

Winter 2002
Volume 1 Issue 2

HELP NEEDED IN THESE AREAS:

- **PRE-CUTTING FABRIC**, using patterns we provide, for others to sew. This could be done on a monthly basis, or any time volunteers have extra time to help. Work meeting coordinators handle much of this work, but aren't able to keep up with all of our hard-working volunteers!
- **FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS COORDINATOR** - We are looking for someone who could coordinate fundraising efforts and seek donations of goods and services for Bundles of Love. Experience in fundraising or soliciting donations is a plus, and enthusiasm and a willingness to network are an absolute requirement!
- **SCRAPBOOKING ENTHUSIASTS** - We're looking for one or more "scrapbookers" to put their creativity to use in assembling a Bundles of Love scrapbook. This book would display thank you notes, photos, and other mementos and could be used to show others what we do.
- **ACCOUNTANT** - We are in need of an accountant, familiar with or willing to research and apply non-profit accounting methods to our bookkeeping.
- **DONATIONS** of flannel, batting, sheet fabric (2 yard lengths), diapers, diaper wipes, baby soap, yarn and funds.

If you can help in any of these areas, please contact your area work coordinator or Mary Jo (952-431-2867 or e-mail president@bundlesoflove.org)

FAREWELL AND WELCOME!

Heather Malecha, our board secretary will be resigning from our board in February. Heather has done a wonderful job on our web-site and newsletters and we thank her! In between family and work commitments, Heather hopes to join us occasionally at future work meetings.

Ed Wilts has agreed to take over maintenance of our web-site. Ed currently hosts our web-site on his server, and enjoys maintaining a

web-site for the Twin Cities area Basset Hound club. (Don't mix up those photos, Ed!)

We will be looking for help with the newsletter and other administrative work. If you are interested in joining our board of directors and enjoy keeping track of details, creating attractive written documents, coordinating information, and handling correspondence, please let us know!

WEST SIDE CLINIC UPDATE - AND OUR PLEA FOR HELP!

As many of you know, Bundles of Love has been teaching sewing at the prenatal classes at West Side Clinic for about two years. Each mom-to-be has made a receiving blanket, bib, burp cloth and quilt for her baby, and as you might guess, it's been a successful and rewarding venture. However, in the past few months we've had very few students and have had to make the difficult decision to suspend classes for the time being.

The problem isn't a lack of interest, but rather, a lack of transportation. Most of these women are unable to take the bus because they have several small children and/or don't live near a bus route.

Does anyone know of any organizations or grants that we could approach for help in transporting students to the West End Clinic? If you have any ideas, please call Teresa Wilts at 763-783-7876 or contact her by e-mail at twilts@mediaone.net.

NOTE: Classes are set to resume in February, but only students having their own transportation will be able to attend. We still need help finding funding for those who would like to attend but don't have transportation.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS:

SEWING MACHINES:

Debra Dirks, St. Louis Park, MN

Patt Leiverman, Burnsville, MN

WORK SPACE FOR MONTHLY MEETINGS:

New Brighton Family Service Center, New Brighton

Assisi Heights/ Sisters of Saint Francis, Rochester

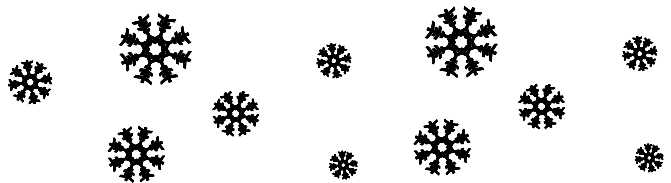
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church,
Apple Valley

SERVICES:

Bert Greener, Fredrickson & Byron Law Firm,
Minneapolis, MN (legal services)

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Apple
Valley, MN (photocopying)

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU



FUNDS AND GIFT CERTIFICATES:

