

Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Bakersfield/Kern/Tulare Counties, CA Chapter

February 2010

www.projectlinusbakersfield.com

661-589-1854

Coordinator Corner

Ok, for those of you who really know me you know how crazy my life is normally, but I have to tell you that I think that this past month wins em all!

I don't think any of us (Disney, Project Linus Headquarters & certainly not me) were prepared for the onset of Disney Blanketmania.

If you were one of those that tried on January 1 to try and register for the Disney, *Give A Day, Get A Day* promotion you know how hard it was to get to the website.

Things have progressed considerably since then and the process of earning Disney vouchers from the www.disneyparks.com website are a lot easier. I have answered just under 7000 emails regarding this program since January 1. This has been great for our local Project Linus group. I have made many new friends and heard so many stories of

families that had a great time making blankets. The men that have been at my door or on the phone have been the first to tell me what a great experience it was and how their families would like to continue to participate.

That is what it is all about; a family coming together to help others in need.

In the middle of answering emails, phone call and my front door the Haiti earthquake happened. Project Linus was approached by both Heart to Heart International and Christian Aid Ministries both asking for 10,000 blankets a piece for their organizations to send to earthquake victims in Haiti. Normally, our blankets all stay local unless there is a crisis in the world. I have pledged to send a minimum of 200 blankets to Heart to Heart International and

100 blankets to Christian Aid Ministries.

I am seeking donations for postage and or if you work for a company that might be willing to help with the shipping cost I would appreciate if you would have them contact me. Please remember I am a volunteer like you and rely on donations to keep our local chapter going.

Please be patient with me if you call or send an email & I do not return it right away or at all. Please continue to get a hold of me but I have come home to 25 messages and with kids, homework & dinners to fix, I admit I fall short sometimes in getting calls returned & emails answered timely.

Michele

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After reading some of the "Thank You" notes on your site, it makes me feel good to know that we'll be giving "hugs" to five children who may be in pain and terribly afraid. Thanks so much for the opportunity to participate in a great program.

~Keri Palladino

Nicole Neumiller wrote a very nice article on the Bakersfield Now website, here is the link.

<http://central.bakersfieldnow.com/content/project-linus-gives-new-meaning-term-security-blanket>

Postage for Haiti

This is just a note to let you know that I have raised our commitment to 300 blankets for the Haiti children because Project Linus Headquarters put out a need for another 10,000 blankets; bringing us up to 20,000 total. What was I thinking? I am shipping them to the Christian Aid Ministry in Ephrata Pennsylvania & to Heart to Heart International in Kansas who will get them to the Haiti children. I am working on how I'm going to pay for the shipping costs and many of you have already sent checks. Does anyone have any contacts at a shipping company or a postal mail box store that might donate the shipping costs? Or possibly a business might donate? Please ask around and let me know. I'd appreciate it. Thank You. Please keep the blankets coming in as best you can as we don't want to let our regular local facilities down... Thanks & Happy Blanketeering!

My first volunteer has already used her free tickets to Disney. She said they received a special volunteer pin and was treated like royalty all day. They did not get their early enough but she told me about how the first few groups of "Disney Give a Day Get a Day" volunteers got to ride in special cars in the pre-parade. Her kids were most excited because they got free popcorn at one of the vendors. They got special photos taken with Mickey & Minnie too. Mickey & Minnie put their special buttons on them. So, very cool! She said that people stopped them all day to thank them for being special volunteers with a non-profit.

Lisa
Tuscola County, Michigan PL

MAKE A BLANKET DAY

February 20, 2010

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL-Cafeteria

BAKERSFIELD

10:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The event is being sponsored by the Liberty High School ASB Club. We will still have our crochet/knitters circle, fleece corner & of course a place for the sewing machines. Please mark the date on your calendar. No experience necessary. If you have been to Make A Blanket Day before you know that this is a day you will not want to miss

BBQ lunch available provided by Too Fat Sandwiches

I am in first grade. I received a blanket one time when my sister was in the hospital and it was awesome!!! I am a Tiger Scout and I would like to make a blanket for someone else. Please let me know how I can help. Thank you.
Andrew

I would love to make some blankets and send them to you. This group was a blessing to my family.

Thank you again for the pleasure in helping your group. May God pour out his blessings on you and your ladies.

