go to the website to get your newsletter each month. Just go to the site, click on the newsletter link (banner across the top and bottom left corner) and read/download the newsletter.

For those of you that are getting the newsletter via the U.S. Mail, if you can access the newsletter via the website and no longer need to have the newsletter mailed to you via the postal service, just let me know. It will save us printing costs and postage.

Don't forget to also sign-up on Facebook for more information. You can search for it under *Project Linus of East Tennessee* or access it at the following link:

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Project-Linus-of-East-Tennessee/159217337546849>

Blanket Beacon: This is the national Project Linus quarterly newsletter. If you have not signed up to receive it, please go to www.projectlinus.org. It is ONLY available by email. It has some great information. I encourage you to sign-up for it.

What a great way to support Project Linus and get fit or fitter this summer - Time for the Step Into the Mary-thon Summer Challenge:

What is the challenge?

You commit to completing at least 2600 Steps

OR 1 mile of moving per day (your choice!) for 26 days.

If you choose the steps, you must run or walk at least 2600 steps per day.

If you choose to complete 1 mile each day, you can walk, bike, run, swim, skate, use the elliptical, etc! Anything that gets you moving for a mile.

You do not have to do the same thing every day - you may switch it up and do 2600 steps one day, 1 mile swim the next, followed by 1 mile elliptical.

When does it start? The starting day is **Monday, May 21, 2018**. You have until the first day of summer (June 21, 2018) to complete your 26 day challenge. This gives you an extra 6 days so you have some wiggle room to help you finish!

Who can participate? Anyone - any age!

What do you get for completing? Besides the satisfaction of completing, you ALSO will receive a beautiful finishers medal and a pin! Once you register, you will receive a tracking sheet to help encourage you along the way!

Anything else??? YES

If you register with a friend and both finish the challenge you will each receive an additional gift.

Just register and you're good to go. Here's the link to register: <http://www.mary-thon.net/challenges>

The BEST thing: Once you finish, \$5 of your \$19.50 registration fee will go to [Project Linus!](#) Even better-- you can direct your donation to your local chapter if you would like! There will be an area for you to enter your local chapter (East Tennessee) on the registration form.

TAPS Blankets

A BIG Thanks to each of you that donated blankets for TAPS (www.taps.org). TAPS is an organization that serves our military families that have lost a loved one in service to our country. They hold Good Grief camps for military children around the country with a large event in Washington, D.C. each Memorial Day Weekend. These ~1,200 children will receive a Project Linus blanket. Many of these blankets are red, white and blue in color, have military branch (Army, Marines, etc.) designs, are camouflage (all different colors including pink), as well as other child friendly colors, super hero and other designs. Children each pick out their own blanket.

Project Linus of East TN was honored to send 60 blankets to support this effort. Don't forget a similar event takes place in Dallas in December (Snowball Express – www.snowballexpress.org) so we will gladly accept these blankets year around. Blankets need to be for children 6 and older (50" and MUCH larger for teens). Stay tuned in future newsletters for more info about Snowball Express blankets that will be due in mid-November.

Wish List

- Stamps and Gas Cards
- Yarn (bright child friendly colors – washable)
- Fleece (1 ½ to 2 yard pieces) – All children’s patterns, bright colors, camouflage, military patterns, etc. are needed.
- We NEED \$\$\$: We always welcome financial donations to help with PL expenses including publishing the newsletter, brochures, buying labels for the blankets, mailing blankets such as those for the TAPS program. If you want to make a donation, please send it to Deb. We’d prefer a gift card (Staples, Target, Walmart, K-Mart, etc.), or check made out to Project Linus or cash.
- Project Linus of East TN now has a Go Fund Me page. This is an easy way to donate to help us with our mission. Please share this page/link with your friends and family and consider donating. Thanks. <https://www.gofundme.com/project-linus-of-east-tennessee>
- Online Donations can be made at the national website: www.projectlinus.org Be sure to scroll down to the comment box and designate the Project Linus of East TN chapter as the recipient for your donation.
- Remember Project Linus is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization. Be sure to check with your tax advisor regarding applicable tax deductions.
- Amazon Users: AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Project Linus every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. The easiest way to shop at AMAZON SMILE and make sure that your purchase benefits Project Linus is to click through the link at the bottom on our [home page at projectlinus.org](http://projectlinus.org) Or, you can simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to AmazonSmile to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.
- If your employer provides matching funds for contributions or contributions for your volunteer hours, Project Linus of East TN would appreciate you thinking of us.

