



## **What is Knit Michigan?**

Knit Michigan is an independent organization dedicated to supporting cancer patients and their families via financial contributions, and by making and donating patient comfort items such as chemo caps and lap blankets.

Knit Michigan brings together knitters and other fiber-enthusiasts to raise funds through grass roots efforts and an annual event that are distributed to local cancer organizations. In 2008/9 these charities are: Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Beaumont Hospital's Rose Cancer Center, Genesys Health System, Gilda's Club, U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Knit Michigan, a registered Michigan corporation, has applied to the IRS to be granted 501(c)3 status as a charitable foundation.

## **Why is it necessary?**

Knit Michigan fills a need in the Michigan fiber-arts community for individuals to band together and work toward a common cause that has touched many of our lives. It provides an opportunity to give back and make a difference by doing something we love: creating and providing better situations for those we care about who must deal with cancer.

## **What is the purpose of Knit Michigan?**

The main purpose of Knit Michigan is, simply put, to help others. Many of us have been touched by cancer ourselves or via family, friends or coworkers. Knit Michigan makes supporting cancer patients and their families by giving money and comfort items easy, convenient and fun.

The secondary purpose of Knit Michigan is to spread our love for the fiber arts. For a nominal entrance fee, visitors are encouraged to try their hand at spinning, knitting, crocheting, weaving or felt making. Special fiber-related activities are included for young children, tweens and teens as well as adults.

## **What has Knit Michigan accomplished?**

Knit Michigan is held in donated space at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills. 2007 was its first year and the group raised \$20,000 and nearly 200 chemo caps were distributed to four local hospitals. In 2008, the group raised \$30,000 and over 2,500 chemo caps and other comfort items were distributed to hospitals in the following Michigan cities: Gaylord, Petoskey, Traverse City, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Ann Arbor, Detroit, Rochester, Royal Oak, and Grand Blanc. In 2008, nearly 600 people participated in the one-day event as a marathoner, day-participant, volunteer or vendor.

The goal for Knit Michigan 2009 is to raise \$50,000 to share among the specified cancer organizations. This year we have expanded our patient comfort items from just chemo caps to include lap blankets for distribution in infusion rooms, teddy bears for children, and breast cancer and IV pillows.

## **Who is involved with Knit Michigan?**

Michigan knitters, spinners, weavers, crocheters, felters and other fiber enthusiasts; knitwear designers, college and community fiber art instructors, guilds, schools, fiber businesses including yarn stores, industry suppliers and other community supporters. The annual event is coordinated by a committee comprised of the volunteers listed below.

## How can you help?

You can help by making a financial contribution in support of a marathoner, providing in-kind work or providing support to the annual event by sponsoring a portion of the event.

## How can I learn more?

Visit our website at [www.knitmichigan.com](http://www.knitmichigan.com). Call either of our co-chairs: Bridget Dean at “. . . have you any Wool?” (248) 541-9665 or Joan Sheridan at Heritage Spinning & Weaving (248) 693-3690 or send an email to: [info@knitmichigan.com](mailto:info@knitmichigan.com).

## Where do I send contributions?

Contributions are collected by marathoners. Until Knit Michigan has been officially granted 501(c)3 status, checks should be made payable directly to one of the recipient organizations:

- Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute
- Beaumont Hospital's Rose Cancer Center
- Genesys Health System
- Gilda's Club
- U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Most of the organizations provide a receipt for contributions of \$50 or greater. Marathoners will also provide a receipt. Please note that checks for the 2009 Knit Michigan will be forwarded to the recipients during the week following the event, February 7, 2009.

## Board officers and members

### Officers:

President: Bridget Dean, “. . . have you any Wool?”  
Vice President: Joan Sheridan, Heritage Spinning & Weaving  
Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Dean

### Committee members:

Kristine Clever-Scheuer, Skeins on Main  
Barbara Hopkins  
Suzanne Klein  
Patricia Kreiling  
Diane Lammers  
Debbie Penn  
Nancy Poettinger  
Anneliese Pruett  
Lisa Renaud  
Lyn Sippola  
Nancie Williams  
Ann Woodman, The Knitting Room



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