



Newsletter  
Spring/Summer  
2005

## Welcome New Board Members!

By Mary Jo Prinsen

I'm delighted to announce that Jana Hendrickson, Lisa Caballero, and Sharon Moore have all agreed to serve on the Bundles of Love Board of Directors. They will serve a three-year term through February 2008. Sharon will be focusing on Publicity for Bundles of Love. Lisa will be leading the planning of events such as fundraisers and volunteer appreciation, and Jana will be working on special projects. Jana is currently researching and updating documents to begin writing grant applications.

Through previous Bundles of Love newsletter articles, you've probably "met" Sharon (Spring 2004 "Introducing... Cross of Christ Work Group") and Lisa (Summer 2003 Volunteer Spotlight) ... now meet Jana Hendrickson:

Jana Hendrickson found Bundles of Love through Volunteers.com. She was looking for a way to help in the community and was drawn to the efforts and needs supported by the organization. Jana joined the South-metro group in April 2004 as a bundle assembler and was immediately amazed and overwhelmed by the talent of the volunteers. She doesn't know how to sew, but recently graduated from the University of MN Carlson School with an MBA and has agreed to sit on the Board to support fundraising efforts and special projects.

Jana is currently a Business Systems Consultant with St. Paul Travelers. She grew up in the Midwest, spending elementary years in North Dakota and Jr. High through college in Eau Claire. She has lived in the southern suburbs for the past seven years. Her hobbies include reading, volleyball, cuddling with her cat, Raja, and spending time with her family.

Thank you to former board member Mary Rossman for her many years of service. Mary will continue to volunteer with the Rochester work group.

### Current Board of Directors

President / Treasurer: Mary Jo Prinsen

Vice President: Teresa Wilts

Secretary: Lisa Buesing

Finance Director: Barb Rothe

Fundraiser (Events) Director: Lisa Caballero

Publicity Director: Sharon Moore

Director: Joanne Larsen

Director: Ruth Volk

Director: Jana Hendrickson

*Thank you for all that  
you do for the babies  
and their families!*



### Contents

Page 2 -

Baby Shower, '04  
Fundraiser results,  
Girl Scouts

Page 3 - 2005

Summer Fun!

Page 4 - Words of  
Thanks & Support

Page 5 -

Extra Work Groups

Page 6 -

2001-2004 Growth

Page 7 - More 2004  
Results

Pages 8-9 -

Thank YOU!!

Page 10 -

Tribute to Betty,  
Pattern Sets

Page 11 - Goodbye  
to Luther Hall

Pages 12-14

Volunteer  
Spotlights

Pages 14-15 -

Needs

Pages 16-18 - Work  
Group News

Page 18 -

BOL Logo Mugs

Page 19 - Value of  
Cash Donations

Pages 20-22

BOL Calendar

Page 23 - Donation  
Form

## March of Dimes North End Community Shower



Again last September, we helped provide items for the March of Dimes North End Community shower for families with babies. We contributed 20 quilts, 57 hats, and 15 sets mittens. They very much appreciated the beautiful quilts, and are always in need of hats of any size. We later donated 200 preemie hats that one volunteer was storing under her bed until we were able to find a good home for them!

## 2004 Summer Fundraiser Results

Many Bundles of Love volunteers and supporters enjoyed our first Bundles of Love summer fundraiser on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004 when they came out to participate in our walk and stroll-a-thon around beautiful Como Lake in St. Paul, and the silent auction, and kids' carnival at the nearby historic streetcar museum.

Walk & Stroll-a-thon

Como Lake Park  
July 31, 2004

Thanks to all donors and participants! The fundraiser netted about \$2775 which the board designated to help pay for the new Mounds View community center space.

Our 2005 summer Walk & Stroll-a-thon will be held August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005. See page 3 for details.

"A volunteer is a person who believes that people can make a difference - and is willing to prove it." *Anonymous*

## Thank you Girl Scouts!

Over 60 Brownie Girl Scouts from New Richmond, Wisconsin did a service project for Bundles of Love recently. They collected over 250 baby care items, clothing, blankets, fabric, and other supplies for us.

Shown in the photo are (L to R) back row: Amanda M and Anna B; front row: Serena R & Kelly B with some of the items they collected.



## 2005 SUMMER FUN!

You are invited to a Dessert Party Open House at the home of Teresa and Ed Wilts, 5125 Irondale Road, Mounds View

Date: Sunday, July 17 - Open house from 1-5 pm

Purpose: to raise funds for Bundles of Love.

Cost: \$10.00/ticket in advance; \$15.00 at the door



Please join us at my house for dessert and a beverage at an all-adult afternoon open house to raise funds for Bundles of Love. You can sit in the house and enjoy the company of friends, family and other volunteers, or choose from the second floor deck, built like a tree house with a large river birch swaying in the breeze, or the 1st floor deck over looking the lake, or sit out at tables on the lakeshore. Take a pedal boat ride around the lake, or paddle in the canoe. Tour the gardens or relax and enjoy Minnesota's best season. Optional: Bring a package of baby wipes, soap or diapers for the "shower" box!

RSVP and ticket sales: please call Teresa Wilts at (763) 783-7876 or email Teresa at [twilts@bundlesoflove.org](mailto:twilts@bundlesoflove.org)



*For a Summer Fun event for the whole family - read on ....*

## Summer Family Fundraiser:

A family friendly fun event including a walk-run-stroller ride at beautiful Silver View Park in Mounds View, children's games, and silent auction.

When: Saturday, August 27 from 9:30am - 12:30pm

Bring a group of friends or your family and enjoy the beautiful scenery together. Pre-registration is preferred. If you wish to gather additional pledges to support Bundles of Love (optional), pledge forms are available.

