



## **Abundance Of Love**

We are a volunteer organization, founded in The Villages, Florida, whose members crochet, knit, loom, and sew. We create items of comfort to distribute within our local community.

[tvabundanceoflove.com](http://tvabundanceoflove.com)

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### ***NEWSLETTER - JULY 2026***



#### **Jen's Corner**

On June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, we celebrated the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Abundance Of Love. We started with literally nothing -- no funds, supplies, or any real plan. That is, until the group leaders from a previous organization got together to create a new charity club. We decided that what we had been creating--hats for children with cancer--while a wonderful cause, required year round fundraising for postage to ship to 80 hospitals around the world.

We decided there was great need locally, right outside The Villages, and our mission would be, and still is, to create items of comfort and donate locally. Now, after 7 years, we have a great website, a monthly newsletter, over 25 projects for sewers, loomers, knitters, and crocheters, and we support more that 50 charities. We have almost 500 people on our email list and about 140 regular attendees at our 4 meeting locations. We've come a long way!

Wow! We are truly blessed to be able to garner the talents of each of you to provide comfort and basic needs--which sends a message that many are not

forgotten.

Happy July 4th, happy summer, and warm regards,  
Jen Smith  
Founder and Outreach Coordinator

## AOL Calendar July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1		2	3 <b>NO La Hacienda Mtgs in July</b>
5	6 <b>Everglades Mtg 10:00am</b>	7	8 <b>Fruitland Park 2:00pm</b>	9	10 <b>Big Cypress Mtg 9:00am</b>
12	13	14	15	16	17 <b>NO La Hacienda Mtgs in July</b>
19	20 <b>Everglades Mtg 10:00am</b>	21	22 <b>Fruitland Park 2:00pm</b>	23	24 <b>Big Cypress Mtg 9:00am</b>
26	27	28	29	30	31 <b>NO La Hacienda Mtgs in July</b>

**There are NO La Hacienda meetings in July.**

## OUR PROJECTS

[Charities List](#) link

[Patterns](#) - See "Pattern Links" page on our site [tvabundanceoflove.com](http://tvabundanceoflove.com)

[Size Chart](#) link (best sizes for our items)



**MOST NEEDED**

**For Knitters, Crocheters, Loomers:**

- \* **Blankets** - 14x14" preemie
- \* **Picc line (IV) covers** - for all ages, baby to adult, knitted preferred

**For Sewers:**

- \* **Prayer pockets** - sewn, pattern on website
- \* **Pillows/heart stress** for hand w/strap
- \* **Pillows/port covers** - kits available

**NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME**

- \* **Blankets:** Large
- \* **Buntings for babies**
- \* **Hats** - toddler size (32-peg loom)
- \* **Hearts of love**
- \* **LIFE blankets & shawls**
- \* **Pillowcases** for children up to 17 years old. One-yard pattern on website.
- \* **Twiddle mats** \*DO still need items to affix to mats--large buttons, short zippers, crochet flowers, thread spools, keys, small toys, textured items, etc.  
(When mats are needed in future, can use #5 bulky yarn, placemat size, knit or crochet. Mats must be solid, not open weave, washable in hot water. Carefully attach items using strong thread, dental floss, or crochet cotton. NO glued-on items.
- \* **Pillows/cardiac** - no longer needed.

**ONGOING**

**For Knitters, Crocheters, Loomers:**

- \* **Baby sets** - Lightweight blankets ~24-24" to fit our packaging (NOT 14x14"). Use pastels, soft yarn. Hat/bootie sets to go with blankets always needed. These sets go to new moms as they leave the hospital.
- \* **Blankets/Children** - bright colors, minimum 36x36"
- \* **Blankets/Lapghans** - for men and women (see size chart on website)
- \* **Critters** - any character/animal up to 6" tall, lightly stuffed so they are "squishy." We donate to memory care facilities.  
To Amigurumi animal crafters: Bulky yarn available in a variety of colors; let us know what you need. Larger items sold really well at our craft sale; next sale is 10/9/26 Rohan Rec Center.
- \* **Hats** - for all ages, but NO toddler size.
- \* **Hats/Chemo** - Directions included in each bag with yarn we provide.
- \* **Mats/bag** - from grocery bags made on wood looms
- \* **Mittens** - collecting for fall
- \* **Peyton Project Hearts** - No need to add tags. Find pattern on their website [HERE](#)
- \* **Panels, 7 x 9"** - No blanket yarn please--too heavy when joined. Granny squares not needed.
- \* **Prayer squares** - must be 4 x 5", patterns on web, templates available
- \* **Scarves** - adult 5-6" wide x 45" long (do not need short ones for children)

