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SUPERIOR COURT OF  
CALIFORNIA,  
COUNTY OF INYO

# Press Release

## INYO FOSTER CARE COMMISSION GETS WRAPPED UP IN ITS WORK



Inyo County Foster Care Commission receives quilts donated for foster children. (Photo attached)

Pictured from left to right: Dr. Terry McAteer, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools; David Lent, Executive Director, Toiyabe Indian Health Services; Sheriff Bill Lutze, Inyo County Sheriff's Department; Hon. Dean Stout, Presiding Judge, Inyo County Superior Court; Jean Turner, Director, Inyo County Health & Human Services; Virginia Bird, Court Operations Administrator & Quilt Project Coordinator; Jeff Thomson, Chief Probation Officer; Linda Benson, Asst. Director, Inyo County Health & Human Services; and, Supervisor Susan Cash, Inyo County Board of Supervisors.

The Inyo County Foster Care Commission has launched their “**Loving Stitches For Foster Children – Handcrafted Quilt Project.**” Under the leadership of Virginia Bird, the Commission is asking the public to donate handcrafted quilts which will be given by Child Protective Services to foster children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. Quilts are being accepted for children ranging from newborns to 18 years of age. Preferred sizes are newborn blankets, crib size (approximately 45x55), and throw size (approximately 50x60).

According to Judge Stout, “Placement in foster care can be traumatic. The warmth and security that comes from wrapping yourself in your very own quilt can be very comforting to

these vulnerable children.” A local resident has donated four handmade quilts, and a fifth quilt was recently donated by another local woman, both of whom wish to remain anonymous. On behalf of the Commission, Judge Stout said, “These are incredibly beautiful quilts, and I sincerely thank the donors for their tremendous kindness and generosity. These are truly gifts of love.” For more information or to donate a quilt, please contact Virginia Bird at the Inyo County Superior Court by calling 760-873-5217.

The Inyo County Foster Care Commission is co-chaired by Presiding Judge Dean Stout and Health & Human Services Director, Ms. Jean Turner. The Commission was formed to implement the recommendations of the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care, and to otherwise address local issues affecting our foster children.