

Patchwork Parents

February 2015
Quilt Shipment
Photos



TraumAid®
INTERNATIONAL



Rebuilding lives, community and hope
following large scale disaster.

TraumAid International (TAI) is an
organisation that seeks to empower
the displaced and traumatised to
rebuild their lives, **restore** their
dignity, reestablish a safe and
functional community and
break the **cycle** of **violence** that
often **ensues** in the aftermath of
war or large scale disaster.

Dear Patchwork Parents,

On behalf of all the orphans at Baraka Academy, Bunia, D.R. Congo, who have received your beautiful quilts on Tuesday, February 19th 2015, I want to pass on my heartfelt thanks once again for all your faithful and dedicated work for these amazing children. I hope you can recognise one of your quilts in the photos ahead.

As you know your quilts are so much more than just quilts for the children. They not only cover them literally at night but also cover them with love knowing that a lady in Australia took the time to think of them and create such a beautiful gift ... just for them. One of my greatest joys has been to be physically present when the quilts have been handed out at Baraka Academy. As Caroline will attest I regularly cry at presentations and speaking engagements recounting the joy I have witnessed as the children receive their gift and the sense of being 'special' that they bring to the child. Thank you!

A big thank you also to Caroline McAlpin, TAI's Patchwork Parents coordinator, who not only coordinates but also makes many quilts herself.

May you all receive rich blessing for your efforts.

Jenny.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Dawson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "D".

Dr Jennifer A Dawson,
CEO, TraumAid International.



The quilts being packed in Sydney



The quilts ready to be handed out at Baraka Academy, Bunia, D.R. Congo













The patch design above is stitched onto each quilt that is sent. If you have friends who are interested you can pass on this booklet. We have the quilting instructions on the following pages.

Instructions

Use only 100% cotton Fabrics. Left over fabrics that are brightly coloured are great for children. Use ¼ inch seam allowance throughout.

1. Cut 56 8" squares.
2. Join squares in 7 rows of 8.
3. Join rows together – you now have a rectangle 7 squares x 8 squares (measuring 53" x 60 ½")
4. Cut 2 strips of fabric 2 ½" x 60 ½" and join to long sides of quilt; then cut 2 strips 2 ½" x 57" and join to top and bottom of quilt. The quilt now measures 57" x 64 ½".
5. Cut wadding and backing 2" larger than quilt top all round ie 61" x 68 ½". We recommend a light wadding for the quilts as they are used in hot conditions.
6. Place the 3 layers together and pin in place, taking care to remove all wrinkles.
7. Quilt in the ditch or use your preferred method of quilting.
8. Trim all edges.
9. Cut 3" wide strips of fabric and join to make binding strip 250" in length.
10. Fold binding strip in half widthways and press.

11. Place the raw edges of the binding and quilt together, right side up and stitch in place: mitre the corners as you go (leave approx 3" free not stitched down at the beginning and tuck this in at the end to complete).
12. Fold the binding to the back of the quilt and slip stitch in place by hand.

Although this is the basic design a great way of using up bright scraps that are less than 8" in size is to sew them together to create a patch. Blocks can be created out of triangles, squares, rectangles and strips, then sewn together to create a quilt. Different size blocks can also be used (eg 5" or 10" blocks) and the adding of different sized borders will result in the required quilt size.

As long as the finished quilt is 57" x 64.5" feel free to use your creativity as you sew these beautiful quilts. They are a special gift of love and are greatly treasured by the children who receive them. You can also find these instructions on our website at www.traumaid.org.

Contacts

Caroline McAlpin - Patchwork Parents Coordinator

EMAIL: caroline.mcalpin@traumaid.org PHONE: 0418 301 477 / 02 9875 1194



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