

**Outline of Community Sewing Procedures**

Donation policies for accepting and distributing Community Sewing items:

* Items must be made from new or washed fabric, fleece or yarn
* Items must be free of scents including pet odors, household odors, musty odors, cigarette smoke, cooked food odors and scented laundry products. If you are washing your items or fabric, use only **unscented** laundry products. This may include detergent, fabric softener and dryer sheets
* Do not attach buttons, sequins, faux flowers, tags or labels
* Check and double check that items are free of pins or other sharp objects at each stage of the sewing production and at completion of your project. Closely inspect polyfill or batting thoroughly before stuffing dolls/toys and during quilting process to make sure they are free of pins
* Please refrain from donating items with political, religious or discriminatory content or content that may not be suitable for all audiences in our community
* Hospital policy precludes us from allowing advertising on individual handmade items

COVID-19 policies – Based on studies listed below the virus cannot be recovered after 48 hours on clothes. To ensure the highest standard of patient safety and following the guidelines set forth by the Incident Management Team handmade items will be stored for 5 days (120 hours).

* We ask that you wash your hands before and during the handmade sewing process
* Place clean, dry items in a sealed bag (tied bags ok) or zippered quilt bags. Multiple items per bag is ok
* Label bags with the date they are packaged
* Contact the Volunteer office for pick up or drop off of handmade items. When Volunteers are allowed back into the hospital, you may drop off items during normal office hours
* Items will stay in date labeled bags in the Volunteer Services office for 5 days
* After 5 days, handmade items can be prepped by Volunteers Services for distribution

All policies have been carefully and thoughtfully developed in consideration of patient safety, infection control procedures, attention to confidentiality and the comfort and consideration of all of our patients. We will donate items not meeting WakeMed’s criteria to charitable organizations within the community.

Supporting Articles:

HealthLine cites the New England journal of Medicine and The Lancet studies below:

<https://www.healthline.com/health/how-long-does-coronavirus-last-on-surfaces>

*New England Journal of Medicine*

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2004973>

*The Lancet*

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanmic/article/PIIS2666-5247(20)30003-3/fulltext>