- Talia Haugdahl (age 9), Eagan, MN
- Douglas Mitchell, Hopkins, MN
- Carol Carrigan, Chatfield, MN
- Deanna Hart, LaCrosse, WI
- Lutheran Brotherhood, Western Olmsted County Branch 89, Rochester, MN
- Shepherd of the Valley church, Children in Need Fund, Apple Valley, MN
- Rose Herring, Vadnais Heights, MN
- St. Thomas Becket Catholic Community, Eagan, MN
- Dorothy Stohl, Iron River, WI
- AAL Branch -5421, Rochester, MN
- Paul Larsen, Burnsville, MN
- Target Stores, Burnsville, MN
- Beth Livingston, Maplewood, MN
- Wal-mart, Bloomington, MN
- Wal-mart, Eagan, MN
- Rob and Marilyn Rukavina, Arden Hills, MN
- Volunteers of Sewing for Babies (NE), Touching Little Lives (OH) and Warm Hearts, Warm Babies (CO) (presented to Mary Jo at the Needles in a Haystack convention, as a thank you for helping them purchase affordable fabric)
- Neva Ladin Fuchs in celebration of her 11th grandchild, Faith Nicole Ladin, born 11/14/2001
- Employees of P.H.T. Systems, Inc., New Brighton, wishing a Merry Christmas to Jim & Sue Rimarcik
- Patricia Christofferson, Rochester, MN in memory of her mother, Ann Brennan
- Amy Baldwin, Roseville, MN for Ann Mokosaik in celebration of the holiday season
- John Beatty, Lakeville, MN a Christmas gift to share his love for his family Cheri, Johnny, Carlie and Chloe with others

- **Shepherd of the Valley congregation**, Apple Valley, MN
- **Eagan Hills Alliance church Awana club**, Eagan, MN
- **Magnolia Hill Connection**, Hernando, FL
- **Target Greatland**, Apple Valley, MN
- **The Warm Company**, Seattle, WA
- **Deb Dreissen**, Burnsville, MN
- **Charlotte Shurts**, Burnsville, MN
- **Nurses at Fairview Ridges Hospital nursery**, Burnsville, MN
- **Annie Masters**, Rochester, MN
- **Mill End Textiles**, Burnsville, MN
- **Joy Sobotta**, Rochester, MN
- **Mary Sauerer**, Rochester, MN
- **Marcia Heinje**, Wilmot, SD
- **American Cancer Society Garage Sale** (leftover items)
- **Mindy**, Fridley, MN
- **Crysanne Turner**, Eden Prairie, MN
- **Laurie Hedger**, Vadnais Heights, MN
- **Marilee Sagat**, Minneapolis, MN
- **Deborah Bye**, Stillwater, MN
- **Amy Rosenholm**, Esko, MN
- **Ingrid Welty**, Minnetonka, MN
- **Sandra Bartlett**, Coon Rapids, MN
- **Mary Wilcox**, Minneapolis, MN
- **Connie Velasquez**, St. Paul, MN
- **Paulette Bergman**, Richfield, MN
- **Shepherd of the Valley senior quilters**, Apple Valley, MN
- **Friends and family of Ana Scheel**, Rochester, MN
- **Nancy Giancola**, MN
- **Cheri Beatty**, Lakeville, MN
- **The Snap Source**, Troy MI (purchase of snap parts at cost – donation of snap caps)



THANKS TO SHARE

The following is a sample of thank you notes we have received for the efforts of all of our volunteers.....

Thank you very much... for keeping our babies covered and warm.

- the nurses, moms & babies at Fairview Ridges Special Care Nursery, Burnsville, MN

Thank you so much for your gift of the quilts, blankets, buntings and gowns for our patients who experience a perinatal loss. The loss of an infant or of a pregnancy is difficult. Your gift will help us to provide more sensitive care. Thank you again.

- Peg McCoy, Nurse Manager, Hennepin County Medical Center Labor & Delivery

Thank you very much for the beautiful hat and mitten sets. Please pass on my sincere appreciation to all of the volunteers that made this possible....

- Shelly Espinoza, March of Dimes

Kristi at Abbott Northwestern gave my twin boys, Ethan and Evan your wonderful gifts. We very much appreciate your lovely handiwork. What a beautiful gift! Thank you & God Bless.

- Betsy & "the boys", Minneapolis, MN

Dear ladies: Thanks so very much for the restocking of layettes! You're all so amazing! And they are beautiful gifts to give to women and their babies in need! God Bless you one and all!

