

Sew Much Love



Fall 2023 Edition

WakeMed



A WakeMed Volunteer Group

WAKEMED VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT! ROSEMARIE GATTUSO



Meet Rosemarie Gattuso. My husband Jim and I have one daughter who is a violinist and orchestra director for the New Hanover County Public Schools.

Jim and I are originally from Massachusetts and moved to Maryland with our daughter in 1990, where we resided for 21 years.

Our daughter attended UNC Greensboro and we soon fell in love with North Carolina. We have called North Carolina our home since 2012! I have been crocheting for over 40 years, but didn't crochet amigurumi until 2012. I thought it would be fun and challenging and I soon connected with Noel Tucker from The Comfort Project NC. She collects toys for various hospitals in the area including WakeMed.

My husband had emergency surgery last year at WakeMed and while waiting during his surgery, I heard announcements that children were coming in through the Children's Emergency Department. That was enough for me to decide to become more involved in the WakeMed volunteer program.

When I'm not crocheting I love stenciling, reading and any other craft that I should come across!!





Sew Much Love

You are making a difference!



THE STORY OF WILLIAM AND PIGGY



Our son was admitted to WakeMed Children's last summer (2022). While he was there, he received a handmade stuffed animal from the Ronald McDonald Family Room. He is 3, autistic, and has never taken to a stuffed animal before -- until he got the one from your foundation. He is absolutely in love with "Piggy," as she's now called, and has been since he got her. Piggy is the only stuffy he wants in his crib and has been with him through multiple procedures, hospital visits, and doctors appointments.

So, first of all, thank you so much to you and your volunteers. We are grateful for everything you do!

As for Piggy, she's had to be washed more than a few times and she is starting to get bare in some places. We have finally identified, found, and ordered the exact same fabric. It was out of stock but we found it on Etsy!

I was wondering if you could pass on how meaningful this stuffed animal is to the creator, if you may have any idea of how to find them. Additionally, would they be willing to either send us a pattern to have another "Piggy" made, or to make one for our son William?



We received this sweet letter from a patient's parents expressing their thanks and also an inquiry into getting additional backup "Piggys" for the future. The request was completed and now backup Piggy's have been delivered! We are so appreciative of the beautiful creations that our sewing community provides. You are all amazing and what you are doing matters!



Sew
Much
Love

THANK YOU! WE APPRECIATE
OUR SEWING COMMUNITY!





Sew Much Love

More Beautiful Creations!





Sew Much Love

We are Grateful!

A Special Thank you to the talented WakeMed Sewing Community!

Recently the Sew Much Love Group was delivering blankets to the adult floors. A quilt was given to an older gentleman who was not doing well. His wife came down the hall to thank us. After hugs and tears she told us that her mother-in-law had taught her to quilt and that this was just a wonderful full circle moment.

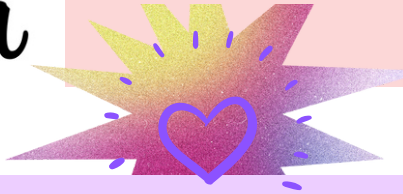


Sherry Ingersoll made 58 Halloween Costumes for the NICU Babies in Raleigh.



Sew Much Love

WE TRULY ARE BLESSED WITH THE MOST CREATIVE COMMUNITY SEWERS



Meet Two New Sewing Groups



Kristene Furan, Nancy Mason and Jane Chernick of Grandin Trace Quilt and Sew From Durham



Sewing Seeds in Hearts Group in Cary, Barbara Dale, Amy Wolford, Shalyse Clayton



Books were donated by local children's author, Jordan Romans



Sew Much Love



We Love our Sewers

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US?

BENEFITS OF BECOMING A COMMUNITY SEWING VOLUNTEER

Join more than 500 sewing volunteers who through their contributions allow our volunteers and nursing staff to provide patients and families with blankets, baby hats, huggables and more!

