



# TOUCHING LITTLE LIVES NEWSLETTER

Fourth Quarter 2021- October- December

Editor : Linda Marshall    Contributing Editor: Sally Bricker

## BOARD NEWS

Sally Bricker notified the Board of her intention to step down from her position as of the end of 2021. Most of you know this news already as we have attempted to share it in person, through emails, letters, and on Facebook. Not only is Sally's house the corporate address, it houses all of the TLL supplies and finished items. She orders all the supplies, plans and packs deliveries, manages donations and grants, and manages the day-to-day running of TLL.

The Board had the very difficult decision to dissolve TLL as of the end of the year. We are currently taking the necessary legal steps to make this happen. We have more information below for volunteers about what to expect in the coming months.

Although this is sad news, we want to celebrate over 21 years of serving the babies of Ohio and the numerous individuals and babies that we have helped. We also want to thank all of our volunteers past and present that have made our organization so successful.

## WORKGROUPS AND DELIVERIES

October workgroups will meet as normal.

During November workgroups, we ask that you turn in all of your finished items so that we can pack our final deliveries for December.

During December workgroups, our last deliveries will be sent out. If you still have finished items to turn in, please bring them and we will make some last minute deliveries to get them out by the end of the year.

## EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

We would like to distribute our remaining supplies to volunteers by the end of the year. See the end of this newsletter for a list of supplies we MAY have available. We have also been in contact with some other charities and have committed donating some of our supplies to them as well.

If you are a volunteer and intend to keep on making items to donate as an individual or through another charity, EMAIL SALLY at [info@touchinglittlelives.org](mailto:info@touchinglittlelives.org) to let her know what supplies you would be interested in keeping. Please include your phone number and workgroup.

## TLL EQUIPMENT THAT HAS BEEN BORROWED BY VOLUNTEERS

TLL equipment includes sergers, sewing machines, snappers, snap removers, cutting mats, cutting rulers, and electric rotary cutters. This does not include smaller items such as scissors, needles, pins, etc.

Volunteers who have borrowed TLL equipment have two options:

1. Return the equipment to TLL
2. Purchase the equipment from TLL. Any funds from these sales will be used by TLL to purchase supplies or other items we can distribute to our facilities.

If you currently have TLL equipment, please let us know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE which option you would like. Please contact Sally at [info@touchinglittlelives.org](mailto:info@touchinglittlelives.org) about this ASAP so that we know what equipment we will have left to sell or donate to another charity. Also, this will give us time to spend any money from these sales before the end of the year. If you intend to continue to volunteer in some capacity, we will offer you very reasonable purchase prices.

## FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The finance committee has been overseeing the spending down of our funds since July. We committed \$1000 to buy hygiene products and have distributed them to PDHC, Primary 1 Health, Columbus Public Health and a few other facilities over the last few months.

In addition, we have spent about \$500 to buy used clothing. We just distributed over 1000 pieces of fall/winter clothing to Primary 1 Health for its four Columbus centers

We are not buying any additional supplies. Current supplies will be used up as much as possible through the end of the year. Although we are shutting down, we are committed to sending out as many things as possible to our facilities by the end of the year.

We are saving some of our funds to be able to buy batting to send out to individuals and groups of individuals who have been making a large number of quilts for us. This will give these individuals the ability to continue making quilts and donating them however they choose. If you have spoken to Sally about this previously, we have you on our list to send you at least one roll of batting. If you haven't talked to Sally about this, please contact her as soon as possible. Unfortunately, we will not be able to send to every individual (a roll is 100 yards), but if you'd like to share a roll with another person or two, we will try to accommodate that.

## HOW TO CONTINUE VOLUNTEERING

There are several organizations that you can consider donating to/volunteering for. Please contact them directly for more information. Let them know what you make and find out if that is something that they can use.

**Newborns in Need:** Newborns In Need, Inc (NIN) is a 501(c)3 national charity with a local chapter based in Newark and organized to provide for the needs of sick or impoverished babies and their families, and in the case of crisis, to give help wherever it is needed.

They make burp cloths, bibs, hats, booties, scratch mitts, sweaters, nursing aprons, nursing pads, tote bags, crib sheets, quilts, afghans, receiving blankets, tag balls, tag blankets, stuffed animals, crocheted toys, fetal demise items: memory envelopes, fetal demise sets, burial gowns, angels.

They donate to over 20 agencies in 7 counties: Licking, Franklin, Fairfield, Coshocton, Perry, Athens and Knox. They deliver to hospitals, pregnancy centers, WIC, Help Me Grow, and more. Everything is donated free of charge.