*- Becky Sprenger, New Life Family Services (Rochester)
- Birth Parent Social Worker 8/23/2001*

Thanks to Share

Here's another sample of thank you notes we have received for the efforts of all of our volunteers.....

...I had a baby girl on September 27th. I wanted to just drop you a quick note to say thank you. Everything is beautiful. And, because we weren't expecting her to be so small (5 lbs. 13 oz), your smaller clothes came in very handy. Thank you so much.

- Michelle Kreft, Minneapolis

- Dear Bundles of Love gang-Thank you for the beautiful quilts and layette bags that you recently donated. We are so thankful for all your love and kindness to our babies.

- Thank you for your recent donation of wonderful quilts, blankets, outfits and hat sets. Your great group has been so dependable with your donations and we are very grateful. Keep up with your loving work!

- Thank you for your donation of quilts, blankets, hats and newborn bundles. We have great need during the winter months and appreciate all of your wonderful work! We wish all of you... a happy and healthy new year!

- Regions NICU nurses

William & Eric were born on March 21, 2001 and before they left the special care nursery on April 6th & 8th, the nurse gave us two bundles of clothing and bedding. Having twins means getting two of most things, so your gift was very helpful in getting started out. Thank you so much for your gifts. Although I can't help in making clothing, I am enclosing a small gift that can be put towards something "Bundles of Love" can use (i.e. fabric, thread, etc.)

- Doug Mitchell, Hopkins, MN

- Thank you very much for your donation to the Crisis Nursery. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated.

- On behalf of the children and families served by the Children's Home Crisis Nursery, we would like to thank you and your organization for the beautiful quilts that were recently donated.

- The Dakota County Crisis Nursery

I just wanted to thank you and everyone that worked so hard on the diaper bag, clothes, blankets and bibs that I received from the Ridges hospital after having my little girl, Madison Faye. My experience at the hospital wasn't the greatest but as I left they presented me with one of your bags. We left feeling blessed. Thank you!

- Lisa & Austin Cordero & family, Farmington, MN

- Thank you on behalf of the mothers and families of Apple Valley Life Care. Your gift of "bundles" is truly a special gift of love...

- Thanks!!! Your gift is such a blessing. The preemie clothes have brought tears to the mother they have been given to. Each woman is so surprised that they are cared about in this way. All say thanks. God Bless you!

- In this season of giving you again have given more than material gifts. You give hope in every bundle. The need is currently so great that just one of these bundles can make the difference between choosing life or not. Thank you again.

- Gina Kadera, Client Advocate, Life Care Centers of Apple Valley and St. Paul



We'd like to introduce you to some of our caring volunteers...

SOUTH METRO WORK GROUP

Carol Houseman's caring heart has directed her steps in several ways - as a surgical nurse at Fairview Ridges Hospital, for example, and as an enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer for Bundles of Love, working with the South Metro group. Not only does she create numerous items for the newborn layettes, but she has recruited friends from her sewing group to contribute their handiwork as well.

One very special recruit is her husband **Carl**, who, after reading one of our newsletters, surprised Carol by offering to deliver layettes. Carl had never volunteered for any organizations before, and we are honored he chose us. He has been a tremendous help.

Carol and Carl's influence stretches even further when you consider the contributions of the friends they introduced to Bundles of Love. One such friend is Sheila Kelly, who belongs to a machine knitting club and now has members of that group donating knitted items.

ROCHESTER WORK GROUP

Nancy O'Neill is an inspiration to the entire Rochester group. Despite living with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, she is a prolific seamstress, spending countless hours sewing for her children and grandchildren. She learned about the Rochester work group two years ago from her daughter, Bridget Mueller (also one of our volunteers), and now dedicates much of her time to sewing for us.

Because of her illness, she is confined to the indoors for most of the winter, but rather than fall victim to her limitations she makes the most of her time. When she is able to attend one of our meetings, she brings an oxygen tank, but refuses to make an issue of it.

Rochester work group coordinator and fellow volunteer Joanne Larsen said "I think it is so amazing that this is Nancy's lifeline - keeping busy sewing - when she could sit around and feel sorry for herself because of her disability."