Sandy Byrd



Hi my name is Lisa Juarez. I am writing to regards of your program project linus. My Daughter had surgery this morning at Delano Hosp. I cannot express enough how much we appreciated the gift of the Blanket. First of all it was Beautiful But the thought of someone putting so much time & love into it. Blessed our hearts!! My one year old is now resting with her Jesus loves me Blanket. You guys are Awesome!!!! God Bless all of you!!

Sincerely,
Lisa Juarez

I do have to say that making the blankets with my daughter really opened up a whole different world to her. She had never known anyone to be very sick before. It was a blessing to see the compasion well up inside of her and produce such drive. In the end she wanted to keep making blankets. This is definately something that we will be doing again together in the near future.

Thank you so much for your time and dedication. God Bless you.

Becca McGrath



2010 Calendar

Bakersfield

February 16
 February 20, Make A Blanket Day
 Mar 2 – LDS Church 9a-noon
 Mar 6 – Mercy Hospital/Truxtun 10a-3p
 March 16
 April 20
 May 18
 June 15
 July 20
 August 17
 September 11, Make A Blanket Day
 September 21
 October 19
 November 16
 December 14 (2nd Tuesday)
 316 LDS Church A St 9a – noon
 Mercy Hosp – Truxtun 6p-9p Clerou Room

Clovis

February 27 10a - 1p
 March 20 10a – 1p
 D & J Sewing Center
 2700 N Clovis Ave
 559-225-4927

Hi Michele,

When I saw your organization as part of what we could participate in, I was thrilled. My daughter has had numerous hospital stays and surgeries and has received one of the "Linus Blankets". She is excited to have the opportunity to give back and desires to do this more than just this time for tickets to Disney.

Joy

Thanks for your hard work and dedication to Project Linus it's a great project!!!! When my son was 8 days old he was really sick and ended up in the hospital and we were there for 5 days and one of the nurses brought in a Project Linus blanket to us and it meant the world to me that someone cared enough to do that for the sick patients. It brought tears to my eyes when we received it. We still have it and whenever I look at it, it still puts a smile on my face to know that someone made it out of love for someone they didn't even know. My son is 3 now and is doing great!! I am so thankful that I am finally being able to do that for someone else!! Thanks for all that you do!

God Bless,
Kim Garrett

Project Linus

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quilts4kidz@sbcglobal.net

Happy Birthday

*Joyce Calvillo
Linda Strieby
Konnie West
Rene' Hester
Megan Bennett*

We're on the Web!

www.projectlinusbakersfield.com

Blanket Drop Off Locations

Bakersfield

Strawberry Patches
6439 Ming Ave, Ste C
Bakersfield, CA

Ellie Jayes
1608 19th St
Bakersfield, CA

ABC's of Creative Pursuits
1412 17th St, Ste E –
Haberfelde Gallery
Bakersfield, CA

To Quilt N Sew
3510 Allen Road
Bakersfield, CA

CLOVIS

D & J Sewing Center
2700 N Clovis Ave #103 Clovis, CA 93612
559-225-4927
www.djsew.com

TULARE

Synchrony of Visalia
1124 Chenoweth
Visalia, CA

HELP WANTED

If you are available to sew labels, pin poems, bag blankets or would like to volunteer at the registration table for any of our Blanket Days.....WE NEED YOU!

Please email Michele Willis at quilts4kidz@sbcglobal.net if you are available on any of the following dates. Feb 16, Feb 20, Mar 2, Mar 6, Mar 16 in Bakersfield

I live in a very rural area and have a number of drop off locations. For Disney, I reduced the # of drop off locations to where I knew they were staffed with people that would check off the blankets for me. I also allowed people to mail blankets to me. I bring the boxes in the house by the front door until I load them in the car to go to the storage unit for processing. Well, I'm watching TV last night and the dogs start going crazy around the boxes. My beagle was literally trying to destroy one box. So, I took it on the front porch and opened it and a mouse jumped out as I pulled out the blankets when I got near the bottom of the box. The blankets were very well made and the mouse seemed to have only left a little "residue" in the bottom of the box. I have to assume he "hopped a ride" during shipping. No, it was **NOT** Mickey!!!!!!

Deb Miller
East TN Linus