

The warehouse looked almost back to normal for pre-pack! There were at least, if not more than 10! Thank you to all of the ladies that came and lent a hand to pre-pack and pack up those layettes.

June Items Needed:

Just a quick note, on **items that use ribbing (gowns/sleepers/creepers), please use the pattern as your guide and use ribbing where noted. Specifically, sleeves, neck and legs/bottom. We have received a few items that are stitched, but not ribbed at the bottom. If you are worried about conserving ribbing material, we will make sure there is enough. We just want all items to be uniform. Thank you for your attention to this.

** Also, You may want to check for stains before you cut out the pattern, especially if the cloth came from the warehouse. Several bundles of fabric that I have used have the cloth sample numbers on them in ink and have also been a bit dirty. Just a heads up.

*Boy/Girl Creepers *Girl Receiving Blankets *Large burial afghans - only use white/cream yarn

Distribution for May:

28 layettes/ 840 items/ 13 burials **Year to Date:** 145 layettes/ 4863 items/ 67 burials

Funding Update:

We received a grant from Amicalola EMC Trust on April 23rd for \$1,000. This is from their Operation Round-Up fund, which comes from EMC users "rounding up" their utility bills to the next dollar. Amicalola EMC serves all or parts of Cherokee, Pickens, Gilmer, Dawson, and Lumpkin counties. Funds can be used for supplies such as fabric, yarn, and thread needed to make the infant ensembles delivered to hospitals or care facilities in those counties. Tiny Stitches is grateful for the generosity of this EMC.

Did you know that you can help raise money for Tiny Stitches just by shopping! Donating to Tiny Stitches is available when you shop at Kroger and order from Amazon. If you have a Kroger Plus Rewards Card, you can earn cash for TS by linking it -- sign in to your Kroger Account and scroll down to Community Rewards. Every time you use the card, Kroger donates a small percentage of the sale back to the charity of your choice. The Amazon Smile program also donates to your designated charity every time you place an order. Enter Amazon Smile in the Amazon search box and follow the links. BE SURE that you always sign in through the Amazon Smile portal to get the benefits. If you have a bookmark, you'll need to change it. You don't have to change your login or password. Thanks to everyone who is already part of these programs. If you know of other reward programs that will give back to charities, please let me know and I will post them. Carla Beasley, Grants Coordinator. <u>carlafayebeasley@gmail.com</u>.

* On a slightly personal note, I have been with TS for 3 1/2 years and as I was given on loan a serger the first time I came, I mostly sew garments for TS. I love picking out fabric and sewing the garment together all the while imagining a tiny head, or hands popped out of the gown or lap-front tee I am making. Sometimes, I even imagine the joy the new mom feels at not only seeing a huge bag full of God's care for her but the quality therein. When the need arose for large burial afghans, I took a large skein from the warehouse, found a pattern and began stitching. What I wasn't prepared for was the overwhelming emotions that would hit. This time, when given, there was going to be a momma in grief. Maybe, a momma numb and angry. Or a momma ashamed that her body couldn't carry her baby. Would this afghan wrap her baby for the last time she would see it? Or would she keep it in a box of momentos to drag out every so often to remember and cry on? It was as I stitched, maybe for the first time in all these years, that I saw just how big our work is. We do great and very important work ladies and gents. It reaches way further than we know. All the way to someone's heart. ♥□ Amy