



# WARM HANDS NETWORK

## GATHERING WARM KNITTING FOR COLD PLACES

**Who are we?** Warm Hands Network collects handmade (knit and crochet) items and sends them to communities in remote locations. Our mandate is to link knitters with those who most need their products by shipping handmade items to northern communities in need.

Warm Hands was started in 2007 by two women in Ottawa. For the past several years, and with the help of many generous donors, we have been sending warm items to children living in remote communities. The items are shipped via our sponsors, and distributed by community workers who understand where the need is greatest.



To date over 1000 pounds of items have been distributed. While the majority of our donors are Canadian, we have had strong international support as well.

**What do we collect?** We supply children in these communities with hats, mittens, neck warmers (no scarves please), socks, slippers, sweaters, vests and blankets. Our preference is for wool items and large sizes. Choose a pattern for warmth – thick mittens with generous cuffs, warm hats that cover the ears. Avoid lacy stitches that aren't as warm. Pattern suggestions and item guidelines are available on our website.

In addition, if donations permit, we also buy winter boots to include with our shipments. Warm feet are extremely important, particularly in these remote locations where winters tend to be long and very bitter.



**We need your help!** Please consider knitting or crocheting something for our next campaign – your handmade items will be warmly appreciated by a child! Collected items are mailed out at the end of January or end of September each year.

### **When do we ship? Where do we ship?**

We send shipments twice a year, once at the end of January and again at the end of September.



In 2011-12 we sent shipments to northern Labrador (Sheshasuit), northern Ontario (Moosonee and Kasheshawan) and Nunavut (Rankin Inlet and Gjoa Haven). Warm Hands Network has been fortunate to receive shipping support from Provincial Airlines and First Air.

**Donation Locations:** We have a number of local yarn stores that act as Warm Hands drop-off zones, and who encourage their members to donate items to our cause. Current yarn store partners include:

**Wool N' Things** (Orleans)

**Knit-Knackers** (Ottawa)

**Yarn Forward** (Ottawa Bank St and Kanata locations)

**The Purple Sock** (Coldwater)

Alternatively, donations can be mailed to us at:

### **Warm Hands Network**

240 First Avenue  
Ottawa, ON K1S 2G6  
Canada



### **Contacting us**

email: [info@warmhandsnetwork.org](mailto:info@warmhandsnetwork.org)

website: [www.warmhandsnetwork.org](http://www.warmhandsnetwork.org)

blog: [warmhandsnetwork.blogspot.ca](http://warmhandsnetwork.blogspot.ca)

If you include a name or note with your items, we will photograph them for our blog!

We also have an active group on **Ravelry.com** where we gather to share inspiration, pattern, tips, yarn bargains, etc. We have even been able to share the occasional photo of the children modeling their new items. We invite you to join our online group and share in the fun. The website contains a link to our Ravelry group.

