

May 2, 2019

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**Subject:** Small Fidget Lap Quilts

**Message:** Hello Washington Stars Quilt Guild Members, This may seem like a long shot but I noticed you regularly quilt for charitable donations and I'm hoping you might be able to help us. Weeks' Dryer Mortuary, located just down from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, is hoping to partner with locals who have quilting or sewing abilities and generous hearts. We are holding a Fidget Blanket Drive to benefit the residents at Franciscan Hospice House, specifically those with fidgety hands due to Alzheimer's disease, dementia, traumatic brain injuries, or overwhelming anxiety. Our aim, with your help and creativity, is to bring as many lap blankets (with zippers, pockets, ribbons, loops, buttons, pom poms and any other machine washable, non-sharp objects attached) to Franciscan Hospice House so that each resident that needs one may have a fidget blanket of their own. These blankets can be as simple or as creatively complex as you like! I'm sure you have your charities for the year planned out but it never hurts to ask. If you're with me this far, below I've included the requirements Hospice House has given us for these lap blankets. Asking others to quilt (or even just donate some supplies) is a lot and I thought including the requirements might help you decide if you (or any of your members individually) would be able to help us. The requirements for the lap blankets are as follows: Each blanket should aim to be 18" by 13" (to fit the lap of an adult) Made with a thin layer of batting Machine quilted/sewn with a topstitch (for durability) Machine washable and dryable (this will take a beating!) Attached fidget items must be securely sewn Gender neutral colors and fabrics are a plus! Things we are not to include: Fleece (it will fall apart after too many washings) Extra batting layers Yarn Sharp fidget objects Easily dismantled fidget objects Those of us here at the funeral home have no quilting or sewing experience but if you are able to donate supplies (instead of a finished blanket) we promise to make sure they are put to good use! This is a big ask and as such we will take any help, guidance, donation (of finished blankets or supplies) that you and your guilds may be able to provide. We will be taking donations indefinitely (there will always be a need), there is no rush or deadline to meet. We are also happy to come to you to pick up any donation you may have and can also come visit your guilds if you'd like to meet us, ask questions, or take pity on us and teach us how to help make a blanket. Thank you for your time, caring, and consideration of our fidget blanket drive. We appreciate it! Kali Thomas and Rylee Melot Weeks' Dryer Mortuary