- Recognition of volunteer service hours.
- Receive the quarterly newsletter Heartbeat.
- Recognition during National Volunteer Week.
- Receive the quarterly newsletter Sew Much Love.
- Reimbursement of sewing items purchased. (When funds are available.)

Are you currently donating but not registered as a volunteer? Visit our Website for more Sewing Information!

<https://www.wakemed.org/volunteer/community-sewing-volunteer>

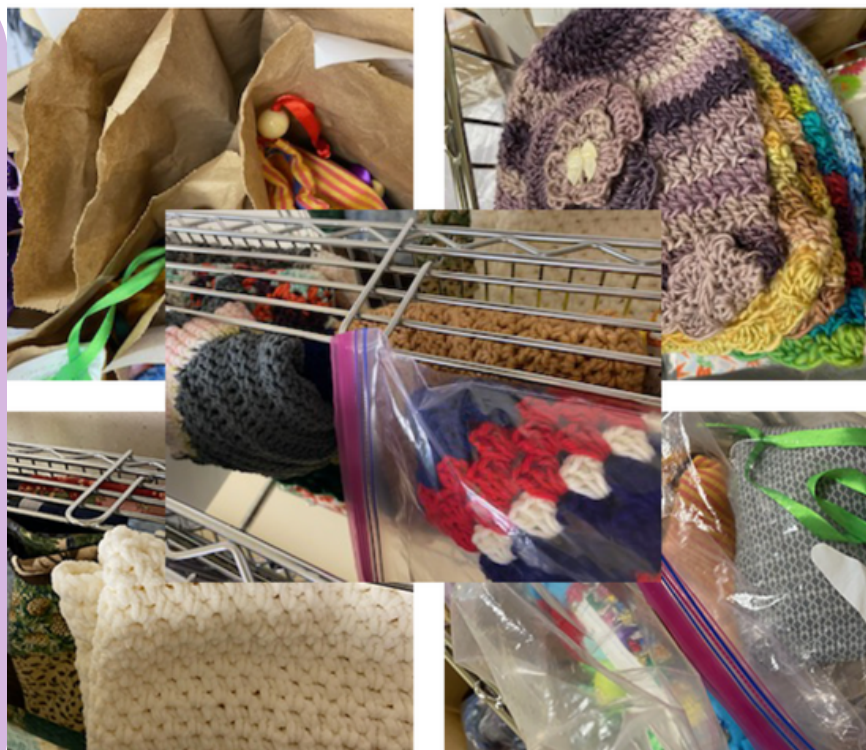


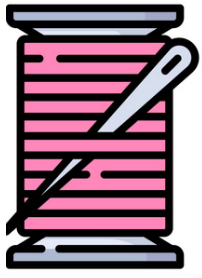
WAKEMED VOICES BLOG

Follow the Blanket Through the Beauty of Volunteer Services

Cary Stitches are mentioned in this important article about the wonderful impact of donating and volunteering. Be sure to check it out!

<https://wakemedvoices.com/2023/10/follow-the-blanket-through-the-beauty-of-volunteer-services/>





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Most Requested



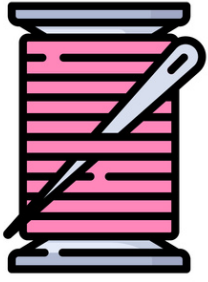
- Small Crocheted or Hand-sewn Huggables
- Baby Burp Cloths - peanut shape 17 inches long, 6 inches across the middle and 8 inches at either end. Please use absorbent terry cloth for the backing
- Adult Sized Blankets
- Seasonal Blankets - Holiday and Winter Themed
- Seasonal Amigurumi Huggables
- Seasonal Baby Hats 4-5" across x 4-5" in height (Please Use Baby Yarn Size 3 or 4)

Thank You

Reminders!

Please do not use knitters when making baby hats





Sew Much Love

LOOKING AHEAD



**Sew Much Love Group
Member Contact
Information:**

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We are looking for Winter themed comfort items, Holiday Quilts as well as Huggables and Baby Blankets!





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