



January 16, 2019

Camp David of the Ozarks
P.O. Box 1607
Rolla, MO 65402

Dear Deborah Zucker and Quilting Friends,

Thank you so much for your incredible gift of quilts and your labors of love. Last year, we featured the handmade quilts as our main décor at our annual fundraiser. Our banquet guests were in awe as they entered the ballroom and saw beautiful quilts hanging on all the walls. We shared with them that the quilts were gifts for our campers – children of prisoners. Your work was very admired by hundreds of guests.

I still remember one young man taking the stage this past summer and sharing his story. He was growing up in St. Louis, MO, and he was 14 years old. His was a story of pain, of domestic violence in his home and worse – of homelessness. Somehow in the midst of all the chaos and upheaval, he has been coming to camp for four years – not missing a year. Now this young man has one of your quilts to wrap around himself wherever he goes.

When we prepared to go to the Dominican Republic to have a camp for children of prisoners there, I learned that none of the children would have sleeping bags or bedding to bring to camp. Children of prisoners are almost always growing up in poverty settings, and when you go to other nations, you find they live in shacks, often sharing a bed with many siblings. I was excited to tell the Dominican Republic team that we had homemade quilts for each child, and then friends gave sheets so we could take those for the camp too. In our Uganda camp, all the children live in big dorm rooms in a boarding school. Children of prisoners in African nations typically become child slaves and are denied an education. So we partner with an organization that rescues these children from their villages, with the permission of their incarcerated parent, and they bring them to a boarding school for them to get an education. As you can imagine, they are very limited on funds, and the children have never had anything as bright or beautiful in their dorms as the quilts you sewed for them. They were beyond excited to get their gifts. There was even one extra quilt that I was able to give to the elderly nurse at the boarding school in place of her old faded blanket.

Your quilts have been like blankets of love around at-risk children, children in foster care, orphans in Africa, and children who have experienced homelessness and living in shelters. Thank you for your gift of time, labor and beautiful materials.

Thanks Again,

Grace Smith
Co-Founder and Director
Camp David International



Some girls in Uganda with their new quilts.