

# MATERIAL GIRLS MEETING MINUTES and UPDATES

On Wednesday, October 27, 2021 the Material Girls met at the Grand Haven Room at the Village Center at 2 o'clock. It was the first face-to-face meeting in almost two years. Attendees were asked to wear masks.

**Guests:** Nancy Fleenor-Nelson and John Subers from AdventHealth Palm Coast Foundation

**Attendees:** Louise Porter, Kathleen Fuss, Nancy Beneducci, Jeanette Jung, Denise Burren, Pamela Lanza, Mary Davidson, Annette Pierce, Pat Barton, M.J. Elwood, Marie Lanier, Michelle Kreiss Keating, Lucie Lachance

Michelle and Lucie welcomed everyone. Materials were set out on tables for those who might need patterns or yarn. There were also Christmas stocking kits ready to be assembled. Completed items were gratefully accepted. Those in attendance were encouraged to stuff comfort pillows and to sew the seams closed. Everyone worked as they listened to our guests.

## Advent Health Palm Coast Foundation

*Nancy Fleenor-Nelson* is a Development Officer at the AdventHealth Palm Coast Foundation (AHPCF) who oversees the Palm Coast facility as well as Hospice Care East Florida. She has been with the foundation for 6 years. She made the group aware that the Stuart-Meyer Hospice House has reopened. It's located behind the hospital. Nancy explained that the comfort pillows made by Material Girls were appreciated by the post-surgery nursing staff on the third floor. They were delighted to give them to patients who had had abdominal surgery. Nancy presented the group with a photo of the staff holding pillows as a thank you for the “thoughtful and beautiful comfort pillows for our patients.”



**John Subers** has served as director of AHPCF for 12 years. He too expressed his appreciation and encouraged those interested to tour the AdventHealth facilities. He mentioned that a second hospital is being built on Palm Coast Parkway west of Kohl's. The new hospital will be constructed with the most modern equipment available and plans are for the facility to be the same size as the AdventHealth hospital located on 100. John concluded his discussion by handing out bandaid dispensers just in case a Material Girl pricked her finger.

Michelle thanked our guests for their visit and the information they shared. She also thanked everyone for the work they have been doing all summer.

Blankets and chemo caps have been delivered to doctors' offices, baby hats and booties to the Alpha Center and amenity bags have also been delivered to the Family Life Center via the Health and Wellness Committee.

Michelle emphasized that completed projects, materials, etc. can always be dropped off at her house. She is also willing to pick up or drop off items. All it takes is a quick text or telephone call.

### **Christmas Come True – Quilted Christmas Stockings Project**

Michelle spoke with **Nadine King** recently. Nadine is executive director of Innovative Community Resource Solutions (ICRS) and the founder of the **Christmas Come True** (CCT) organization. You can check out their website for more information:

ChristmasComeTrue.org. You are encouraged to visit their Resale Shop at 2729 E. Moody Blvd. (next to Wendy's).

Store: 386-302-1290. Hours: M-F 10-5, Sat. 10-2.

The Material Girls (MG) have volunteered to make at least 300 quilted Christmas Stockings for CCT. If at all possible, we will increase that number to 500 so that each of the 500 children identified can receive one of our stockings. More than 200 stockings are completed. This project has been well received by several members who like to cut fabric, quilt and sew. Michelle is coordinating this effort. She has spent time shopping for deals on fabric and batting. Michelle and Lucie will meet with Nadine on November 1st to drop off the 200 completed stockings.



### **Flagler County Senior Services Division – Social Services**

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Lucie met with **Winnie Costello** who is the case manager for Senior Social Services. The Senior Center is located at the Church of the Rock on Route 1 in Bunnell. Winnie states that about 50 seniors come to the center to enjoy games and lunch. She also oversees services for 10 folks at the Adult Day Care facility. Eighty seniors are part of the Meals on Wheels program.

Lucie explained what the Material Girls do. Winnie showed interest in receiving some origami bags that she would use at the Center's Christmas festivities. Lucie provided her with 41 bags she had brought along and committed to 20 more before December 17<sup>th</sup>. Winnie also accepted 25 tissue holders which will be given as prizes for winners of various games. The Senior Center has a Penny Auction in March. Winnie was delighted to accept a promise of 30 washcloths and 30 amenity bags for that fundraising event. It is exciting to see how many lives we can touch with our work.

**Nancy Beneducci** brought several Halloween bears to the ER at AdventHealth earlier this month. Since the ER has plenty of bears, several bears were given to the Health and Wellness group October 19th. Patty Hartsfield shared that the folks at the Family Life Center “absolutely loved the bears!” Patty also bought a bear for \$5 to give to a colleague. There are 67 more bears waiting for a place to go – if you have a suggestion, please be sure to let us know.



Tissue holders are bringing us money – that's right! Lucie brought a basket full of our tissue holders to the General Grand Haven Woman's Club meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Members were delighted to purchase some for friends and guests. Their generosity added \$80 to our coffers.

Several ladies are working on the mending project with Michelle Seifert. MG's have earned \$131.11 so far and there is \$300+ that has not been paid out to us yet.

It is sad to report that Dr. Toppi has dissolved her non-profit “Hope to Help”. This organization received the cancer care kits that we were making. We continue to bring blankets and chemo caps to Dr. Sai's office.

**Our next meeting will be held at Creekside on Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 10.** We look forward to seeing many of you there. Hopefully, conditions will soon allow us to host meetings at our homes.

You can always call, text or email us with any questions or to make plans to drop off and/or pick up projects.

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**THANK YOU \* THANK YOU \* THANK YOU**