- \* **Shawls/adult** - Regular shawls. No LIFE shawls.
- \* **Soap sacks** - cotton yarn ONLY, use AOL patterns, with or without soap

**For Sewers:**

- \* **Clothing protectors** - fabric/velcro provided
- \* **Dolls, medical** - fabric kits provided
- \* **Eye shields** - for NICU babies, instructions on website
- \* **Hats/surgical for youth** - fabric kits provided
- \* **Pillows/small** - for children, instructions on website
- \* **Pillows/mastectomy** - sew, but do not stuff
- \* **Walker bags** - use sturdy/upholstery fabric, pattern/velcro provided

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### **Dine to Donate Fundraiser - August**

On Tues. 8/11/26, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., please visit Prima Italian Steakhouse (in Brownwood) for lunch or dinner to help with our "Dine to Donate" fundraiser! Please share the details with your friends and family. How it works: when you receive your itemized bill, write Abundance Of Love on the top & tell your server you are supporting us. 20% of food proceeds that day for those noting that on their bill will come to AOL. That's it - Easy Peasy!

**CLICK HERE** for the 4-per-page handout that you can cut up and distribute.

### **Craft Sale - October**

Our fall craft sale will be Fri. 10/9/26 at Rohan Rec Center. More info will be in future newsletters. We look forward to your fun and unique items, as always!

### **Musical Fundraiser - October**

Jen has arranged a fundraiser for AOL featuring a popular Villages musical group called *Forever Young*. The event will be Fri. 10/16/26 at La Hacienda Rec Center. Tickets are \$22. We are using a ticket purchase system thru an on-line website called Zeffy. It's easy to use; see link below to purchase tickets.

**CLICK HERE** for the flyer.

**CLICK HERE** for the Zeffy website to purchase tickets.



## THIS AND THAT

We were asked by Colman prison officials if we could help with a project for some of their residents, on a trial basis. We provided donated yarn, samples, and patterns so 8 beginner crocheters can make 7x9 panels for us. We were happy to meet with them to get this project started.

## AOL DONATIONS - June 2026



- \* Items donated in June: 2,254
- \* In addition to the total above, we collected 2,200 red, white and blue **Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday America** crocheted hearts, which have been distributed to several local charities.
- \* Another milestone: 500 baby sets donated so far to AdventHealth hospital campus in Orlando
- \* Hats to storage to date: 5,250, for October distribution
- \* A new recipient of our handmade items is Lake Panasoffkee United Methodist Church who received soap sacks, sleeping mats, and 44 donated umbrellas.

Jen distributed some of our donations at the Lake Panasoffkee Food Pantry in June;

all were very appreciative!



## COMPLETED PROJECTS

Lisa Kruchinski, Fruitland Park, was commissioned by a book writer, who originally contacted AOL, to crochet horses to be used along with her book. Lisa has gone above & beyond to crochet multiple intricate horses.



Neila Davis, Everglades, has been busy crocheting fantastic chenille stuffed animals--always super popular--for our October craft sale.



Denise Wintenberg, Big Cypress, made this beautiful knitted baby set that includes baby "tennis shoes."



Cheryl Peters, Everglades, hand-painted some great artwork (using acrylic paints) on these lovely walker bags. They are a great addition for our craft sale.



Doris Hoffman used white yarn mixed with thin yarn from small balls & cakes for this blanket--such a great way to use up our small balls and make an interesting project.



This soap sack was crocheted by Kathy Morey using ONE strand of very thin yarn from a single cake; it's a technique to triple the yarn as you crochet. See her on how to do it - it's a great way to use up our thin yarns.



## THANK YOU'S



Thank You

### Tampa General Hospital

"Tampa General Hospital is very fortunate in having your group create the much needed surgical caps and "me" dolls. Aside from the practical function, our young patients enjoy your donations as keepsakes."

Carol Hansen

### Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH

"We received your donation of medical dolls (with gowns and caps) ..... My team absolutely loves them."

Nicole L. Tanghe, Manager of Child Life & Music Therapy

### Palm Beach Children's Hospital

"Thank you for the lovely medical play dolls. We truly appreciate the support. The children are going to really enjoy receiving these."

Daniel Williams, Child Life Office Supervisor

## Financials - June 2026

Beginning Balance:	\$16,854.91
Income:	1,928.00
Expenses:	<u>690.13</u>
Ending Balance:	\$18,092.78

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)  
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**Web Site: [tvabundanceoflove.com](http://tvabundanceoflove.com)**

**Officially Established June 2019  
Designated 501(c)(3) Non-Profit October 2024  
Founder Jen Smith**

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