Nancy's contributions extend beyond the Rochester area. She sews baby items for mission work in the Honduras, and helps meet the large demand for baby items in the Twin Cities area as well. Many families have reason to be appreciative of Nancy's hard work.

NORTH METRO WORK GROUP

Carol Haas and **Laura Nelson** have been friends for a long time - not just friends to each other, but friends to just about everyone they meet. Their regular appearance at the North Metro monthly meetings add an extra value for everyone else in attendance, as they share their good humor and sewing experience with other volunteers.

It's not just Carol and Laura's cheerfulness that is so encouraging, however. Their hard work each month has earned them the nickname "the quilt ladies" as they roll out 50 yards of quilt batting each month and assemble the quilt tops others have created with batting and backing. Add to that the numerous gowns, sleepers, hats and premie sets they each sew, and Carol's special knitted hats and booties, and you end up with a bounty of lovingly created garments.

Carol's husband Gene has contributed to Bundles of Love as well, by helping repair sewing machines purchased at garage sales, and Laura's husband Rollie generously drives Laura from their home in Lindstrom to the meetings in New Brighton each month (and spends time with Gene while the ladies are at the work sessions!)

Carol and Laura's generous spirit and charm flow naturally from them, and they are an inspiration, and a delight, for the rest of us.

WEB SITE UPDATED

If you haven't visited our web site lately (www.bundlesoflove.org), please take a moment to check out all the latest updates. Heather has added several new patterns, including some sewing patterns that can be printed out for your use.

If you have any patterns we can use, please forward them to president@bundlesoflove.org or mail them to Bundles of Love. Of course, if the pattern is copyrighted, we cannot post or distribute it, and patterns do not need to specifically state they are copyrighted to be covered by those laws.

RSVP RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

Our metro-area volunteers aged 55 and older may be interested in the services that the Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs of Minneapolis and Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs of St. Paul offer. Bundles of Love has begun a community partnership with these groups, which assist seniors in finding meaningful volunteer roles and in covering expenses related to the volunteer work.

If you are a volunteer with Bundles of Love, you already have a meaningful role, but RSVP can help you by providing free supplemental insurance, including excess auto liability, personal accident and personal liability insurance to cover you while you are volunteering. They also may be able to reimburse your out-of-pocket expenses related to your volunteer work, including bus fare and mileage.

If you are interested in joining RSVP, ask your area coordinator for an enrollment form. After you have completed that form, you will mail it in directly to RSVP. There is no cost for joining and RSVP does not sell or trade their volunteer address lists to anyone.

For more information, call Teresa Wilts at 763-783-7876 or contact her by e-mail at twilts@mediaone.net.

BUNDLES OF LOVE BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Jo Prinsen

President and Treasurer
Lakeville, MN
Phone: 952-431-2867

Joanne Larsen

Vice President and
Rochester Area Coordinator
Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-288-3047

Mary Rossman

Board Member and
Rochester Area Co-Coordinator
Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-282-1051

Ruth Volk

Board Member and
South Metro Area Coordinator
Eagan, MN
Phone: 651-452-5827

Teresa Wilts

Board Member, North Metro Area
Coordinator and West-Side Clinic
Sewing Instructor
Mounds View, MN
Phone: 763-783-7876

Leaders of Tomorrow Help Babies Today

Last fall, **Den 10 of Cub Scout Pack 290** asked us for a project that could help them achieve their citizenship award. Cindy Taintor gladly provided about 40 unstuffed toys that the six boys, ages 10 - 11, stuffed and finished. They did go on to complete all the requirements for the citizenship award, and we're thrilled they included Bundles of Love in this achievement!

Tom Strohmyer is the Den leader for Eric, Robbie, Pat, Colin, Peter, Sam and T.J. Special thanks go to them for their work and commitment to the smallest members of our community! No doubt these stuffed toys will become favorites of the babies that receive them.

If you know of any Scouts or other kid's groups that would enjoy completing a project for Bundles of Love, let your area coordinator know. There are so many creative ways for kids of all ages to help and we can find a project that will match their skills and interests.

Girls Scouts from Troups 1893 and 1441 also earned credit toward merit badges by helping us stuff toy bears and fold brochures. Behind-the-scenes jobs like these are critical to our success--after all, brochures won't get distributed if they're not folded and ready to hand out, and toy bears without stuffing just aren't cuddly!