We need your support to make this fundraiser successful! You can help in the following ways...

- Participate in the walk/stroll-a-thon.
- Donate auction items - ask acquaintances or companies you do business with for donations.
- Volunteer to help on the day of the fundraiser.
- Help publicize the event by posting fliers in your community or at work, talking with friends and family, asking your place of worship to post a notice or include information on the event in a newsletter.

Watch for more details about this late summer get-together during the summer.

## Thank you notes & Words of Support for Bundles of Love

"I have worked closely with [Bundles of Love] for a number of years now, in my capacity as an Obstetrical social worker at the Mayo Clinic. Without the generous support of this organization, many families would find it difficult to have anything for their new baby to wear home!

I can recall a particular patient, who was traveling from Chicago to South Dakota, and went into labor. She emergently delivered a premature infant here in Rochester, and had nothing for her baby. She was so pleased and touched by the generosity of Bundles of Love, that she hardly had words to say. I have worked with many immigrant and non-english speaking families, who have difficulty accessing resources. To know that there is always a clean, new bag of infant items to offer may seem a small gesture, but to these disenfranchised people, it can mean the difference between being prepared for their baby or having nothing.

... this organization serves diverse populations, with many social needs. I would be at a loss to find other resources to fill the gap that Bundles of Love provides."

*Sincerest regards,*

*Dawn M. Raadt, LSW Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

"The families served through the Head Start program have incomes that are 100% of the poverty level or lower.... With the gift of a Bundle of Love, these families are able to breathe a little easier because some of their immediate needs have been met.... By collaborating with hospitals and social service agencies, Bundles of Love insures that their donations reach a variety of people throughout the area that truly need the assistance.... Many of our clients do not have the support of extended family or friends within their community. After receiving a Bundle, many of our clients have commented on how nice it felt to know that someone in the community cared about them and their new baby. The volunteers of the Bundles of Love program are hardworking, dedicated people. They bring warmth into the homes of families throughout Dakota County."

*From Robin Sing, Outreach Coordinator CAP Agency Head Start, CAP Agency, Rosemount*

"On behalf of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and our patients, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for your organization's generosity. With your quilts, blankets and hats, the NICU is able to provide something personal for children and families who are patients in the NICU. Your gifts touch many hearts. Thank you again for allowing us to be the recipients of Bundles of Love's kindness and hard work."

*From Kathy Schoenbeck, Patient Care Manager, Children's Hospital St Paul Neonatal Intensive Care Unit*

"MI WRC clients are American Indian women and children, living in poverty, struggling with substance abuse, homelessness, and gender violence. American Indian women face some of the highest rates of teen pregnancy, fetal alcohol impacted births, infant mortality and low birth weight. The Bundles of Love sets, so carefully and lovingly made and packaged have brought unexpected joy to many of our clients. One recipient offered to volunteer with the group, expressed an interest in learning to sew, and admitted to MI WRC staff that she was deeply moved by this gift of love from strangers. Every gift has brought a similar response. For the population we serve, putting food on the table or keeping a roof overhead is a daily (continued on Page 5)

(continued from Page 4) struggle. Many of our young mothers have been in great need of these items. And for a community that has suffered from discrimination and racism in many forms, this unconditional gift from the non-Native community speaks loudly about the common human strengths and weaknesses that we all share."

From Suzanne Koeplinger, Executive Director, Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minneapolis

## Many Hands Make Light Work

For all those of you who wonder how we get all this work done, here is a list of all the work groups that meet regularly. Our volunteers are amazingly dedicated, generous with their time and talents, and awesome team workers! If you would like to start a new group in your part of town or at your church, please contact Teresa Wilts at (763) 783-7876.

### South Metro Area Groups:

South Metro Work Group

Minnetonka Seniors

South Minneapolis

Burnsville

Cross of Christ

Rochester Work Group

### East Metro Area Group

Stillwater Work Group

### North Metro Area Work Groups:

North Metro Work Group

Andover/Ham Lake Work Group

Messiah United Methodist Work Group

Skyway Seniors

Oak Meadows

New Brighton/Mounds View Moms' Club

Bethel SOS

### *Extra Work Groups*

Bundles of Loves wishes to thank all the volunteers from the following groups who attended special work meetings to help us meet our commitments to area hospitals and organizations. Without you we wouldn't have been able to do it!

