

# BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES

## Ministry Statement

### September 2007

#### CORE VALUES

- \*We value Holy Scripture as the inerrant Word of God.
- \*We value the sanctity and worth of ALL human life.
- \*We value the love of God demonstrated through the gift of the life of His Son, Jesus Christ.
- \*We value the salvation of lost persons.
- \*We value encouragement to Christians in times of special needs in their lives.

#### PURPOSE STATEMENT

**“BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES”** is a volunteer ministry of love and life by the women in Southern Baptist churches across Oklahoma to those who are hurting or in a time of special need in their lives.

#### SCRIPTURAL THEME

*“I chose you before I formed you in the womb...”* Jeremiah 1:5

#### SLOGAN

*“Blanketing the State with Love and Life”*

#### VISION STATEMENT

We envision hundreds of women from churches across Oklahoma producing handcrafted blankets for persons in need of God’s love and life and in need of knowing He values ALL life.

We envision the day when expectant mothers across Oklahoma, especially those who are assisted through faith-based crisis pregnancy centers, would receive a blanket as a reminder and affirmation of the preciousness of the pre-born life within her body.

We can also envision the day when countless persons across Oklahoma would receive a blanket at times of special need in their lives and who may need the message of the love and life of Jesus Christ. These may include persons who are residents in children’s homes, care facilities for the mentally or physically handicapped, rehabilitation centers, residential care facilities for the aging, centers for abused women and children, mission centers for the homeless, those recovering from a time of disaster, or other such needs.

We envision that every blanket that is given will have a label attached proclaiming the love and plan of God for each life and that it will be accompanied by a Gift Card presenting the clear message of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

#### ORGANIZATION

**BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES** will have a Director, an Assistant Director, and five (5) additional women to serve as an Advisory Council. These women will be selected from Southern Baptist churches across the state of Oklahoma and will all serve on a voluntary basis. They will each be expected to embrace the Ministry Statement in belief and in action. They will be enlisted by the Director to serve.

#### FUNDING

This volunteer ministry shall be funded by contributions from interested individuals and/or groups, such as Sunday School classes, missions organizations, local churches or associations of churches, or other interested groups. *Individuals may request an annual giving record for charitable giving purposes.*

Purchase of fabric and supplies will be the responsibility of the individuals or groups which actually produce the handcrafted blankets. The required sew-on labels and Gift Cards for each blanket produced will be made

available by request (see PROCESS below) and will be funded by contributions. Contributions will also fund printing, publicity, and postage for the use of **BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES** as needed.

Contributions will be channeled and accounted for through a designated "BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES" fund established with the Pottawatomie-Lincoln Baptist Association, officed in Shawnee, Oklahoma. *Anyone wishing to contribute to the ministry may send checks payable to POTTAWATOMIE-LINCOLN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 3800 N. Market Street, Shawnee, OK 74804, with BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES designated in the memo line of the check. Giving records may be requested by letter.*

## PROCESS

1. Contact **BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES** for:
  - a. A copy of the **MINISTRY STATEMENT**
  - b. A copy of the suggested pattern and list of suggested supplies for **EASY FLEECE BLANKETS**
  - c. Registering your intent and to supply contact information for our records.
2. Identify a facility that ministers to needs in your local community or a nearby community. Contact that facility to inform them of your desire to provide this ministry to their clientele or residents. If they are interested, arrange the best method possible for an ongoing delivery of blankets to them for their use. The blankets are meant to become personal property of those using their services—not property of the facility or its employees. The blankets are never to be sold by anyone, anywhere.
3. Identify a local store/vendor where the fabric and other supplies may best be purchased. If you purchase the fabric and supplies as a tax-exempt group (i.e. a church or association), ask if the store would also provide a discount. Individuals would do well to watch for seasonal sales.
4. Identify persons or groups who may be willing to provide local funding for the supplies.
5. Organize and hold training meetings at least once semi-annually to teach women about the ministry and how to make the blankets. You may wish to meet regularly and work together—even to include a time of Bible study and fellowship as a regular part of your women's missions and ministry groups.
6. Contact **BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES** each time you have a group of blankets completed:
  - a. Report how many blankets you have completed
  - b. Report where you plan to deliver the blankets
  - c. Request the number of sew-on labels and Gift Cards you will need
7. Sew the labels in the lower right back corner of each blanket. Pack each blanket and its Gift Card in a 2 ½ gallon (or larger) clear plastic zipper bag. You may want to mark on the bag's label the name of your organization (example: *A Gift for You from THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY of First Baptist Church, Podunk, Oklahoma*)
8. Pray for the recipients of every blanket you make and distribute! If you do not have a local place which will accept the blankets, contact us for ideas of locations that may need them.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Marsha Cook, Director**

[rrmlcook@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rrmlcook@sbcglobal.net)

(Please type BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES in your email subject line.)

405-275-2088

(If you leave a message, your call will be returned as soon as possible.)

Permission is granted to photocopy the "BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES Ministry Statement" and the pattern suggested for the handcrafted fleece blankets. Other styles of blankets or quilts may be made, but only those bearing the standardized label and accompanied by the standardized Gift Card may be distributed in the name of "BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES." Blankets distributed without the label or Gift Card are not considered to be given by an individual or group endorsed by "BLANKET THE STATE MINISTRIES."

