

Texas HOPE Literacy Community “Give Back” Projects Dawson State Jail, Dallas

A note from Lucy Smith

After Katrina hit New Orleans, HOPE Inmates at the Dawson State Jail in Dallas, Texas donated non-perishable items purchased from their commissary. As a result of their sacrificial giving, over 600 inmates on this unit also contributed to evacuees. The items were delivered to Lovers Lane United Methodist Church who distributed some of them to the New Orleans area and some to evacuees in Dallas.

HOPE inmates also drew pictures for the children, and wrote cards of encouragement. They included pencils and blank sheets of paper with the cards and pictures. These were sent to a church in Sulphur, La. where Courtney Taylor, a former peer educator and graduate of HOPE, lives with her family. Courtney’s community was in the direct path of Rita. These people also lost homes, and families are still displaced. Funds to rebuild are minimal, yet the community is determined to recapture their lives, families, and homes. Courtney’s church distributed the inmates’ gifts of generosity.

Female inmates at Dawson continue to give back by crocheting HOPE for communities both home and abroad...

Current Crochet Projects are:

AIDS babies in Nigeria: blankets, booties and caps

Nursing homes: lap blankets for seniors

HOPE/Project Matthew partners: blankets, booties and caps for incarcerated pregnant moms

HOPE/New Friendship Baptist Church Homeless ministry partners: scarves and caps

HOPE/Parkland Hospital partners: shawls and caps for geriatric patients and young mothers with cancer

How you can help...

Donations of yarn or contributions are needed to purchase the following:

4 ply soft baby yarn – any colors

4 ply yarn for lap blankets, scarves, shawls, caps

\$5.00 will purchase a large skein of yarn to help with these projects. Make checks payable to Texas HOPE Literacy, P. O. Box 905, Hurst, TX 76053. Specify “Crochet HOPE.”

Lucy Smith
Founder, Designer/Developer