*Anoka County Shelter and Regional Juvenile  
Center*

*American Sewing Guild—SE Neighborhood  
Group*

*South West High School*

*St. Barnabas Lutheran Church*

*Church of St. Therese*

*Gustavus Adolphus University*

*Minneahaha Academy*

*Holy Name of Jesus Church*

*Lino Lakes Moms Club*

*Minnesota Knitters Guild*

*Beautiful Saviors Lutheran Church*

*Colleen Lindstrom and her friends - they held*

*A work meeting instead of playing party*

*Games at Colleen's baby shower!*

*Opportunity Partners*

*Blue Cross Blue Shield employees*

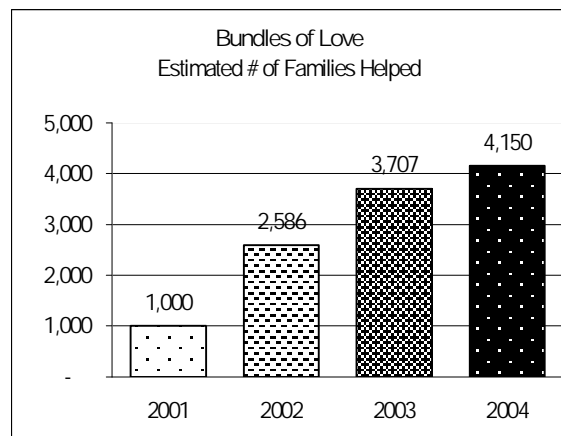
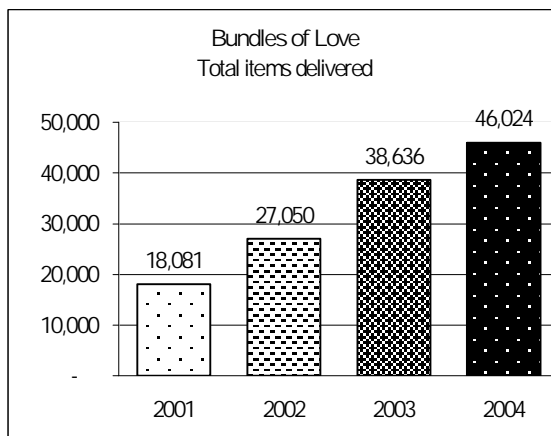
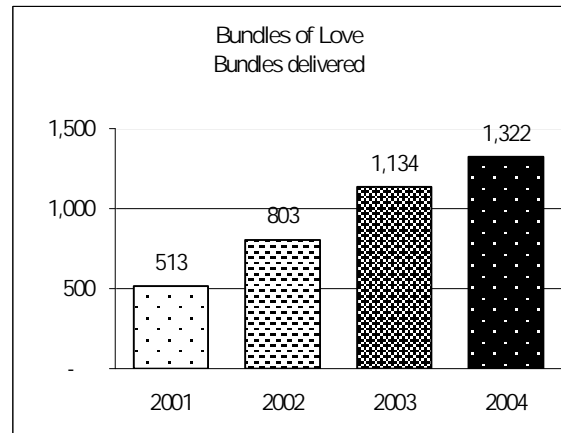
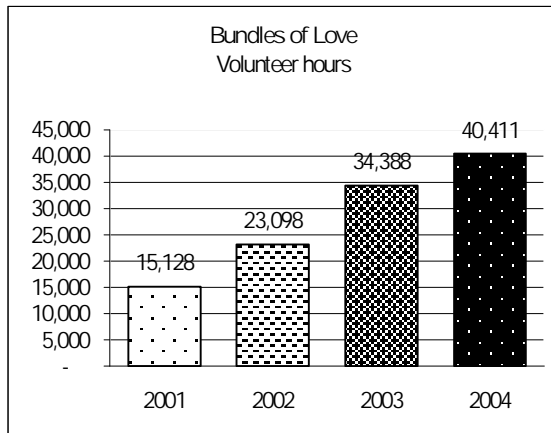
*American Express Financial Advisors employees*

*University of St Thomas*



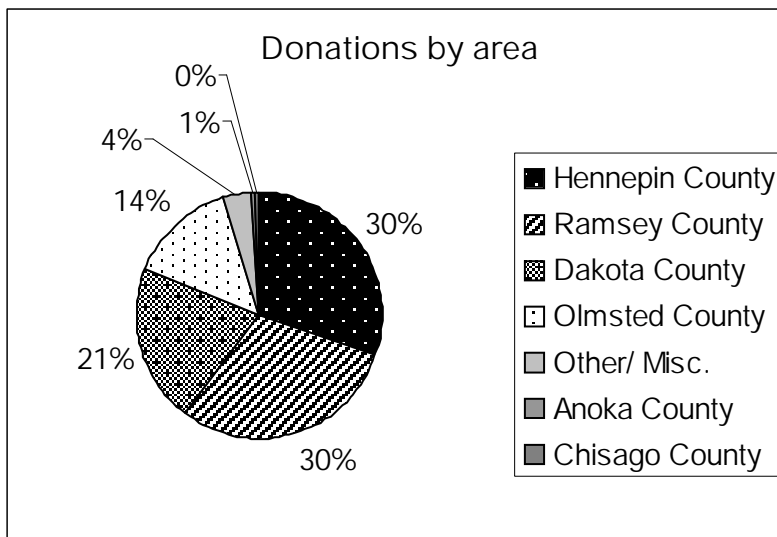
The Blue Cross Blue Shield Finance and Planning group spent an afternoon last fall volunteering for Bundles of Love. Pictured are (L to R: Howard Hirsch, Alice Perry Griffin, Mary Jo Prinsen, Len Sandock, Ralph Redding, Prentice Brooks, Kris Cashman, Bob Knudson)

## Bundles of Love 2001—2004 Growth in Volunteer Hours, Bundles, Total Items Delivered and Estimated # of Families Helped



## 2004 News and Results

Congratulations and thank you to all of our volunteers for the tremendous success in 2004. We again delivered a record number of items to families through your dedicated efforts. A total of 46,024 items were delivered to the following organizations:



Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis  
 Agape House via St. James church  
 Amnion Crisis Pregnancy Center, Burnsville  
 Cambridge Crisis Emergency Center  
 CAP Agency, Rosemount  
 Catholic Charities - Seton Services - St Paul  
 Children's Hospital Minneapolis  
 Children's Hospital, St. Paul  
 Christmas Anonymous, Rochester  
 Dakota County Public Health - Apple Valley  
 Dakota County Public Health - So St Paul  
 Dakota Healthy Families, Eagan  
 Dakota Woodlands, Eagan  
 Fairview Ridges Hospital - Burnsville  
 Hand-in-Hand Adult Literacy Center,  
 Rochester  
 Health East Hospitals  
 Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis  
 Interfaith Hospitality Network - Rochester  
 Life Care Centers - Apple Valley &  
 West St. Paul  
 Lutheran Social Services / RJSSVP  
 Rochester March of Dimes  
 Minneapolis Miracle  
 MN Indian Women's Resource Center,  
 Minneapolis

