

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Charles County, MD Chapter

NEWSLETTER THIRD QUARTER 2010

October 8, 2010

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

Hello again, Blanketeers and Friends of Project Linus

Well, another busy time for Charles County Project Linus. This newsletter started out short, but I have procrastinated so long, it has grown and grown, encompassing both the second and third quarters of 2010, as I think of things to add and as I continue to get info from National that I want to share!!

I hope everyone has had a great summer and has been enjoying a bit of the beautiful weather that is Fall here in Charles County. After so much dry weather, the rains came, and again we are left with the beginning of cooler times. I hope it also bring us back into the mood to pick up the crochet hooks and knitting needles and scissors and sewing machines so that we can continue to support and “hug” our sick, injured, traumatized children.

I continue to be amazed every month at the wonderful generosity of our army of volunteers, who are steadily using their God-given talent and love to create and donate these beautiful blankets, quilts, and afghans.

I wonder if all of you feel, as I do, the wonderful bond of friendship that has been formed as a result of our belonging to this unique organization, Project Linus. I have never been around such a generous, loving, involved, loyal group of volunteers. How lucky we are to have found each other under the Project Linus umbrella – and to think we have caused almost 15,000 children to smile and feel comfort because of our efforts – and that is just from our small Charles County chapter alone. Let’s keep up the good work!!.....Mary

Here are our numbers for the second and third quarters of 2010!!

Second Quarter:

Civista	179
Charles County Children's Aid	52
Tri County Youth	48
Catherine Foundation	79
Individual Donations	8
Infants and Toddlers (Health Dept.)	46
TAPS	<u>82</u>

Total: **494 blankets donated during the second quarter of 2010.**

Third Quarter:

Civista	176
Charles County Children's Aid	12
Tri-County Youth	65
Catherine Foundation	59
Children's National Medical Center	27
Individual Donations	8
Angel Flight	7
Infants and Toddlers (CC Health Dept.)	<u>47</u>

Total: **401 blankets donated during the third quarter of 2010.**

TOTAL blankets donated Sept. 2002 to present:

14,542 blankets!!

NATIONAL PL STATS:

Vital Statistics <small>(as of Jun 30, 2010)</small>	
<i>Blankets Delivered</i>	<i>Total Chapters</i>
3,465,151	367

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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEW  
WITH A GROUP??**

In case you are not aware of it, a group of Project Linus Blanketeers meet each Friday morning from 9 am to Noon at the Clark Center in La Plata. Anyone is welcome to join them to sew, and also they usually go out to lunch somewhere after the "sewing session". Everyone welcome!

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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A HAPPY HOOKER?**

The Happy Hookers is a group that crochets and knits for charity that meets every Tuesday from 10 am to Noon at the Health Partners building (3070 Crain Highway, Waldorf, MD 20601), next to Waldorf Jaycee's Hall. For more info, contact Kaye (301-843-6122), Jo (301-392-1105) or Carol (301-259-0386).

**!!!!!!ALLERGEN and BLANKET SAFETY WARNING!!!!!!**

Please continue to be vigilant - no smoke, no moldy or mildew smells, no heavy perfume or detergent smells, no buttons, snaps, sequins, bells, bows, or anything that might come loose - in other words NOTHING that could possibly cause a problem for a child. Please check CAREFULLY for pins. If you are dropping off blankets, please do not PIN on your name/address.

Please use tape or sticky paper. The pins can come loose and end up in a blanket and eventually to the child.

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If anyone shops at a Wal-Mart that still carries fabric, please contact me.

**CREATE THE GOOD**

Charles County Project Linus is now listed as a volunteer opportunity on AARP's Create the Good website. Check it out at [www.createthegood.org](http://www.createthegood.org). Click on Find Things to Do; then Refine Your Search; type in children as the Keyword; 20646 in the second box (La Plata zip), and 10 miles, and you will see us!! Maybe we will get some new volunteers.

**PROJECT LINUS INSTITUTE**

Institute will be held July 20-23, 2011 at the Pere Marquette Hotel in Peoria Illinois, and will be open to everyone. All PL volunteers and chapter coordinators may attend. (As room allows) There will be some special activities and meetings only for chapter coordinators and alternate activities for volunteers. If you may be interested in attending, contact me for further information.

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NEW JO-ANN NON-PROFIT DISCOUNT CARD

As you have probably noticed, last year's 10% discount cards for Jo-Ann's Fabrics and Crafts have expired. The New Jo-Ann Non-Profit Discount Card is now available to all Project Linus volunteers at www.joann.com/VIP and will be valid through 8/31/11. If you do not have internet access, the card can be obtained by calling JoAnn's at 877-604-2280. The VIP Discount Card is valid at any Jo-Ann store and can be used on your total purchase, including regular and sale priced items. The 10% discount would not apply to any item that receives a 40% discount, but can be used in the same transaction.

NEW INFO ABOUT THESE CARDS: JoAnn's requires that the new discount card must be validated by store management prior to first use. In order for Project Linus volunteers to be validated, you will have to have a Project Linus Volunteer ID Card in addition to the JoAnn's discount card. This is an identification card the size of a business card that any PL volunteer can carry to show they are a bona-fide Project Linus volunteer. I have a supply of these cards and have

given some out at the August meeting. Please call or email me if you want me to send one to you or if you are in a group, how many you need for your group. I'll put them in the mail immediately.

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**CHASE COMMUNITY GIVING CAMPAIGN**

Project Linus (National Organization) is proud to announce that Project Linus was one of the top 200 charities for the Chase Community giving Campaign on Facebook in July. Project Linus garnered a total of 1528 votes and won a grant for \$20,000!! There were over 50,000 charities on the list, so to be in the top 200 is pretty amazing. Thanks to everyone who voted.

