

Rotary Club of Belleville – Service Above Self



Thank you, Belleville Rotarians Cory & Bill MacKay, Rotarian Cassandra Bonn & her daughter Grace and Rotarian Marg Wagner & her husband Ross, as well as all the donors and volunteers for stepping up to make things better during the pandemic.

Cory and Bill MacKay joined the Quinte Community Sewing for Covid19 Facebook group. They were looking for a way to help their community stay safe and healthy during the pandemic. "This group has been fabulous. We share patterns, materials, needs, sewing tips and more. What has been an unexpected outcome from this group is the positive encouragement, support, and friendships!" said Cory MacKay.



Cory started off slow making one mask and getting a pattern and tips from the group. Since then, and with the tasks determined, the couple have now made and donated in excess of 420 handmade masks, 21 scrub caps, 20 hearts, sewn buttons on ear savers and cut, bent and bagged over 2,250 wire pieces (for facemasks). They took on a variety of tasks as requests came in from the Quinte Community Group. They also donated material to the Face Shield project headed up by Belleville Rotarians Chris Finkle and Tara Lyons.



None of this would have been possible without two amazing community minded ladies, Connie Carson and Tawnya Smith who started, organized, and lead the Quinte Community Sewing for Covid19 Facebook group and all of the amazing volunteers. The group has donated masks, gowns, scrub caps, sewn and crocheted ear savers, crocheted and knitted hearts and teddy bears to many organizations and individuals including Quinte



Health Care, Nursing and Retirement homes, QHC Paediatric Centre , Belleville & QW Community Health, Centre Hastings Community Health Centre, PSWs, Kente XRay, Central Hastings Community Health, vulnerable individuals and frontline staff.

Belleville Rotarian Cassandra Bonn stated “My daughter Grace and I have been busy sewing buttons onto headbands for essential front-line workers. The face masks hook on to these buttons to protect ears from irritation. Wearing tight elastics



behind the ears I’m told is not a comfortable experience.” Cassandra and her daughter Grace modeled two of the 100 headbands they purchased to attach buttons on. The second is of Dr. Michele Miron who is in ER doctor at BGH. She is wearing one of the headbands.

Belleville Rotarian Marg Wagner and her husband have donated materials to the sewing group through Tawnya Smith for masks and material to Chris Finkle for the production of face guards for healthcare workers. Marg and Ross are also part of the delivery team for the Quinte Community Sewing for Covid19 group of volunteers dropping off or picking up in the Quinte area.