MN Visiting Nurses Association  
 Native American Community Clinic, Minneapolis  
 New Life Family Services, Richfield  
 New Life Family Services, Rochester  
 North East Strong Together, Minneapolis  
 Northpointe Clinic, Hennepin County  
 Olmsted Community Hospital, Rochester  
 Person to Person, Minneapolis  
 Regions Hospital, St. Paul  
 Rochester Methodist Hospital  
 Rochester Public Health  
 Ronald McDonald House, Rochester  
 St Mary's Hospital, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit,  
 Rochester  
 St. Bridget of Sweden Church, Lindstrom - Baby  
 Blanket Room  
 St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, White Bear Lake  
 Unity Hospital, Fridley  
 West Side Clinic, St. Paul  
 Individual Families  
 Various Organizations (extra hats)  
 Dorothy Williams, Santa Barbara, CA Honduras  
 Sister Tierney, Bogota, Colombia  
 Hands for Humanity

## Thank you to all who helped to support Bundles of Love in 2004!

We appreciate all donations of fabric, yarn, supplies, and especially your time. There have been so many donations that we don't have space to list them all, but we do appreciate all of your contributions.

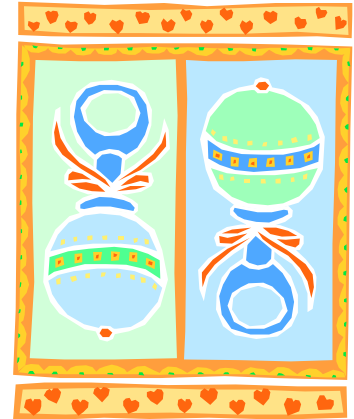
*Thank you to the following for monetary donations in 2004:*

Ceridian - in recognition of volunteer employee Cherie Niesen  
BCBS Dollars for Doers - for employee volunteers Mary Stanek and Mary Jo Prinsen  
Honeywell - Hometown Solutions for employee volunteer Debra Wolfe  
American Legion, New Brighton  
Bethany United Methodist - Rochester  
Bethel Lutheran Church - Rochester  
Blaine Lion's Club  
Church of the Good Shepherd - Golden Valley  
Clark Memorial United Church of Christ - South St. Paul  
Early Riser's Exchange Club  
Elk River Lions Club  
First Baptist Church - Rochester  
Gloria Dei Lutheran, Rochester - Ruth Circle  
Honeybellies Charity Account, Minneapolis  
Hosanna Lutheran Women, Rochester  
Kiwanis of West Rochester  
Lakeville Women of Today  
Mendota Heights United Church of Christ Fount of Coins  
Olmsted Medical Center  
People's Congregational Church, Bayport  
SOTV Children in Need  
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church Women - White Bear Lake  
Thrivent - Central Mpls Chapter  
Thrivent - North Dakota County Chapter  
Thrivent - Rochester  
Thrivent - South Anoka County Chapter  
Zumbro Lutheran Rochester - speaking stipend

*Donations in memory of:*

Betty Ann Sheldon from North Metro volunteers  
Baby Alecu from Ruth Volk

Proceeds from Children's Hospital craft sale from Joan Fisher



Thank you to everyone  
who has volunteered,  
shopped, sewn, crocheted,  
knit, put on snaps,  
stuffed diaper bags,  
coordinated anything  
and everything or helped  
Bundles of Love in any  
other way throughout the  
year.

And a special thanks  
to our families and

Continued on Page 9

## Thank You's for 2004 Support Continued:

### *Christmas Wishes:*

to Mary Rossman from Pauline Hebing  
to the Hatches from the Kriesel family

Thank you to Joanne Larsen for a decorated cake from Susan Kinter

### *Donor designated funds from corporate community drives:*

Mary Jo Prinsen  
Myra Reeves  
Barb Rothe



### *Individual Donations:*

Elaine Beaty  
Lisa Clearly  
Marjorie Ginn  
Dorothy Granfors  
Gullickson  
Heather Hansen  
Jana Hendrickson  
Joan Jungkunz  
Ruth Lundeen (Zumbro Lutheran Church Women)  
Ann Marie Miller and Luke Winskowski  
Mary O'Brien via Laura Nelson

Barbara O'Connor  
Rose Ann and Louis Powers, West St. Paul  
Karen Prinsen  
Mary Rossman  
Rob and Marilyn Rukavina  
Ed and Shirley Schmidt  
M. Shimota  
L. A. Skokan  
Beverly Stirtz  
Cindy Taintor  
Carol Thomas

### *Other Donors who prefer to remain anonymous*

### *Fundraisers*

All donors and participants from the following fundraisers:

Rochester work group - Barnes & Noble Gift wrapping in December  
North Metro work group Baby Bottle bank Fundraise  
Logo shirt Fundraiser  
Logo mug Fundraiser  
Pattern sets donations  
Passport Pouch fundraiser through Ed-Ventures, Rochester

Bundles of Love Summer Fundraiser at Como Park

## Tribute to Betty Sheldon

To borrow from Mary Tyler Moore "she could light the room up with her smile", and she was always smiling and laughing. Betty Sheldon loved life, people, volunteering and especially her sewing for Bundles of Love. Her life was one fun adventure, from taking solo trips on a train (so she could meet more people) to being a gracious hostess at her dinner parties in her new apartment building. Wherever she went there was fun and laughter and she was a great addition to the Bundles of Love sewing group. It had to be Divine Intervention that brought her to Bundles of Love. She had been a 20 year volunteer at Catholic Charities and had recently cut back her hours as it became more difficult to ride to downtown Minneapolis on the bus. The Bundles of Love brochure interested her at the most opportune time in her life, as it has for many of us. The sewing she did for Bundles of Love brought her comfort and a sense of purpose in the last week of her life. Those of us who are fortunate to have known Betty will never forget her smile, her laughter and her positive attitude.

