

BWI's Mission Accomplished for 2016-2017

Brooksdale Women's Institute members chose unanimously 'Children's Hospital of Western Ontario/Ronald McDonald House' as their theme for the coming year. And what a year it has been: buying, cutting, measuring, sewing, painting and best of all, sharing time together to achieve all that we set out to accomplish.

What a year! Awesome results! Congratulations ladies for all your time and efforts to make this a reality.

Following an Oxford District workshop last April, our first efforts were put into making slings, bead bags, burp bibs and scent cloths. This was followed with tray favours, 40 minion men and 40 snowmen, for the children.

In June, we visited Children's Hospital, learning and better understanding the needs of the children as well as the staff. At this time, we offered items from the 'Wish List' to the Ronald McDonald House. Again, your generosity was very much appreciated.

With assistance from Southern Area President, Marg Ogar, BWI built one 'baby-cake'. BWI member, Helmy Knoops purchased enough materials for 6 baby-cakes to be given to the originator of this idea connected with the Children's Hospital. BWI member, Anne Innes also made a baby-cake.

We all have different talents. By working together as a team, our gifts of love are outstanding. Katherine Grieve, Laura Green, Carol Innes and Marlene Matheson sewed. Helmy Knoops threaded bead bags and purchased materials for baby-cakes. Anne Innes organized tray favours and made a baby-cake.

In addition to all of this, BWI members gathered bears (or stuffy toy), books and blankets to create and offer as 'comfort' packages to the Children's Hospital as well as our local Embro Fire Department.

We certainly were not alone in our efforts. We have a couple of very special neighbours who asked if they could help our mission.

Lynne Heersink offered her sewing expertise and equipment to surge slings, scent cloths and bead bags as well as share her creative talents making tiny shoes for infants. How sweet they are!

Helen Matheson used her beautiful talent of crocheting, offering many crib blankets and preemie caps. As well, she sewed burp bibs for us.

It has been learned that bead bags are the #1 request of Children's Hospital. We have endeavoured to supply this need and have offered to date, 101 bead bags 😊

And so, all your gifts have been gathered together and delivered to Oxford District Women's Institute representative to be passed to the Children's Hospital Auxiliary.

*Awesome work Brooksdale Women's Institute members & friends
Laura, Katherine, Sharon, Anne, Helmy, Carol & Marlene
Lynne and Helen*

Respectfully written by
Marlene A Matheson