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Facebook and Social Media
(copied from a post from Carol Babbitt, National President)

Do you Facebook? More and more of us do; in fact, it has become quite an obsession with people around the country. We have found it to be a great way to communicate with friends with our personal pages, and with "fans" with our Project Linus page. If you are a Facebook member, let's be friends! And search for our

official Project Linus page as well. We now have over 2500 fans, or "likes." But there are surely a lot more Project Linus fans out there who don't know about our page yet. You can find our Project Linus page here <http://www.facebook.com/#!/projectlinus>. Help spread the word!

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**2010 Combined Federal Campaign**

I am pleased to tell you that Project Linus is on the list of charities for the Combined Federal Campaign for 2010. Because Project Linus is now one of the official charities, local federal workers can designate our organization to be the recipient of their charitable payroll deduction money that will benefit us locally, like any other local donation.

You can go to : <http://www.opm.gov/cfc/Search/Locator.asp> where you can go and find your local campaign. You are NOT searching for Project Linus, or your chapter name. Your chapter name is NOWHERE in the system. When you go to that page, you are searching for your local campaign, usually by county. You then contact them to get information about local activities

and fundraising opportunities, and they will need our number: 95983 Project Linus (Linus Project) (309)454-1764 [www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org) <<http://www.projectlinus.org>> EIN#841362696 Project Linus is a national nonprofit with a mission to bring comfort and security to seriously ill children through the gifts of new, handmade blankets. 8.1% P,W,Z. You will not be able to search for Project Linus or 95983. You search for your local campaign, by state and then by county or area. Then, contact them for more information.

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Our meetings continue to be held the second Friday of every month at Material Girls in La Plata at 1 p.m.

If you are receiving this by snail mail, and have Internet access, please send me your email address so that I can add you to our email list to save printing and postage costs.

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If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please reply and ask me to remove you from the list.

**"Craft for a Cause" Contest**

Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores® is pleased to offer an exciting contest for crafters called "Craft for a Cause," where you could win a \$1,500 Jo-Ann gift card! Here is how it works:

1. Purchase materials from Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores
2. Make a blanket for Project Linus
3. Submit necessary entry information to Jo-Ann

As part of this fabulous contest your blanket made for the contest and donated to Project Linus gives us an entry in their favorite charity contest. The top three charities receiving the most donated items then become finalists. At that point crafters go to Jo-Ann's website to cast their vote. The top charity receiving the most votes wins \$50,000.

The crafting contest is going on now and ends October 30, 2010. Charity voting ends on December 4, 2010.

For more details, including online entry and contest rules, refer to the [Jo-Ann "Craft for a Cause" web page](#).

Thank you to every one who is so supportive of Charles County Project Linus....those who come to meetings to sew, tie, count and bag...those who work from home and drop off their treasures in the bins...those who donate so much...time, space, fabric, yarn, money, food, talent, MORAL SUPPORT (for me!!)..those who handle and distribute the blankets we give. You all know who you are, and you are appreciated, and, obviously, CC Project Linus wouldn't exist without every one of you.

Coordinator

Mary Hancock,

Project Linus - Charles County, MD  
12010 Maryland Point Road  
Nanjemoy, MD 20662  
(301) 743-2114 home  
(301) 653-4893 cell  
[CharlesCounty.MD@ProjectLinus.org](mailto:CharlesCounty.MD@ProjectLinus.org)

Let's support those who support us:

**DROP-OFF BIN LOCATIONS:**

MATERIAL GIRLS QUILT BOUTIQUE – Also, meeting held here 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month, 1 pm.

The Hensley Family  
6750 B Crain Highway  
La Plata, MD 20646  
(301) 392-9575  
[www.materialgirlsqilt.com](http://www.materialgirlsqilt.com)

THE HAIR GALLERY  
Stephanie Walton  
Bryans Road Shopping Center  
P.O. Box 26  
Bryans Road, MD 20616  
(301) 283-6222

HANCOCK FABRICS  
Sherry Shapiro  
2920 Festival Way  
Waldorf, MD 20601  
(301) 645-4146

MICHELLE'S QUILTS  
Michelle  
8132 Old Leonardtown Road  
Hughesville, MD 20637  
(301) 274-1919  
<http://www.michellesquilts.com>

APPLE SPICE JUNCTION  
Loren Wash  
6750 Crain Highway  
La Plata, MD 20646

(301) 934-0034  
[www.applespice.com](http://www.applespice.com)  
BJ'S WHOLESALE CLUB, INC  
Rosemarie Pearson  
1000 St. Nicholas Drive  
Waldorf, MD 20603  
[rpearson@bjs.com](mailto:rpearson@bjs.com)

THE GREATER WALDORF  
JAYCEE'S FOUNDATION,  
INC.  
3090 Crain Highway  
Waldorf, MD 20601

BEST IMPRESSIONS  
Jeff Griffith, President  
400 North Washington Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703)518-1375

SOUTHERN BLEND  
BARBERSHOP QUARTET  
call Fred Parsons for  
booking info  
(301) 910-8385

WAL-MART OF LA PLATA  
La Plata, MD 20601

WESTLAKE VILLAGE  
ASSOCIATION  
3352 Old Washington Road  
Waldorf, MD 20602

AMERICAN LEGION  
AUXILIARY POST 82 - Anna  
Mae Sackie  
Crain Highway  
La Plata, MD 2064

PIZZA HOTLINE  
Chris Heinze

203 Charles Street  
La Plata, MD 20646

(301) 934-4670

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## **Charles County, MD Chapter**

Mary Hancock, Coordinator



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