

## Abundance Of Love



### Our Mission

We are a Central Florida volunteer organization whose members knit, crochet, loom and sew. We create items of comfort with love to distribute locally wherever there is a need.

## ***NEWSLETTER - JULY 2024***

### **Jen's Corner**



This month I want to give a shout out and huge THANK YOU to all our many crafters who "work from home" and donate their wonderful items. So often I come home and find bags, boxes, and containers at my door with hats, blankets, soap sacks, stuffed toys, craft books, needles and even clothes and shoes. I find a home for all items, and they are much appreciated by all the charities we serve. I won't name you all as I'm sure I would forget someone, but just know how much I value every one of you as members of Abundance Of Love.

The 4th anniversary of Abundance Of Love was June 20. We are stronger than ever!

Have a Happy Independence Day!

Many blessings,  
Jen Smith, Founder and Outreach Coordinator

## AOL Calendar

July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 Everglades Mtg 10:30am	2	3	4	5 <b>NO La Hacienda</b> Mtg  Spruce Creek South Mtg 9:30am
7	8	9	10 <b>Fruitland Park</b> <b>Comm. Ctr Mtg</b> 2:00pm	11	12 <b>Big Cypress</b> Mtg 8:30am
14	15 Everglades Mtg 10:30am	16	17	18	19 <b>NO La Hacienda</b> Mtg  Spruce Creek South Mtg 9:30am
21	22	23	24 <b>Fruitland Park</b> <b>Comm. Ctr Mtg</b> 2:00pm	25	26 <b>Big Cypress</b> Mtg 8:30am
28	29 Everglades Mtg 10:30am	30	31		

**There are NO La Hacienda meetings in July.**  
**Also La Hacienda will temporarily close for renovations and**  
**we will NOT MEET Aug. 30 or Sept. 6.**

## OUR PROJECTS

For many patterns, see our website [tvabundanceoflove](http://tvabundanceoflove.com) **Pattern Links.**



### **MOST NEEDED**

- \* **Port pillows** - Kits available.
- \* **Chemo hats** - Simply Soft Yarn provided.
- \* **Eye shields for NICU babies** - Size 2 x 9-10". Two-sided, SOFT fabrics, sewn & turned. Do not top stitch. Must be dark on one side (i.e, black flannel works well), pretty fabric on other side. Kits available.
- \* **Isolette covers** - Size 46 x 46". Two-sided fabric, back must be black or dark color, front in pretty prints.
- \* **Hats, scarves, headbands, and mittens (cold weather)** - For teens/adults.

### **ON HOLD**

- \* **Heart stress pillows for hand**
- \* **Clothing protectors**
- \* **Hearts of love**

### **NEEDED AND ONGOING**

- \* **Baby items** - Lightweight blankets 24 to 26" in pastels, soft yarn. Hat/bootie sets to go with blankets. If you make a blanket, save leftover yarn for someone else to make hat/booties; helpful to include yarn label with blankets.
- \* **Blankets** - ALL blanket sizes needed. Smallest is 14" square. Baby sets (that include blanket, hat, booties) are 24-26". Size ~36" can be in baby colors or bright colors for children. Teen and adult sizes also needed. Pound of Love and one pound skeins are enough for blankets.
- \* **Boxes** - Large and medium-size
- \* **Critters** - Any animal; fabric, knit, crochet, up to 6 inches tall.
- \* **Hats/surgical** - for youth
- \* **Medical dolls** - Materials provided.
- \* **Panels 7 x 9"**
- \* **Picc line (IV) covers** - For all ages, baby to adult.
- \* **Pillowcases** - For children up to 17 years old. Fabric provided.
- \* **Pillows, heart large, for cardiology**
- \* **Pillows, mastectomy hearts**
- \* **Pillows, neck**
- \* **Prayer pockets** - Pattern on web.
- \* **Prayer squares** - No larger than 4 x 5". Add prayer tag at meeting.
- \* **Scarves** - 4-5" wide, 36-50" long, fringe or no-fringe.
- \* **Shawls**
- \* **Soap sacks**

### **NOT NEEDED**

- \* **Toddler hats (32-peg loom)**
- \* **Bottle caps**

**Size chart** is available on [tvabundanceoflove Our Needs](#) page.  
**Our Charities List** is linked at the bottom of this email.



## THIS AND THAT

A few reminders:

- \* For 7 x 9 panels, please use bright and cheerful child-friendly colors.
- \* Cardboard templates for prayer squares and 7 x 9 panels are available so these items are made in the correct size.
- \* Please do not topstitch any pillows.

