

**Goal is exceeded
 for gift blankets**

Project Linus Yuma Chapter would like to thank the community of Yuma, Shilo Inn and blanketeers who helped to make our ninth semi-annual quilt-a-thon a great success.

Our mission is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized or otherwise in need. We provide new, handmade blankets and Afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers."

In addition to our two semi-annual quilt-a-thons, we work year-round in our homes and monthly workshops to make blankets for children in our community.

Some of the agencies that have received or are currently receiving our blankets are Amberly's Place, Yuma Regional Medical Center Pediatrics Ward, Arizona Children's Association, Child Protective Services, Catholic Community Services, RTA Hospice, Red Cross, Cocopah Family Services, Fire Department, Arizona and California Highway Patrol. Blankets are also provided to the children of our fallen heroes in Yuma, both military and law enforcement.

Our February quilt-a-thon was a tremendous success. We exceeded our goal of 600 quilts and Afghans with a total count of 744. We had a total of 98 ladies and gentlemen participate. Included in that blanket count was a "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" event at Vista High School on Jan. 30 with families from the community totaling 209 people attending to make "No Sew" fleece blankets. What a great success that was. Thank you to all the families that attended and made blankets for Project Linus.

On Feb. 27, Project Linus and Vista High School hosted a second "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" for a "Make a blanket day for the children of Haiti." We had 71 families and

individuals attend totaling 325 volunteers. Their effort produced 325 blankets for the children of Haiti. Good job, everyone and again, thank you for volunteering. You are touching 325 children in Haiti with blanket hugs.

A very special thank you to Shilo Inn. They again came to our rescue and provided the space for us to work. All these things would not be possible without them. Additionally, we would like to thank Linda Wiles of Yuma Printing and John Wright of Fortuna Mini Storage for their continued support. Thank you!

Thank you Channel 11 for the wonderful news coverage given our organization and helping us get the word out about our work. We would also like to thank the Yuma Sun for "What's Going On" notices. It's a great way to let the community know what's going on. The news exposure brought Project Linus tremendous response from the community which, in turn, helped to make our quilt-a-thon a greater success.

We would like to thank our local quilt stores for their continued support. Each store continues to be an official year-round drop off site for blankets and fabric donations. Thank you, Log Cabin Quilts and Quilting Bee.

A big thank you to the community for the donations of not only blankets and Afghans but also the contributions of fabric, batting, yarn, gift certificates and checks. These donations help in the continued effort of making more blankets for the children of our community year-round.

A warm thanks goes out to our volunteer "blanketeers" and all those wonderful ladies in our community who work at home making beautiful blankets year-round - without them, none of this would be possible.

SANDY SMITH
 Project Linus
 Coordinator

