

What's Up with Sheila's Shawls?

October will be Domestic Violence Awareness month in the United States. Let's knit Sheila's Shawls and Paul's Scarves!

Activities: State Coordinator Danielle Byron in Lombard, IL plans to sit and knit next to a Sheila's Shawls information table at an upcoming conference in Chicago on September 10th and Volunteer Knitter Miriam Duguid hopes to bring her shawl-work too ;-)

Gifts/Donations: Nancy Schultz donated six large bags full of acrylic yarn for Sheila's Shawls to Janet Hagberg in Minnesota.

New Volunteer Knitters: Sophie Charles from Lille, France sent a shawl she knit to one

our new State Coordinators in the USA! Here's a picture of the shawl:
(not sure who's in the photograph...)



New State Coordinators: Susan Rosebrough in Radford, VA ~ and ~ Kim Foster in Chatsworth, CA. Thank you!



Stories to Share:

I just received a Shawl from FRANCE!!! It was such a cool surprise! The only thing I can figure is that the donor found me on the Silent Witness website. Also, so far I have received 42 shawls and 4 scarves from donors (since February). I love this project! ~ AND ~ Here's a heartwarmer... There is a local woman here who is currently in DV (still living with her abuser) and so far she has donated ~18~ shawls to offer comfort and healing to other women who have been abused. I love this project. ~ Susan Rosebrough

Hey everyone,

Like Susan and Janet said I met Janet Hagberg, a grassroots member of Silent witness and Shelia's shawls / Paul's scarves. Paul Wellstone was the MN Senator before the Plane crash and He and his wife were very active in Silent Witness and ending domestic violence. Anyway~ several years ago I became aware of the Shelia's shawls program and I knit up several shawls and sent them off to Janet. I received my thank you note from Janet and then really didn't think much more about it. Other things to do, you know. Well. Now at least 3 years later, I volunteered to be a state rep

for Shelia's shawls and Paul's scarves. I picked up the yarn and shawls/ scarves from Janet and several other pieces of material to enable me to do my job effectively. I got home and started sorting things into more permanent locations. I got to the bottom of the shawl box and there was a little card with the name Renee Falkum-Youngberg / Mike Youngberg on it, with a safety pin attached. It was not pinned to anything nor was it there for any apparent reason. I called Janet to ask her a couple questions. She shared with me that she wrote the name of the shawl knitter on a card and attached it with a safety pin to the shawls as they came in. I believe they were removed before the shawl was given to the recipient. The divine intervention moment is that the name on the card is my full name and my husband's name. The only card that got saved other than shawls that are to be distributed yet is the one with my name on it. It is as if I was meant to do this job and the card was just waiting for me after I knit the shawls for the program so many years before. What an awesome world we live in. I thought I would share this with you. ~ Renee Youngberg in MN

Dear Renee Youngberg,

Thank you for inquiring about receiving some quilts for children. I may have some surprising news but Ron, Jacob, and Harlee's aunt Sherry has already put a request in and I will be sending the quilts asap. I have all the information from Sherry that I need which I received today. I also just received 3 quilts so I will be able to fill this request. Thank you so much for asking. It is so great to know so many people love and care about these children. If you have any other requests [for quilts] just feel free to e-mail me quiltsforkids@hotmail.com with the child(ren's) name(s), age(s), gender, and a mailing address I can send the quilts to. Thanks again and I hope to hear from you soon!!!

Sincerely, Augusta (age 12)

Susan, I thank you for thinking of us here in Tulsa as we move forward with our FACES organization that will bring education and awareness to communities about the impact of violence on people, families and home, workplaces, and communities. What is the process for requesting shawls for Carrie's parents? Again, thank you. I've known about Silent Witness for a long time and read the newsletter but it had not yet occurred to me to contact you. Sherry Clark RSVP and FACES, Tulsa, OK

~~~~~

**Gratitude:**

**Thanks** to Nancy Schultz in Minnesota for her generous donation of yarn, which goes to many of our Volunteer Knitters.

**Thanks** to Augusta for her wonderful work making quilts available to children of families involved in Domestic Violence.

**Thanks** to those who hold hopes of comfort for all and help with this project by creating, collecting, distributing, gifting and receiving Sheila's Shawls and Paul's Scarves.

Please contact me – or any of the State Coordinators -- if you know of any folks who could benefit from shawls, scarves, or quilts (well, let Augusta know about the quilts, okay?). Also, let us know if you'd like to volunteer to knit (or crochet), become a State Coordinator in your local area – or even if you have some loose change or coffee money you'd like to send along to help us cover the increasing costs of packing and postage. Thank you kindly ;-)

**May there be domestic peace in every home.**

Susan Bourne, National Coordinator

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SheilasShawls>