

# **ROYAL CITY QUILTERS' GUILD**

## **Community Outreach Policy**

Approved by Executive Committee: May 15, 2025

Next review date: May 2027

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## Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to define the framework, responsibilities, and guiding principles of the Royal City Quilters Guild (RCQG) Community Outreach Program. This policy applies to all outreach activities conducted or supported by the Guild and its members.

## Guiding Principles

- Generosity: Sharing our quilting skills and resources to provide comfort and dignity to individuals and communities in need.
- Inclusiveness: Supporting diverse populations and respecting all individuals.
- Collaboration: Working with community partners to maximize impact.
- Stewardship: Managing resources responsibly and sustainably.

## 1.0 Individual Giving

RCQG members have a tradition of generosity, often supporting causes beyond the Guild's organized efforts. The Guild celebrates and, where possible, supports these initiatives.

Members choose their own charities and are responsible for organizing the making and delivery of quilts or textile items.

The Guild may provide fabric, batting, backing, and labels, subject to availability.

Requests for materials should include: Name of charity, quilt size, and any fabric specifics. Large requests may require Executive Committee approval.

Online members are an important part of our Guild. We would like to support their generosity for their community but we must recognize the fiscal and logistical limitations of shipping materials. Where possible, we will work with remote members to find cost-effective and creative avenues to provide resources which may include fabric, batting, backing and labels.

Members are encouraged to submit photos of finished items.

- Possible Member Initiatives:
  - Project Linus
  - Victoria Quilts
  - Meals on Wheels
  - Emergency Services
  - Christmas Food Bank
  - Quilts for Survivors

## **2.0 Guildwide Efforts**

Current projects include Quilts of Valour and Home for Good. New projects may be initiated with Executive approval.

### **2.1 Proposing New Projects**

Suggestions must be submitted to the Guild Secretary for agenda inclusion and must include:

- Identified leader(s)
- Description of the charity and proposed donations
- Required resources (secured and needed)
- Funding ideas
- Decision Criteria:
  - Alignment with Guild values
  - Community benefit
  - Feasibility and volunteer interest
  - Potential impact
  - Partnership opportunities

### **2.2 Donations to Community Organizations**

RCQG may donate quilts for fundraising efforts by organizations such as Lions Club, Royal Canadian Legion, or Rotary Club.

### **2.3 Quilts of Valour**

Project Lead: Monica Ferguson

Supports a federal initiative distributing quilts to approved veterans. Ongoing funding depends on community donations and Guild/member contributions. Members outside the Guelph area are encouraged to contribute locally and share photos of their work.

## 2.4 Home for Good

Project Leads: Ann Jeffrey and Becky Fiedler

Supports the elimination of homelessness in Guelph. Recent efforts include donations to permanent supportive housing and transitional units. Financial support provided by the Lions Club of Guelph.

## 3.0 Funding

Funding sources include:

- Membership fees as designated by the Executive
- City of Guelph Community Grant
- Lions Club
- Rotary Club and Guelph General Hospital Foundation (past donors)
- In-kind donations (materials, services, storage)
- Donations from members and the community

Funding for projects is determined before initiation.

## 4.0 Structure

The Outreach Program is volunteer-driven:

- Each project has a designated lead.
- An Executive member serves as liaison.
- The structure allows flexibility, workload distribution, diversity of projects, and opportunities for smaller or short-term initiatives.
- General Guidelines:
  - Outreach project leads and the Executive liaison recommend projects for Guild support annually.
  - The Executive approves an annual outreach quilt target during budgeting.
  - Member-led community projects are encouraged.
  - All projects are highlighted in Guild communications.
  - New projects must have an identified leader before approval.
- Possible Guild Initiatives:
  - St. Joe's Palliative Care Unit
  - Guelph General Hospital
  - Wellington Terrace
  - Quilts of Valour
  - Home for Good
  - Project Linus

## **5.0 Annual Targets**

The Outreach Liaison and project leads recommend an annual target for quilt donations based on approved projects and funding.

Previous Years:

2022/2023: 160 quilts

2023/2024: 250 quilts

2024/2025 Target: 150 quilts

## **6.0 Community Resources**

Potential meeting spaces (contact Past-President for access):

- Springfield GC
- Legion
- Goodness Me classroom
- Longos classroom
- Buy the Bolt classroom

## **7.0 Accountability and Recognition**

Project leads report progress quarterly to the Outreach Liaison.

Contributions are celebrated through newsletters, Show and Share, and other communications.

An annual summary of outreach accomplishments is included in the Guild's Annual Report.