*Written by Lynda Haemig and Leanne Patchen, North Metro Volunteers*

*Additional comments from Teresa Wilts, North Metro Work Coordinator:*

In the year she volunteered for Bundles of Love, Betty made a real impact. She was an intelligent, wonderful lady, with an outgoing, giving personality, and her interest in current events made her lots of fun to listen to. When she told me she had lung cancer and that she wanted some cut gowns to work on while she was too sick to come to meetings, I was amazed again at her generous spirit.



*Betty Ann Sheldon, age 81, of NE Minneapolis, passed away on Oct. 17, 2004 after a short battle with lung cancer.*

## Bundles of Love Pattern Sets

If you'd like a set of all of our most used sewing patterns, the Bundles of Love "Newborn Necessities" pattern sets including the following patterns are available:

Sleeper (small & large preemie, & newborn sizes)

Newborn gown

Newborn Hat

Cardigan Jacket

Hooded Raglan Sleeve Jacket

Newborn Pants

Newborn undershirt / "onesie"

Raglan sleeve t-shirt

Bibs

Burp Cloths

Thumbless mittens

Open Front preemie gown

### Instructions for:

"peek a boo" sleeper cuffs

fitted crib sheet

receiving blankets

infant quilts

wash cloth mitt

diaper bag

Pattern sets are available through your work group coordinator, or by mailing your request to:

Bundles of Love,

P.O. Box 240301

Apple Valley, MN 55124-0301

*A suggested donation of \$5 per set will offset and postage costs.*

## North Metro Work Group says Goodbye to Luther Hall



In December the North Metro Work Group said goodbye to Luther Hall, our old meeting site, with a potluck lunch. The volunteers in the group surprised me with this beautiful friendship quilt that they organized and made in complete secrecy. Some of you wonderful people were unable to come to that meeting, but the ladies in charge of the quilt wrote your names as well as their own on the back. As you can see from this picture it is lovely and I will treasure it forever.

Words could not possibly express my gratitude for the quilt, your friendship, your generosity with your time, talents, fabric, yarn and other supplies and your willing spirit. How blessed I am that I was so lucky to find such a wonderful group of people.

*With sincere gratitude*

*Teresa Wilts, North Metro Work Coordinator*

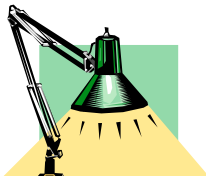
Don't forget to keep talking to people you meet about Bundles of Love! Teresa shared this story of how easy it is to get help for Bundles of Love by helping spread the word...."I stopped at the bank to get some change. The North Metro group's 'bottle bank' was full again so I took it with me. There was a big long line up at the bank, which is very rare for this branch. The lady in front of me wanted to know all about the bottle bank, so I was telling her about Bundles of Love and our fundraising challenges. So then the man in front of her said, "This bank has a policy, if they keep you waiting for more than 5 minutes, they give you \$5." And then he said, "I propose that everyone standing in line donate their \$5 to Bundles of Love." I walked out with \$30! Made my whole day."

## A Very Special Thank You

The North Metro Work Group wishes to extend a grateful thank you to Messiah Lutheran Church. As the North Metro group has continued to grow over the years, we have moved from place to place seeking enough room to welcome our many volunteers. The congregation at Messiah Lutheran Church was generous enough to allow us to use Luther Hall for our work meetings for 2 years. Luther Hall was a wonderful place to hold our meetings and the church was nice enough to allow us to store all our finished baby items in their store room and then to allow us to use most of the building during our work meetings. We'll always be grateful to your congregation for allowing the North Metro work group to grow, work and help Minnesota babies.



*Thank you Messiah  
Lutheran Church!*



## Volunteer Spotlights

### Jeaneen Alcorn - Rochester Work Group

When Jeaneen Alcorn and her husband, Mike, go to their cabin for the weekend, she takes her sewing machine or serger along. While Mike is busy with his tasks and pastimes there, Jeaneen sews for babies. Mike, who works doing MRI 's at Mayo Clinic, says she feels good about what she is doing for Bundles of Love.

Her enthusiasm is contagious and she spread the word to friends like Jean Wiltsey, her coffee partner at Mayo Clinic where they both worked until Jean retired in November of 2004. Jeaneen invited Jean to a Bundles of Love meeting and now Jean is an active volunteer who is not afraid to use the commercial cutter and recently volunteered to take on the cutting duties.

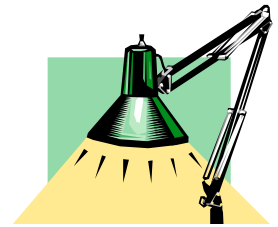
Jeaneen found Bundles of Love to provide an outlet for her desire to serve and eventually transition into retirement. When she displays what she has sewn for the babies one hardly notices a congenital disability which limits the use of her hand. Her heart is full of compassion and her determination is evident in her accomplishments.

The Rochester work group set a goal of fifty completed bundles for Make a Difference Day in October of 2004. Knowing the inventory showed a shortage of sleepers, Jeaneen cut and sewed ninety sleepers for that project. She said, "This was my own personal goal to make a difference."

Jeaneen also volunteered to help the group with planning and organizing. She phones volunteers, who do not have e-mail, to remind them of meetings.

Jeaneen is an inspiration and someone very special to volunteer with and call a friend. Her children, a daughter teaching in North Carolina, a son studying education at the University of Minnesota and a daughter studying nursing in Rochester, must be very proud of her. She is a prime example of those who volunteer and make this a better world for others to live in.

