

Dear Fellow Yarn Knitters, Crocheters and Crafters,

The year of 2021 represents Warm Up America!'s 30<sup>th</sup> year of providing hand-made knitted and crocheted donations to people in need. As you can imagine, 2020 turned out to be one of the most challenging years in WUA!'s existence.

The West Coast fires, historic flooding from hurricanes in the South, and continuing Covid-19 crisis made 2020 one of the most unusually demanding periods in our history. Along with the increased requests for blankets, hats, scarves and other hand-made articles, has unfortunately come a decrease in monetary donations to our foundation. Since Warm Up America! is completely self-funded through charitable donations, our volunteer board has decided that the time is right to launch a fundraising campaign to help us offset our operating expenses. I will share too that a fundraising event is something that we normally have not pursued in our 30 years of existence, but as we all experienced, 2020 was anything but a normal year.

As you are able, we ask that you <u>visit our donation page</u> and make a contribution to Warm Up America! in 2021. In honor of the 30th anniversary, our goal is to encourage 3,000 people to donate \$30 or more to raise a total of at least \$90,000. Every volunteer who donates \$30 or more will receive an exclusive 30th anniversary pattern bundle that will include new knit and crochet 7"x 9" section patterns. Please know that no contribution is too small and that all contributions are welcome and greatly appreciated.

Please know too that my service as well as the many others of us who serve our foundation is done without compensation. All of us involved in Warm Up America! give freely of our time as we feel that our charitable foundation provides an important service to those in our communities who are facing difficult times.

As I mentioned in my opening remarks, 2021 is Warm Up America!'s 30<sup>th</sup> year of existence. I am also pleased to share that 2021 marks our one millionth afghan donation by the foundation. This is a wonderful milestone for Warm Up America! and would not be possible without your support.

In closing, we thank you, our donors. We appreciate you more than we can ever express. We hope that you and your families are remaining safe and stay well during these challenging times.

Best regards,

Jan Kahn Warm Up America! President