Vitas Home Health is asking for hospice volunteers to make friendly visits to clients. Jen is a volunteer and can tell you more about what is involved. Visits with your pet are also welcomed. Abundance Of Love donates, shawls, blankets, twiddle mats, clothing protectors, and prayer squares to Vitas. They are located in The Villages.

There are **no La Hacienda meetings in July**. Please call or email Jen if you want to drop off items or pick up yarn from her. We don't want to impede production! Also La Hacienda Rec Ctr will temporarily close for renovations and we will **NOT MEET Aug. 30 or Sept. 6**.

David Wilson (husband of Corinna at Big Cypress) is a whirlwind loomer. He was popular in the ICU at Moffitt Cancer Center some months ago, making hats for patients who often stopped by and asked for one. He's doing great now!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Fundraiser Craft Show in September**

Our AOL fundraising craft show will be **Mon. Sept. 30**, at Everglades Rec Center. Blank tags are provided at each meeting to attach to your craft sale items, but do not price them. Turn in items the first meeting in September. Any handmade items are acceptable except food items.

### **Holiday Party, Gateway to Hope**

Looking ahead to the holidays, Abundance Of Love will participate in the annual Christmas Party on Dec. 14, 2024, hosted by Gateway to Hope in Ocala. Over 150 families attend and are entertained with clowns, games, food and of course Santa and Mrs. Clause will be there. AOL will donate hats, scarves and mittens. Small "critters" needed for game prizes.



**AOL DONATIONS - JUNE 2024**

Number of items donated: 1,300

To storage: 405 hats (now totaling 4,505)

The Peyton Heart Project update: 185 crochet and knitted hearts were sent to the headquarters in Texas.



Our member Beverly Dwyer dropped off 35 adorable hats to the Big Cypress meeting 6/28. She's a former school teacher and keeps detailed records of her donations; she has donated almost 1,000 hats to AOL so far. Although her eyesight is not what it used to be, she continues to whip out her hats with no problem. She makes them in the cutest styles, i.e., strawberries, watermelons, ducks, frogs, smiley faces.

Nancy and Don Still delivered 642 items to Julie Sing, Director, Volunteer Program Management, AdventHealth. Julie will distribute our donations to 10 hospital campuses in the Orlando area.



Picking up items from  
Jen & Terry Smith



Julie Sing & Nancy Still



Jana Mcgarvey  
Volunteer Prog Mgr  
AdventHealth for Children

## THANK YOU'S



### **Tampa General Hospital**

"To our marvelous volunteers with Abundance Of Love, Your dolls and surgical hats are a favorite of our pediatric staff. The kids love them and our clinicians appreciate the functionality as well as the craftsmanship. Thank you."

Carol Hangen, TGH Volunteer

### **Infant and Toddler Pantry, Belleview**

"Thank you! It's great to know the world of wonderful people like you and your Abundance Of Love members! We are blessed to receive the blankets. The moms are so excited to get them. They wanted to know who made them. I told them some nice, kindhearted ladies. Thank you, thank you."

### **AdventHealth**

"Your team outdid themselves with all the donations. They are lovely and appreciated."

Julie Sing, Director, Volunteer Program Management, AdventHealth

**Thanks to all who came out for "Knit In Public Day" on June 8 at Big Cypress.**



## **Financials - June 2024**

Beginning Balance: \$5,204.28

Income:	220.00
Expenses:	<u>315.29</u>
Ending Balance:	\$5,108.99

A line-by-line detailed financial report is available from your group leader.

### **Leaders and Contacts**

La Hacienda, Founder, Outreach Coordinator - Jen Smith, 352-250-3431, [jpsmith5@comcast.net](mailto:jpsmith5@comcast.net)  
Big Cypress - Bonnie Mulneix, 724-283-8248, [dmulneix@comcast.net](mailto:dmulneix@comcast.net)  
Everglades - Johanna Cole, 352-205-9863, [virginia2villages@gmail.com](mailto:virginia2villages@gmail.com)  
Fruitland Park Community Center - Kathy Morey, 248-214-4167, [kmmonroad@gmail.com](mailto:kmmonroad@gmail.com)  
Spruce Creek South - Lee Buckland, 352-239-8264, [MLeeBuckland42@gmail.com](mailto:MLeeBuckland42@gmail.com)  
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**Web Site:** [tvabundanceoflove.com](http://tvabundanceoflove.com)

### **Charities We Support**

**Officially Established September 2022**

**Founder Jen Smith**

“A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING  
TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT,  
APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.”  
1-800-HELP FLA (1-800-435-7352)

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