Troup leaders Gayle Petrilli and Lynne Faschant helped the girls. We want to thank them and the girls for their time and commitment to Bundles of Love.

For several years, **Amy Moses**, a high school student from Chatfield, was interested in sewing for babies as a way to meet the requirements for a Girl Scout service award. However, she hadn't found the right outlet for her idea until her mother, Susan, saw an article in the Rochester Post Bulletin about the Roches-

ter Bundles of Love work group. Amy's plan quickly came together. She contacted the work group, and armed with a supply of fabric and batting from Bundles of Love, Amy and her "crew" got to work.

Amy's goal for the group is to finish 25 quilts and 50 stuffed bears by mid-February. This achievement should help her earn a Gold Award. The group started meeting in December and is well on its way to meeting the initial goals, but they don't plan to stop in February. They are enjoying the work so much they wish to continue cutting, sewing and stuffing even after Amy's project is finished. Our thanks go out to all of them!

You can contact Amy or her mother Susan at 507-932-5941 if you'd like to help with this effort.

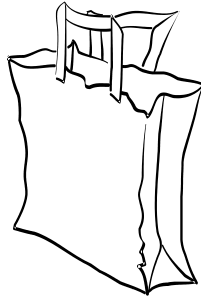
Third-graders from Plymouth learned special lessons about each other, their family histories and helping families in need last fall with the help of Phyllis Bopp, a Bundles of Love volunteer. Mrs. Pinske-Czech's class, from Oakwood elementary school, read "The Patchwork Quilt". Each student was asked to bring in a square of fabric with a special memory, and with Phyllis' help, they sewed their squares together to form a quilt top. Phyllis then layered the quilt and brought it back for students to tie their own square with a piece of yarn. The class agreed to donate their quilt to Bundles of Love.

Mary Jo Prinsen visited the class in December to accept the donated quilt and tell the children more about Bundles of Love. The students were delighted to see the other items that would be included in the bundle, and asked many questions about how they could continue to help children in need. The next day, one of the boys brought in a teddy bear, donned with its own special sweater, and donated it to Bundles of Love.

SHOPPING PARTY

Ana Scheel of the Rochester work group came up with an ingenious plan that benefited friends, family and Bundles of Love all at the same time. Ana had a “Shopping Party” during which she babysat for the children of several people close to her while they dashed out to local malls to shop for the holidays. Her fee for this service? Parents “paid” with baby wash, shampoo, diapers, and other supplies for infant bundles. What a great idea, Ana!

There are many ways to volunteer for Bundles of Love, so put your thinking caps on! If you have a story about a creative way you or a friend volunteered for us, please forward it to your work group coordinator or Mary Jo.



BUNDLES OF LOVE WELCOMES CHRISTOFFERS QUINTUPLETS

Minnesota’s first set of quintuplets, born November 30, 2001, are healthy and strong and expected to go home with their parents, Collette and Michael Christoffers, in March. Among the gifts they’ll be unpacking will be newborn bundles lovingly made by Bundles of Love volunteers.

The quints, Jacob Vernon, Bethany Grace, Robert Michael, Kevin Arthur and Alyssa Joy, will also be greeted by big sister Emily, who is three. At the time this newsletter was printed, four of the babies had transferred from the newborn intensive care unit at Children’s Hospital of Minneapolis to an intermediate-care nursery at Abbott Northwestern Hospital. The fifth, Bobby, remains in the intensive care unit but is doing well, his mother reports.

Special thanks go to all volunteers who helped sew, knit, crochet and assemble all of the gifts for the quintuplets!

HCMC PERINATAL LOSS CONFERENCE

Last November I had the honor of speaking at the Perinatal Loss Conference held for the nurses at Hennepin County Medical Center. The conference was very informative, particularly in describing the burial customs of various cultures. HCMC serves a very diverse population and knowing these different traditions helps the nursing staff - and the volunteers of Bundles of Love - honor children who have died in a manner that is meaningful and respectful to their families.