# Volunteer Spotlights



## Kaposia

Kaposia advances the inclusion of people with disabilities and other challenges in working and participating in their communities. Kaposia has been providing multiple workforce solutions since 1963. One of our mottos is "Everyone has potential; let's put it to work!".

Kaposia recently began offering retirement services, as well, and we have partnered with many of our nonprofit neighbors, including Bundles of Love. The seniors in Kaposia's Retirement Services program want to remain active in the community through volunteerism and leisure activities. The tasks available through Bundles of Love are a terrific fit for many of the individuals we serve! Over the past few years the seniors, with support from Kaposia staff and Teresa Wilts from Bundles of Love, have helped to create quilt kits and to tie quilts. We have also introduced these activities to residents of a care center, where we work together on the tasks.

The seniors enjoy the soft, colorful fabrics, as well as the companionship of others involved. They also feel good about using their time to help babies in need. We're grateful to Bundles of Love for sharing this opportunity with us. Our motto here could be "Everyone has the ability to help others; let's put it to good use!".

*Written by Lori Manthe, Kaposia*



## Connie Triplett - Cross of Christ Work Group

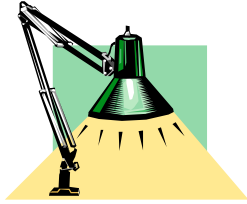
Connie Triplett first learned about Bundles of Love at an organizational meeting of the Cross of Christ work group. She says she left the meeting excited that she had found a volunteer opportunity that she would enjoy and through which she could give something of herself to others.

Connie doesn't let physical limitations get in the way of volunteering. Although she is in a wheelchair and can not run the foot pedal of the sewing machine - at least not with her foot - Connie sews by using one hand to run the pedal and the other hand to guide the fabric. On some days, rheumatoid arthritis in her hands makes knitting difficult, but she does a little at a time, and says God gives her strength to keep going. Connie works at Northwest Airlines corporate offices, and she and her husband of 28 years, David, live in Eagan. Their daughter, Sara Jane, also attended Cross of Christ work meetings before graduating from college and moving to New Hampshire for a new job, but Sara Jane plans to continue to crochet items for Bundles of Love.

Connie's favorite projects are knitting booties and sewing fleece jackets, but she does much more! Sharon Moore, coordinator for the Cross of Christ work group, says "Connie is amazing - whatever I need sewn, she is willing to do. And she usually puts an extra touch on things, like edging on a jacket."

Thank you Connie for giving so much of yourself to help Bundles of Love and the many babies who benefit from your talent and dedication!

*Written by Mary Jo Prinsen*



## North Metro

Remember Phyllis Bopp and Gina Peterson who were spotlighted in the Spring 2004 newsletter? Since last spring, they have teamed up to start a new work group at Phyllis's church, Messiah United Methodist Church. The group has been very successful right from the first

meeting, when, besides Phyllis and Gina, there were 7 volunteers in attendance. (To put this in perspective, when I first started with the North Metro work group, an established group, there were only 4 people at the first meeting I attended!) Way to go Phyllis and Gina!

*Written by Teresa Wilts*

## Current and Ongoing Needs

*The following items are always needed:*

- § Newborn sized sleepers gowns, or jacket/pants sets
- § Diaper bags
- § Crocheted & knitted afghans
- § Baby care items which we include in each bundle. We most need donations of diapers, wipes, and baby soap or shampoo. Nice-to-haves are bottles, pacifiers, teething rings, diaper rash ointment, etc.
- Yarn - all kinds (except wool and mohair type) and any colors

### Volunteers:

Cutting items to keep our talented volunteers busy is a big job. If you'd like to help with pre-cutting items for volunteers to sew, - contact your work group coordinator for fabric and patterns

### Fabric Needs:

We have an overly sufficient supply of some fabrics such as solid color Single knit, interlock, sweatshirt fleece, ribbing for collars and cuffs.

Before you buy fabric to make items for Bundles of Love, please consider using what we already have. We will gladly provide fabrics we have for sleepers, t-shirts, drawstring gowns, jackets. You are welcome to pick out fabrics you would like to work with from the supply we have available.



### Fabrics Always needed...

There are some fabrics we *do* need: Quilt backing (at least 1 yard in length and 44-45" wide), flannel, sheet fabric (at least 70 inches in length and 45 inches wide). We would gladly take any donations of fabric from this list, so we don't need to purchase as much for our monthly needs. We could use some nice knit prints - especially "babyish" prints to mix with our solid colored fabrics.

## Current and Ongoing Needs Continued

*"To all of those of you who have been making burial garments, thank you so much ... it is so important to the families"*

### Burial Items:

To all those of you who have been making burial garments, thank you so much. I know this is a hard project to work on and it is so important to the families who have suffered a loss. To make sure that all volunteers are working on the things the hospitals need the most, here are some guidelines:

For very early loss up to about 2 pounds, please be aware that these tiny babies are very fragile. Actual garments in these sizes are very hard to use without tearing the baby's skin, so most of the hospitals prefer the knitted buntings or the fetal demise pouches. (We have a both knitted and crocheted bunting patterns on our web-site. If you don't have access, please feel free to ask for a copy. The sewn fetal demise pouch is from the Touching Little Lives web-site.) We have given away most of our burial garments in all the other sizes, including newborn sizes, so if you like to make these garments, we need them again. We can always use preemie and newborn size booties in white to go with the garments, for the knitters and crocheters out there. We do not need preemie size afghans right now, we have a lot of these in stock, but we can always use white newborn size afghans to go with the burial sets for newborns.