NIN can supply fabric, yarn, thread, ribbon, and other materials as needed. Even though they are based in the Newark area, pickup/drop offs can be arranged in Dublin, Gahanna and other areas around the Columbus area.

Contact: Marty Rupp, Chapter Director  
[grnewark@newbornsinneed.org](mailto:grnewark@newbornsinneed.org) 614-774-4150

## **Gifts for Angels**

Our Infant Loss Coordinator, Katrina Durst has formed a new non-profit called Gifts for Angels, Inc. To start, the group will only serve locations in Franklin County and

they plan on making and donating bibs, burp cloths, receiving blankets, quilts, and all infant loss items. During Gifts for Angels' start-up, they will have limited resources. They will only purchase supplies needed for the items listed above. Katrina hopes to continue several, if not all of the current TLL work groups.

Contact: Chairperson Katrina Durst  
[giftsforangelsinc@gmail.com](mailto:giftsforangelsinc@gmail.com)  
Gifts for Angels, Inc. 614-596-3663

**My Very Own Blanket (MVOB)** based in Westerville provides blankets for foster kids.

Contact: [info@myveryownblanket.org](mailto:info@myveryownblanket.org); 614-530-3327

407 W Main Street, Westerville, Ohio 43081

**USO Ohio, Bundles of Love:** The Bundles of Love program delivers tote bags filled with essential items to expectant military parents and newborns. They distribute mostly in Ohio and have contacts in the Columbus area for pick-ups.

Contact Field Program Coordinator Marlene Berlan  
[mberlan@uso.org](mailto:mberlan@uso.org) Cell: 440-476-3645  
<https://ohio.uso.org/support/bundles-of-love>

**Knitting and Crocheting from St. Matthews Church:** They accept hats (all sizes for men, women or children), scarves, baby blankets, prayer shawls, lap robes for seniors, ponchos, toddler sweaters, and slippers for all ages as well as children's blankets, either knitted, crocheted, fleece, or children's quilts. Find more details on their website. They have donated baby items to TLL for many years. Contact: Glenda Neely 614-471-0212  
<https://knittingcrochetingministry.jimdofree.com>

In our end of the year newsletter, we will provide a list of facilities that will take donations from individuals. You can contact them directly to see if what you are making is something they can use.

## MISCELLANEOUS

1. Please start redirecting any "free" money to other charities, churches or schools **immediately.** If you are currently participating in Kroger Cares, Amazon Smile or iGive, please start designating your giving to another organization. It often takes a month or two for monies to be processed through these programs so we don't want any of this money to go to waste. We CAN NOT accept any donations after December 31<sup>st</sup> so it is better to make these changes immediately.

2. If you are doing payroll deductions, automatic payments, or have corporate matching donations, please redirect those to another eligible charity. Again, any money sent to TLL after December 31<sup>st</sup> CAN NOT be accepted.
3. If you are making quilt tops, please STOP PUTTING ON QUILT LABELS NOW. We have lots of labeled quilt tops that we need to get finished and out by the end of the year. Then any remaining quilt tops can still be finished at the end of the year and we will make sure they get distributed to a facility.
4. If you are making a quilt top and then finishing the quilt, please continue to use labels until through November.

## Condolences

Our condolences to the family members of volunteers who passed away recently:

Joan Carl in June

Maudie Sutton in July

Ann Swink in September.



Sally made one last trip to Connecting Threads in September. This time it was to get thread. They had boxes and boxes of serger thread to give away. Here is the car load

that Sally took home. She saved some to distribute to our volunteers as well as giving some to Newborns in Need, The Turban Project and Gifts for Angels.



Our first Buckeye quilt turned in. Please get quilts that need finished to us as soon as possible so we can get them to OSU by mid-November.

## WORK GROUP SCHEDULES

Our workgroups are now meeting inside. If you are not comfortable attending, you can make arrangements with your work group coordinator to pick up and drop off at the meeting instead.

Here is our schedule for the rest of the year:

**Westerville: (Delaware)** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month @ Heritage Christian Church , 7413 Maxtown Road from 10:30 – 11: 30 Sally will send out an email about the meeting approximately one week before the meeting, but you may start sending her supply request one week prior to the meeting whether you receive an email or not. Send supply requests to Sally Bricker [info@touchinglittlelives.org](mailto:info@touchinglittlelives.org)

Meeting dates:

October 2<sup>nd</sup>; November 6<sup>th</sup>; December 4<sup>th</sup>

We will have a combination inside/drive by meeting. We will use the main entrance and have your supplies to pick up by number. If you want to come inside to our usual meeting room (100 or 101), you can park and come inside instead.

