

## **Blanket Guidelines**

Thank you for interest in sharing your talent and creativity with our patients through a handmade blanket. Your gift brings comfort to our young patients from infants up to 18 years old.

**Please see the following guidelines created to ensure your gift can be used safely:**

- Make blankets from 100% cotton fabric, flannel, polar fleece or acrylic yarn.
  - Blankets must be made from materials that are NEW, CLEAN and WASHABLE.
  - We are not able to accept blankets made from tapestry, burlap, upholstery fabric, felt, vinyl, wool or wool yarn. Also, please do not donate these types of fabric as we do not have a way to use this.
- Crochet, knit, quilt or tie your blankets.
  - For knitted or crocheted blankets: Please use small knitting needles or crochet hooks if you're making preemie/baby blankets. Little fingers & toes and medical instruments can get caught in big stitches. If you prefer using larger size crochet hooks or knitting needles, please consider making bigger blankets in larger child and teen sizes.
- Secure the batting into outer seams and if the blanket is tied, please anchor it every 4 - 6 inches. We don't want it to fall apart the first time it's washed.
- Weave in all yarn ends on crocheted and knitted blankets.
- Check your blanket carefully for straight pins. It's better you find that pin and not the child who receives your blanket.
- Do not attach buttons, fabric paint or similar decorative items to a blanket. They can be a choking hazard to children.
- Blankets will be used in the hospital in our Pediatric Unit as well as our Neonatal and Pediatric Intensive Care Units. Choose colors and patterns in infant, child or teen-friendly colors. Remember, these blankets are meant to be colorful, cheerful and cuddly.
- Provide your name and address with your blanket.

### **Please Note ....**

Blankets that smell of smoke or strong chemicals (including perfumed fabric softeners) or have pet hair on them cannot be accepted as they may produce a severe allergic reaction in some children. Unfortunately, washing these blankets does not always remove the problem.

### **Blanket sizes (measurements are approximate)**

- Baby: 36" X 36"
- Child: 40" X 60"
- Teen: 45" X 72"