What are Blanket Cards?

A blanket card is a small business size card that you can attach to blankets that you make with a message to the child receiving the blanket. You can simply put your first name or group name on the card or, if you want, you can flip it over and add a message. Please do NOT put your last name. This is to protect you.

These cards are designed to help the children we serve understand there is a human being on the other end of the blanket that made it for them. If a thank you note is sent that identifies who made the blanket, we will include that information when we put the thank you note in the newsletter and on the website.

If you want to include blanket cards with your blankets (not required), just send me an email or leave a message. Include the # of cards you want (approximately enough for a year). Then when you make a blanket, complete the card and attach it before donating it to Project Linus. Cards can be attached by punching a hole in them or making a hole with a darning needle then pass a piece of yarn through the card and the blanket and tie it to the blanket. You can also safety pin them on to a blanket. Then, fold the blanket with the card to the inside. PLEASE NO STRAIGHT PINS.

Remember to put your blankets inside a bag (more than one blanket in a bag is fine), put your name in the bag and drop your blankets at a drop off location. If you have questions, just let Deb know.

Help Project Linus of East TN by shopping at Kroger.

For more information and to sign-up go to:

<http://www.projectlinuseasttn.org/home/kroger>

This does NOT cost you anything, you still get your Kroger Rewards Points AND you get to help PL of East TN, too! If you THINK you’ve signed up, please check the bottom of your Kroger receipt. If it doesn’t say Project Linus of East TN, please sign up again or ask for assistance at the Kroger Customer Service desk.

Blanket Stats/Donations to Children:

Nationally since December 1995:

7,020,362

MORE Project Linus THANK YOU's:

Anonymous: 29 blankets

Fabric left at Atomic Fibers

Dawna Gray: 4 blankets

Elizabeth Rea: 3 blankets

Hilari Frederick: 6 blankets

Piney Flats United Methodist Church: 7 blankets

Arbor Terrace Assisted Living: hats & scarves

Janice Brandt: 4 blankets

Cathy Hurrell: 2 blankets

Sarah Ellis: 6 blankets

Bobbie Brown: 50 hats (for children to wear during surgery)

Kathy Minter: 23 blankets (2 from Helen Forbes' fabrics)

Sharon Carey: 46 blankets

Kathy Van Houton: 4 blankets

Lindsey Best: 1 blankets

Alma Roberts: 14 blankets

Cindy Corona: 6 blankets

First United Methodist Church: 24 blankets

Dorcus Quilters: 7 blankets and pillowcases

Karen and John Feltner: 5 blankets

Donna Strunk: 5 blankets

Sharon Randolph: 1 blanket

More Info About Project Linus:

You Tube is a great site website. Go to it and search Project Linus. It's amazing what you will find. The national video and song detailed below, lots of videos on making PL crocheted edge and other blankets, etc. Take a few minutes to explore it - you will find some great information.

Did you know the Project Linus Theme Song is *Covered in Love*?

You can hear it on You Tube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUAW2bSjSvg>

This is a great video to share with family, friends and co-workers to let them know about Project Linus. Worth the Watch!!!!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsxjK3VjJjo>



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.



201 West Springdale Ave. ■ Knoxville, Tennessee 37917 ■ (p) 865.541.6684 ■ (f) 865.541.6691 ■ www.mcnabbcenter.org/foundation

February 2, 2018

Deb Miller
Project Linus
365 Dean Drive
Ten Mile, TN 37880

Dear Ms. Miller:

Thank you so much for your group's donation of 3 bags of handmade blankets to benefit the children clients of the Helen Ross McNabb Center.

Your thoughtful gift will support the mission of the McNabb Center to improve the lives of the thousands of adults, children and families suffering with mental illness, substance abuse or who require the needs of social service. Each year, thousands of folks turn to the McNabb Center for help, and we are grateful to find that help in people like you.

Thank you for your concern and continued support.

Sincerely,

Houston Smelcer, CFP®
Vice President of Development and Government Relations

**No goods or services were exchanged for this donation.
Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.**



To: Deb Miller, Coordinator
Project Linus of East Tenn

From the children and families that call our house Home, many thanks!

*The 40 lovely handmade blankets /
afghans you donated are very much
appreciated. Thank you for your
continued support of our House.*

No goods or services were provided for this contribution.
Sue Bunch, Director Date 2/2/18

1705 West Clinch Avenue • Knoxville, TN 37916 • (865) 637-7475 • knoxrmhc.org

Supporting the Helen Ross McNabb Center since 1972