



# BEARS OF HOPE

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www.bearsofhope.com

## End of Year, 2012

### MISSION

We provide huggable bears for children and adults who are sick; suffering trauma; feeling depressed; or mourning the loss of a loved one. We do this by making handcrafted fabric bears we give to social service agencies, without cost, to give the bears to those they serve needing hugs, comfort and hope.

### Founder's Note

*Dear Friends,*

*What a year this has been for Bears of Hope. We celebrated our fifth year making huggable handmade fabric bears. In 5 years 1,110 bears are now in the arms of sick children and adults helping to make their life crises more 'bearable'.*

*Bears of Hope was put on hold for several months so I could be with my elderly mother. She only had months to live. I treasure the time I had with her. Thank you all so much for your kind expressions of condolence. They brought me comfort in my time in need.*

*Even though we only worked on bears for about six months this year, a lot was accomplished:*

- 100 bears were made and delivered.
- Social Service Agencies who receive our bears were sent at least one delivery.
- Our Children's Craft Program was presented as a community event for NorthShore Community Bank.

*We're ready for 2013. Our goal is to make a minimum of 250 bears. Bears volunteers are already busy making bears.*

*With **YOUR** continued support of Bears of Hope, we will be able to bring bears to comfort distressed children and adults.*

*I appreciate and thank you for all YOU do for Bears of Hope. May the New Year bring you and your family happiness, good health, and peace.*

*To life,  
Carolyn*



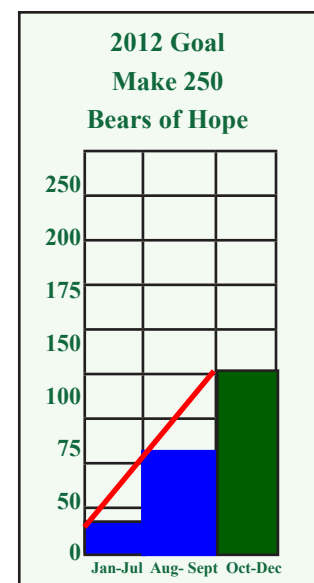
Carolyn with the first Bears of Hope bears made.

### BEARS BRING COMFORT AND HOPE

During August-December, 54 bears were distributed amongst these agencies:

- Children's Advocacy Center
- JCFS
- Midwest Care Center
- Rainbow Hospice & Palliative Care
- Skokie Fire Department
- Skokie Police Department
- Women's Shelter-Chicago Westside
- Women's Shelter, Far North Suburb

Social service agencies are given bears, without charge, to give to those they serve needing TLC.



## CHILDREN'S CRAFT PROGRAM

North Shore Community Bank held our Children's Craft Program at its Skokie branch on October 6. Children designed bears traced on panels of unprinted fabric with fabric paint markers. Bears volunteers, Sheila Mozin, Sandy Shuster and Patric, Alex, and Amal, students from Oakton Community College's "Doing Good Club" helped children when needed. Now Bears volunteers are sewing two panels together to make a bear. When the bears are ready for delivery, they will be given to a Women's Shelter to comfort children coming with their mothers.



The **Children's Craft Program** is for children 7-15 (younger children need parents to assist) to do something good for others. Businesses sponsor this program as a community event at their business location. Children take it on as a service project. To schedule a program or for more information: contact [Bears@bearsofhope.com](mailto:Bears@bearsofhope.com) or 847-673-4098.

## VOLUNTEERS CORNER

**Thirty volunteers make the bears.** They know the value of giving help to others and how rewarding it feels that each bear they work on will bring comfort to someone facing a difficult time in their life.

In September, Bears volunteers Goldie, Jamie, Sheila put on the finishing touches on bears and packed them for delivery. Danon delivered bears.



In December, Bears volunteers Eleanor, Goldie, Karen, Mary, Mira, Sheila and Yvonne ironed on facial features, tied a bow around the bear necks and packed them for delivery.



**Bears of Hope appreciates and thankful for our volunteers.** Without their help, we couldn't do what we do for individuals needing something to hug as they face a trying time in their lives.

## THANK YOU SUPPORTERS

**A GREAT BIG BEAR HUG thank you  
for supporting the work we do  
to bring comfort to sick children and adults  
needing a bear to hug gto feel better.**

AxcessAdvisors, CPA  
A-Plus Pest Control  
Duxler Complete Auto Care  
Edda Cossini, Hair Stylist  
Edward Jones Investments  
Fairfield Processing Inc.  
Gimbel, Abrams & Singer, CPAs  
Glick & Trostin, LLC, Attorneys  
Grace Printing

Haben Funeral Home & Crematory  
Hi-Tech Auto Body of Skokie  
Irmo Insurance Company  
McCormick & Schmick's  
Mickey Mayla, Sculpturer  
North Shore Community Bank  
*Our Village* Newspaper  
Paul Plotnick, Attorney  
Remodeling by J. Graves  
Remodeling by the Tinman

Rothschild Insurance Group  
SkokieNet.org  
Skokie Public Library  
Westfield Old Orchard  
Triblocal.com  
Village of Skokie

Anonymous  
Individual Contributors

## ***Bears of Hope Needs YOUR help***

We rely on monetary donations\* to do our work. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of sick children and adults needing TLC. **100% of funds** are used to **purchase materials** to make bears. We have no paid staff. Any amount helps.

For example:   \$ 30   makes 3 bears  
                      \$ 60   makes 6 bears  
                      \$100   makes 10 bears

Send **YOUR** check to: Bears of Hope 8331 Kostner Skokie, IL 60076



Visit our website [www.bearsofhope.com](http://www.bearsofhope.com)

Proud Member Skokie Chamber of Commerce

\*Donations to the Bears of Hope are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes; they support materials to make bears to comfort sick children and adults.