One of the items I brought to show the nurses was the Fetal Demise Pouch. They really liked the pouch and suggested it could be made in white for parents from Somalia, since they wrap the babies in that color for burial. The pattern for this pouch can be found on the Touching Little Lives website:

www.touchinglittlelives.org/sewing.html

We also have a knitted and crocheted version of the pouch on our Bundles of Love pattern page:

www.bundlesoflove.org/patterns.htm

Another popular garment was the burial dress that can be found in Newborns in Needs pattern set #3 (Becky’s burial gown). I made the gown with gathered lace at the sleeves and a lace overskirt. The staff agreed that the Latin American population would appreciate this style of gown, or any parents wishing to have their child baptized.



Other gowns, including the angel wing gown and the boy’s burial bubble, were also well received. I’d like to thank Marilyn Windsor, labor and delivery nurse at HCMC, for inviting me to speak at their conference and learn more about how Bundles of Love can serve families when an infant dies.

Article submitted by Teresa Wilts

DELIVERING BABY ITEMS

In 2001, Bundles of Love delivered 18,077 baby items (including 513 complete infant bundles and additional clothing, blankets, and baby care items) to the following:

- Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis
- Catholic Charities-Seton Services, Minneapolis
- Children's Hospital, St. Paul
- Dakota County Public Health Office, Apple Valley
- Fairview Ridges Hospital, Burnsville
- Family Learning Program, New Brighton
- Hand in Hand/ Adult Literacy Center, Rochester
- Hayden Heights Elementary, St. Paul
- Hennepin County Medical Center Labor & Delivery
- Hennepin County Medical Center Newborn ICU
- Home Crisis Nursery of Dakota County, Apple Valley
- Life Care Centers, West St. Paul & Apple Valley
- March of Dimes, Twin Cities Area
- Mayo Medical Center Dept of Social Svcs, Rochester
- New Life Family Services, Richfield, MN
- New Life Family Services, Rochester
- Olmsted Community Hospital, Rochester
- Person to Person, St. Louis Park/ Minneapolis
- Pilot Knob Health Center, Minneapolis
- Regions Hospital, St. Paul
- Rochester Justice Social Service Volunteer Program
- St. Bridgets Church "Baby Blanket", Lindstrom
- St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester
- West Side Clinic, St. Paul
- Women's Shelter, Rochester
- Sister Tierncy, Assisi Heights, Rochester for Colombian orphanage
- Kate Welp, Rochester, MN for orphanage in Equador
- Individual Families in Need

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

The Rochester work group works closely with the New Life Family Services organization, a Christian, non-profit social service agency that provides support to those dealing with the many issues related to pregnancies.

They counsel men and women, providing material, emotional and spiritual support to multicultural families and individuals. For families in difficult financial situations, newborn "bundles" are provided, as well as good-quality used infant, toddler and maternity clothing from the New Life "Clothing Closet."

Their staff includes qualified social workers who facilitate adoptions between prospective parents and birth mothers. Other services New Life provides include pregnancy testing, counseling for abortion alternatives and assistance in finding housing and household goods.

Recently we received a note from a new mom, who wrote, "I would like to express my sincere appreciation for being a recipient of one of your heaven-sent bundles. Ben was born two months early and only weighed 3 lbs, 11 oz., so the outfits we received were greatly appreciated and well worn. Ben is six months old now and weighs almost 18 lbs. We have had no health problems with him at all! We know that we are truly blessed with Ben and thank the Lord for him daily."

This note of gratitude reaffirms the importance of our work in both practical and emotional ways. New parents are always likely to be overwhelmed, and a premature delivery can be an especially scary ordeal. Our gifts can make a difference to parents who need extra doses of love and support!

SMOCKING, ANYONE??

Nurses at two local hospitals recently gave rave reviews to some smocked burial/baptismal gowns we delivered. Would you like to learn to smock? Please let Teresa know if you would be interested in attending a smocking class.

(Mary Jo's note: If you enjoy counted cross-stitch, you'll love smocking. It's not difficult and it's very beautiful!)