### Preemie items:

We have sufficient supplies of preemie items at this time (especially hats). Please focus on newborn sized items which can be delivered immediately to families who need them. We have sufficient preemie sized items for now, and new items received may end up being stored for months until needed. When (if) we start running low on items or if we have a multiple birth (triplets, quadruplets, etc.) for which we need more items, your work group coordinator will let you know what is most needed.

### Size Guidelines:

#### Booties

When making booties, please keep in mind these guidelines: Foot lengths for booties are as follows: small preemie (1-3 pounds) 1-2 inches; large preemie (3-5 pounds) 2.5 - 3 inches; newborn (6-10 pounds) 3-4 inches. Most needed are newborn sizes, unless you are making booties to be used for burial layettes (white or pastel colors are requested.)

#### Quilts

36x45 is commonly the size we make quilts, as this requires only 1 yard of backing and batting. If you use a warm backing fabric such as sweatshirt fleece or polar fleece, batting is not needed.

#### Afghans

30" to 36" is a common size for crocheted or knitted afghans

## Work Group News:

### Rochester Work Group:

Coordinators: Joanne Larsen and Mary Rossman e-mail: joanne@ed-ventures.com  
phone: 507-288-3047 (Joanne) 507-282-1051 (Mary)

Below is the 2005 Schedule:

#### Pick-up/drop-off Sessions:

Thursdays, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm - at Ed-Ventures Tours, 320 Elton Hills Drive NW (Valhalla Shopping Center on the corner of Elton Hills Drive and West River Parkway

June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8

#### Work Meetings: Saturdays, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm - Pax Christi Catholic Church

4135 18th Avenue NW, Rochester, MN

June 25, July 16 (early due to availability of space), August 13 (early due to availability of space),  
September 24, October 22, November 19(1 wk. early due to Thanksgiving)

### North Metro Work Group:

Coordinator: Teresa Wilts e-mail: twilts@bundlesoflove.org Phone: (763) 783-7876

NEW Meeting location—The North Metro work group has now moved to our new storage and work space in the Mounds View Community Center at 5394 Edgewood Drive, Mounds View, MN (corner of Edgewood Drive and County Hwy 10, behind the Walgreens.

Dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month: June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10)

Time: 9 am until 1 pm or Noon until 4 pm

There is a short business meeting at 12:15 pm so that everyone can hear the latest news. You can come in the morning, the afternoon, or stay all day if you want!

### Burnsville Work Group

Coordinator: Debbie Zimmerman e-mail: homedaz@yahoo.com Phone: (651) 322-5386

### Messiah United Methodist Work Group

Coordinator: Phyllis Bopp e-mail: p.bopp@comcast.net Phone (763) 473-5303

Group meets the first Thursday of the month.

### South Metro Work Group:

Coordinator: Ruth Volk

e-mail: ruth.volk@comcast.net Home: (651) 452-5827

Cell: (651) 263-1251

Our main work meeting is held the 3rd Saturday of every month from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Shepherd of the Valley Church, Room 15. The church is on the NE corner of Johnny Cake Ridge Road and McAndrews, just east of the MN Zoo at the first stop light. Volunteers can join us any time during those hours. Please bring your machines if you sew, or come to help cut, iron, or assemble the finished items into bundles. You will be amazed at the abundance and beauty of the hand made items collected from all our volunteers!

2005 Meeting Dates: June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17.

The South Metro work group focuses primarily on newborn bundles. In 2004 our volunteers donated over 9000 hours to make, assemble, and deliver a total of 610 bundles, helping an estimated 740 families in the South Metro area. Thank you all so much! What a difference you all make in your community. It's a joy to work with such dedicated and talented people!

We also have several smaller community work groups that meet in homes, churches and community centers around the South Metro. A very special *Thanks* to the work group leaders - your group contributions helped us reach many more families and babies this year!

### Farmington - Cross of Christ Work Group

Coordinator: Sharon Moore

e-mail: smoore@tcq.net

phone: (651) 687-0509

3rd Monday of every month 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

2005 Meeting Dates: June 20, July 18, August 22, September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19

Cross of Christ Church offices in Farmington 5200 W. 211th St., just two blocks east of Pilot Knob on Hwy 50 .

### Minnetonka Seniors Work Group

Coordinator: Jan Winstead

e-mail: Jan2win@aol.com

phone: 952-935-3451

NEW meeting place: The Minnetonka Work Group of Bundles of Love now meets in the Grays Bay Room of the Minnetonka Community Center; 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard; Minnetonka, MN. At this point in time the room is reserved for 9 AM to 11 AM and for the first couple of months we'll test to see if this is enough time to finish tying the quilts. More time is available.

Meetings are scheduled the Tuesday before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month.

2005 Meeting Dates: June 14, July 12, August 16, September 13, October 11,

November 15, December 13

Supplies can still be picked up and completed items dropped off at the home of Jan Winstead. Please call ahead.

## Bundles of Love Welcomes.....

### Andover/Ham Lake Work Group

Ruth Nelson and Sharon, both long time Bundles of Love volunteers with the North Metro Work Group have started a new group in the Andover/Ham Lake area. Their first meeting, held in January, was a big success. At the end of the meeting, they presented me with a big stack of burp cloths!

The Andover/Ham Lake Work Group meets on the third Thursday of every month from 7-9pm at Horizons Community Church, 1503 - 157<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Ham Lake. (East side of Hwy 65 at 157<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.) For the next several meetings, Ruth and Sharon will be teaching new volunteers how to make a different pattern every month. They will be contributing their finished items to the North Metro work group to put in bundles at first, but eventually they hope to grow enough to assemble bundles at their own work meetings.

If you live in the far north metro, maybe you'd consider joining the Andover/Ham Lake group. You can contact Ruth Nelson at 763-434-7765.

