

# Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

## **Charles County, MD Chapter**

NEWSLETTER - Winter 2015

“Small things, done with great love, bring joy and peace.”  
.....Mother Theresa



### OUR MISSION

First, 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, provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.



### MAKE A BLANKET DAY

First of all, our most recent accomplishment - MAKE A BLANKET DAY 2015!!! It was a very good year, as they say!! On the very cold morning of February 20, when my car warned me of ice and told me it was -2 degrees (yes, MINUS 2 degrees!!), it didn't take long for things to warm up at the Clark Center as Blanket Day got underway. A wide assortment of Blanketeers from Charles, Prince Georges, Calvert, St. Mary's, and King George Counties got going sewing, cutting, trimming, turning, stitching, stringing, tying, fringing, labeling, tagging, counting, listing, and finally bagging a grand total of 266 beautiful blankets!!

At the end of the day, we had blankets bagged and ready to go to: Southern Maryland Hospital, Fort Washington Medical Center, Dentsville EMS, Cobb Island VFD & EMS, Waldorf Volunteer Fire Dept Fire/EMS Station 12, Children's Hospital, Tri County Youth, Children's Aid, Catherine's Foundation, University of Maryland Regional Medical Center, TAPS and Angel Flight.

Thanks to Charles County Commission President Peter Murphy and Commissioner Ken Robinson for coming to our event and for your interest and support.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to Apple Spice Junction (www.applespice.com) for donating and catering a very delicious lunch. We sincerely appreciate your continuing support every year when we hold our annual special day. Please patronize this very community-minded business and let them know how much Project Linus appreciates them. They have delicious food and great catering and a wonderful community spirit!

Also, thanks to BJS Warehouse, who donated a generous gift card and our snacks, etc., for the day.

THANK YOU to Gail Cavella and Peggy Lyon for the beautiful door prizes, Kaye Webb for her dedication and organizational skills in getting all these blankets sorted, counted, listed, ready to go, not just on MABD, but at all our meetings, Carol Graybill for all your help during the MABD event and all meetings, to all the blanketeers who made the day possible, especially the regular Friday Clark Center Blanketeers, and all the friends who make those all-important drops into the bins at Hancock and Material Girls.

Loved meeting new friends and reconnecting with ones from previous years. Thanks so much for joining us.

IF ANYONE TOOK ANY PICTURES OTHER THAN THE ONE OF MYSELF AND COMMISSIONER MURPHY, PLEASE SEND THEM TO ME. Can't believe I never clicked ONE picture.

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**BLANKET TOTALS - 2014**

Now, about what we did in 2014:

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Catherine Foundation               | 255 |
| CC Board of Education              | 17  |
| CC Health Dept, Infants & Toddlers | 25  |
| Charles County DSS                 | 17  |
| Charles Regional Medical Center    | 588 |
| Children's Aid                     | 101 |
| Children's National Med Center     | 222 |
| Fort Wash. Med Center              | 39  |
| Hospice of CC                      | 28  |

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Individual Donations             | 7   |
| Josephine Co., Oregon (flooding) | 12  |
| King George DSS                  | 119 |
| Love Thy Neighbor, King Geo., Va | 27  |
| So. Md. Medical Center           | 15  |
| TAPS                             | 13  |
| Three Oaks Center                | 41  |
| Tri-County Youth Services        | 163 |

TOTAL BLANKETS DONATED FOR 2014 1,689

FOR A TOTAL OF 22,437 blankets donated since 2002



### JOANNE'S DISCOUNT CARDS

Jo-Ann's offers VIP Discount Cards to Project Linus volunteers which get you a 10% discount on anything you purchase (some restrictions) at Jo-Ann's Fabrics. You need a Project Linus Volunteer Card in order to get this VIP card. If you already have a PL Volunteer Card, it does not expire and you can continue to use it. If you do not have one or have misplaced yours, contact me and I'll put one in the mail for you. To get your VIP card, follow the instructions below:

1. Visit [www.joann.com](http://www.joann.com) ; click **VIP Program** at the bottom of the page
  2. Click the green "Enroll Now" button
  3. Enter "Project Linus" in the Organization Name box
  4. Enter your information (Name, Address, Email...)
  5. Click the green "Enroll Now" button
    - Your Non-Profit Discount Card will arrive in the mail within three to four weeks.
  6. Take your Non-Profit Discount Card, Photo ID and Project Linus Volunteer Card to your nearest Jo-Ann Store for validation
  7. Save 10% on every\* purchase!
- \*exclusions apply.

You should only have to show the PL ID card the first time...once they validate, you just show the VIP card each time you shop.



### THE BLANKET BEACON

If you don't already receive the Blanket Beacon, the official newsletter from Project Linus Headquarters, you can sign up to receive it by going to Project Linus home site at [www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org) and clicking on Blanket Beacon.



## MY CAUSE WATER

If you purchase My Cause water and follow the directions below, Project Linus Charles County will receive 5 cents per bottle. We also could win a monthly lottery, where all unassigned "nickels" could go to our organization.

"Our Purpose is to help you change the world! MyCause™ Water donates 5¢ to a cause of your choice for each bottle sold."



1. Buy the water.
2. Click to our web site here at [www.MyCauseWater.com](http://www.MyCauseWater.com) and select Project Linus Charles County Chapter (or any other cause you choose)
3. Enjoy sipping MyCause water, knowing that you've become a catalyst for change in the world.
4. Repeat Steps 1 through 3!



If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, if you know someone who wants to begin receiving this newsletter, or if you are receiving this via snail mail and have email that I could send it to, please contact me so that I can make the necessary changes - see contacts at the end of newsletter.



### REMINDER

#### PLEASE DO:

- ⇒ Use NEW machine washable/dryable fabrics
- ⇒ Leave us your contact information with your blankets if you drop off at one of the bins.
- ⇒ Launder blankets that have been exposed to pets to remove pet hair and/or dander.

#### PLEASE DO NOT:

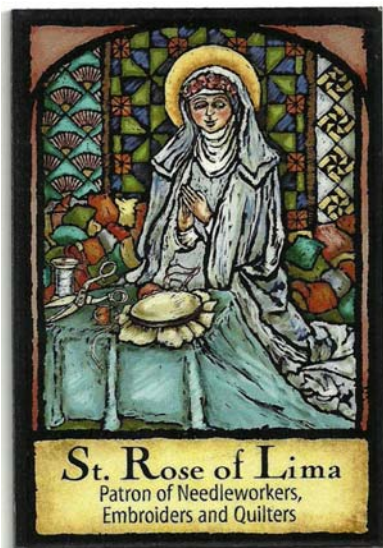
- ⇒ EXPOSE THE BLANKETS TO CIGARETTE SMOKE
- ⇒ Attach bells, bows, buttons, snaps, ribbons or anything that could come off and harm a child. Ribbons woven in around the edges of blankets look beautiful, but are a hazard and will have to be removed.
- ⇒ Use wool, polyester double knits, upholstery or vinyl in the blankets.

Purchased blankets must have some sort of embellishment, border, or something done to them to make them acceptable hand-made blankets.



Many of you have asked what size to make blankets. Below is a very variable guideline. THESE ARE SUGGESTED SIZES ONLY.....KIDS COME IN ALL SIZES!! Please do not feel compelled to cut blankets or knit or crochet to these exact sizes. Use what you have and make a blanket you think your child or grandchild would love.

- Infant 25" x 35"
- Toddler 35" x 45"
- Child 40" x 60"
- Teen 40" x 72"



WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU  
SCRAPS, MAKE **QUILTS!!**  
(**Afghans** are good too!)

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