Work Group Meetings

ROCHESTER WORK GROUP

Coordinator Joanne Larsen

Home Phone: 507-288-3047

Work Phone: 507-289-3332

Alternate contacts:

Mary Rossman at 507-282-1051

Bridget Mueller (Mondays and Tuesdays)
at 507-289-8450

Upcoming Work Sessions (9am-2pm)

Please bring scissors (sewing machine or serger is optional) and a bag lunch

February 23* March 23 April 27

May 18 June 29

July 27 August 31

Upcoming Drop-Off Meetings (6:30-7:30pm)

February 21 March 21 April 8

May 16 June 20

July 18 August 15

Location: Tekawitha Room at Assisi Heights

* *Alternate Room Location: Fire Center*

SOUTH METRO WORK GROUP

Coordinator Ruth Volk

Phone: 651-452-5827

Upcoming Work Sessions (10am-2pm):

Please bring your sewing machines, sergers and basic sewing supplies to work on a variety of projects.

March 16 April 20

May 18 June 15

Location:

Rooms 12 & 13 in the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, located at the NE corner of Johnny Cake Ridge Road and McAndrews, just east of the Minnesota Zoo.

NORTH METRO WORK GROUP

Coordinator Teresa Wilts

Phone: 763-783-7876

Upcoming Work Sessions (Noon-4pm)

Please bring your sewing machines, sergers and basic sewing supplies to work on a variety of projects.

March 9** April 13**

May 11 June 8

July 13 August 10

Location:

New Brighton Family Service Center
400 - 10th St N.W., New Brighton

* * *NOTE: These meetings will be held at an alternate location. Please call Teresa for information.*

EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA

We are very excited to announce that Krysandra Hyslop of Cambridge (about 45 miles north of the Twin Cities) will be the area coordinator for our new East Central Minnesota work group. Volunteers from Isanti, Sherburne, Kanabec and northern Anoka counties are welcome to join Krysandra and her family in their efforts to serve infants in their communities.

Krysandra, her husband and five daughters attended our South Metro work group in December to learn more about Bundles of Love and meet some of our volunteers. They have already been making premie-sized outfits for several families in need of tiny clothing. Krysandra and her daughters (ages 13 and younger) each enjoy various hobbies such as spinning, knitting, sewing and crocheting. Bundles of Love is a perfect match for their skills and caring hearts, and we are very pleased to extend our efforts to this portion of our state!

You may contact Krysandra by phone 763-552-5431 or e-mail at volunteer@rogerhislop.com

Donations that Thank and Honor

As you celebrate the birth of a healthy baby ... fondly remember a loved one who has passed on ... or struggle with selecting the right gift for the person who has everything, consider a donation to Bundles of Love in their name. We will be happy to send a card in recognition of your donation. Please include the name and address of the recipient on the donation form (below). Be sure to let us know what special event is being celebrated.

I would like to help the Bundles of Love effort with a monetary gift.

Donor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Amount of donation: \$ _____

This donation is made in memory / honor / celebration of:

We would be happy to send a gift card if you are making this donation in recognition of a birthday, anniversary, birth of a baby or other special event. Please provide the name and address of the recipient below and don't forget to tell us what special event is being celebrated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Event: _____

Mail to: Bundles of Love
7975 166th Street West
Lakeville, MN 55044

Please make checks payable to: Bundles of Love

Please check here if you would prefer that we NOT acknowledge your donation in our newsletter. _____

Bundles of Love
7975 166th Street West
Lakeville, MN 55044

Welcome to the Bundles of Love News Winter 2002 edition

WE'RE OFFICIAL! IRS APPROVAL RECEIVED

The IRS has approved Bundles of Love for 501(c) 3 status, which means your donations are now tax-deductible. If you would like a receipt for your tax records, please notify your area coordinator or send a written or e-mail request to Bundles of Love president Mary Jo Prinsen. Any donations made since Bundles of Love began operating in February 2001 are tax deductible.



MARCH OF DIMES COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

In our last newsletter, we asked for your help making hats and mittens for little ones that could be distributed at the March of Dimes Community Baby Shower in September. We're pleased to let you know that our volunteers donated nearly 50 hat & mitten sets for this event. Special thanks go to our Rochester work group and especially Rita DayWitt, who crocheted many of the mittens.

Guests at the baby shower attended classes on child safety, fun activities for little ones, and stress management. Each participant received a "goodie bag" that included the hats and mittens from Bundles of Love. Thanks for coming through for this important event!