### Upcoming Meetings:

June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15

The growth of Bundles of Love continues to astound me.  
Thank you all for your contributions to our success.  
*Mary Jo Prinsen—BOL President*



### Logo Mugs

Show your support by using your Bundles of Love mug. Mugs are "ocean blue" ceramic with white BOL logo. Mugs are available from your work coordinator.

Suggested donation is \$5.00 per mug.

## The Value of Donations

Bundles of Love receives thousands of pounds of donated supplies each year, but there are some items that we need cash to purchase. If you are wondering how your donation help your less fortunate neighbors, look at the following "price list"... We can make a little go a long way!

\$1 will purchase batting to make a warm infant quilt for a needy or hospitalized infant

\$3 will provide a baby with a starting supply of baby soap, baby wipes and diapers

\$5 will pay for flannel to make 4 receiving blankets as well as several bibs or burp cloths

\$10 will help us buy pronged snaps (at cost) for more than 30 newborn or preemie sleepers

\$20 or less is the average cash cost of a newborn "bundle" for a family in need, typically a diaper bag filled with newborn necessities, mainly hand-made items including:

- \* a baby quilt
- \* 2 receiving blankets
- \* 2 sleepers
- \* sweater, or jacket/pants set
- \* infant toy
- \* baby wipes
- \* seasonal items such as a summer romper or winter bunting, hat and mittens
- \* a small afghan
- \* 2 bibs
- \* 2 infant gowns
- \* hat
- \* washcloth
- \* 2 day supply of diapers
- \* fitted crib sheet
- \* 2 burp clothes
- \* 2 t-shirts or "onesies"
- \* booties
- \* baby soap

*A donation form is located on Page 23*

Raising Funds to continue the work of Bundles of Love is a continuous activity.

You can help by ...

- notifying us of any contacts you have in corporations who support non-profit organizations such as ours
- taking advantage of any matching funds programs you are aware of (such as employers or fraternal organizations) which will increase your personal gifts
- checking to see if your employer supports volunteerism by donating to organizations in which its employees are active
- and most importantly, just keep talking with your family, friends, and other acquaintances about what we do!

# Work Group Calendar 2005

## Work Group Key for Calendars:

- Fmgtn - Farmington
- Mtka - Minnetonka
- N Met- North Metro
- S Met - South Metro
- R-EdV - Rochester (Ed-Ventures Office)
- R-PxC - Rochester (Pax Christi Church)
- Fmgtn - Farmington Cross of Christ
- AnHLk - Andover Ham Lake
- Board - Board Meetings
- MsUM - Messiah United Methodist
- Stl - Stillwater

### June

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2 MsUM	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 R-Edv	10	11 N Met
12	13	14 Mtka	15	16 AnHLk	17	18 S Met
19	20 Fmgtn	21	22	23	24	25 R-PxC Stl
26	27	28	29	30		

### July

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 MsUM	8	9 N Met
10	11	12 Mtka	13	14 R-EdV	15	16 S Met R-PxC Board
17 Dessert Party	18 Fmgtn	19	20	21 AnHLk	22	23 Stl
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

## Work Group Calendar Continued

### August

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4 MsUM	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 R-Edv	12	13 N Met R-PxC
14	15	16 Mtka	17	18 AnHLk	19	20 S Met Board
21	22 Fmgtn	23	24	25	26	27 Stl
28	29	30	31			Summer Fundraiser

### September

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1 MsUM	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 R-Edv	9	10 N Met
11	12	13 Mtka	14	15 AnHLk	16	17 S Met
18	19 Fmgtn	20	21	22	23	24 R-PxC Stl
25	26	27	28	29	30	

### October

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
<del>1</del>	<del>2</del>	3	4	5	6 MsUM	7 8 N Met
<del>9</del>	10	11 Mtka	12	13 R-EdV	14	15 S Met Board
16	17 Fmgtn	18	19	20 AnHLk	21	22 R-PxC Stl
<del>23</del>	24	25	26	27	28	29
<del>30</del>	31					

## Work Group Calendar Continued

### Work Group Key:

Fmgtn – Farmington Cross of Christ  
 Mtka – Minnetonka  
 N Met- North Metro  
 S Met – South Metro  
 R-EdV – Rochester (Ed-Ventures Office)  
 R-PxC – Rochester (Pax Christi Church)  
 AnHLk – Andover Ham Lake  
 Board – Board Meetings  
 MsUM – Messiah United Methodist  
 Stl - Stillwater

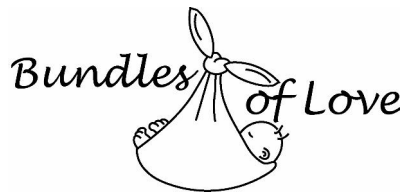
### November

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3 MsUM	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 R-Edv	11	12 N Met
13	14	15 Mtka	16	17 AnHLk	18	19 S Met R-PxC Board
20	21 Fmgtn	22	23	24	25	26 Stl
27	28	29	30			

### December

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1 MsUM	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 R-Edv	9	10 N Met
11	12	13 Mtka	14	15 AnHLk	16	17 S Met
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31





Bundles of Love  
PO Box 240301  
Apple Valley, MN 55124-0301

Bundles of Love Newsletter  
Spring / Summer 2005

ARE YOU ON-LINE?

If you have Internet access, please send us your e-mail address at:  
[info@bundlesoflove.org](mailto:info@bundlesoflove.org) and ask to be added to our e-mail list.

We will notify you when future newsletters are available online, saving us postal costs so we can spend more of our funds directly helping infants.

If you would like to be removed from our newsletter mailing list to save us postage, please e-mail: [info@bundlesoflove.org](mailto:info@bundlesoflove.org) or send us a postcard.