**Moose: (COOL)** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month @ the Moose Lodge in Groveport, 220 Main St. Time: 10-1pm; Send supply requests to Jill Hawse: [jhawse@att.net](mailto:jhawse@att.net) (614-531-5237 cell)

Meeting dates: October 14<sup>th</sup>; November 11<sup>th</sup>, December 9<sup>th</sup>

**Chillicothe:** 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month @ Adena Hospital in the Tecumseh Room from 10am – 2pm. Contact Becky Dumm for more information: [bdumm@adena.org](mailto:bdumm@adena.org)

Meeting dates: October 23<sup>rd</sup>; November 20<sup>th</sup> (moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday); no December meeting

**Grove City:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month @ United Methodist Church, 2834 Columbus St. Time: 10am – 2pm; send supply requests to Vickie Dab [jdabrava@columbus.rr.com](mailto:jdabrava@columbus.rr.com) or Carol Tolliver [ca.tolliver@att.net](mailto:ca.tolliver@att.net)

Meeting dates: October 15<sup>th</sup>; November 19<sup>th</sup>; December 17<sup>th</sup>

Meetings will take place inside the church.

**Sally's time off October - November**

October 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>

November 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>



\*\* During this time, she will be unavailable by phone, email, text or Facebook. Please do not send packages to her home at this time as well.

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you so very much for your donation to the Life Pregnancy Center. Your generosity makes it possible for our center to provide basic needs for the families we serve. You are appreciated, important and loved! May God Bless you always! Philippians 1:3 With love, *Your friends at the center*

To the Touching Little Lives Family: We can't thank you enough for the car full of new baby items you bought our babies. You purchased over 1,000 items. We appreciate all you have done for us over the years! Love, *Twinkle and the MOMS2B Team*



*Items donated to MOMS2B*

Thank you so much for your generous donation of burp cloths, blankets and stuffed toys to our boutique. You will indeed brighten someone's day! Bless you for all you do for those who come to the center for help. Because of Christ, *Heartbeats Newark*

Thank you for your ongoing support of our ministry at PDHC. You are a blessing to the many needy people we serve in our community! Blessings, *The Staff and Volunteers at PDHC North*

We appreciate all that Touching Little Lives has given the OB Prenatal Clinic over the years! Our patients have thoroughly enjoyed receiving your quilts, blankets, clothing and handmade toys. Blessings, *Mercy Fairfield Prenatal Clinic*

\*\* We received this email shortly after we announced that TLL was dissolving:

So sorry to hear this. I didn't realize how "new" TLL was when my babies received lovely gifts from your organization.. My twins (9/2000) received a few items. One spent 5 months in NICU. He passed at 7 months and all of his and my survivor's blankets are stored away for Joey when he has his own littles.

My quadruplets (7/2002) also received lovely blankets (and possibly some snap sleepers). My oldest will be 21 in September. He is an Eagle Scout, tuba player, and figuring out college. My quads just graduated from HS and are all heading off to college this fall.

All of their gifts are stored away for them. We are not in a place to be able to contribute time/talents at this time, but I hope I can find a way to do similar work when I retire.

Blessings to you all. You have certainly blessed us and countless other families. *Donna P.*

### SUPPLIES TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO VOLUNTEERS

(Subject to availability and volunteer demand after our October workgroups)

- 4 ply yarn (mostly Red Heart, but other brands as well)
- Baby yarn (mostly Bernat Softee Baby, some Simply Soft and Dazzlezaire)
- Yarn for washcloths
- Fleece for blankets, sleep sacs, jackets
- Knit fabric prints and some solids for sleepers, onesies, sleep sacs
- Fiberfill for stuffing animals
- White cotton/muslin for quilt backings
- Ribbing for sleepers, onesies, (many colors, cut to 2 1/2" wide strips)
- Serger thread (white and a variety of colors)
- White thread
- Crochet cotton thread for tying quilts
- Cotton fabric for quilt tops (maybe)
- Solid fabric for quilt tops or backing (maybe)
- Safety pins to use when sandwiching quilts
- Snaps: caps, female, male and colored caps

\*\*\*\*\*

### Touching Little Lives, Inc.

4882 Bixby Ridge Rd. Groveport, Oh 43125

614-653-3352 Email: [info@touchinglittlives.org](mailto:info@touchinglittlives.org)

[www.touchinglittlives.org](http://www.touchinglittlives.org)

