



ANNIE'S KINDNESS BLANKETS

To know Annie was to know laughter, love, loyalty and compassion. But, the one thing Annie excelled at was being kind. Because of this, we began a campaign to spread kindness in her memory. We named this campaign "Annie's Kindness Blankets".

Anne Marie Varney passed away on March 30, 2015. It's a tragedy we do not want any other family to experience. She was a beautiful person inside and out, she would help anyone. If you needed a hug, she would hug you and not let go. Our goal is to help those that need that one extra hug during their darkest times. Through these blankets, we want to provide those hugs, over and over again. Her daughters, together with a team, are on a mission to help save others. The AKB team vows to be the voice and let others know it's okay to not be okay.

The AKB team sends handmade fleece blankets to whoever may need an everlasting hug. They want everyone to know that it's okay to ask for help, it's okay to start again, it's okay to say no, it's okay to rest, it's okay to let go and it's okay to not be okay. Since the launch date of September 30th, 2015, Annie's Kindness Blankets has delivered over ~13,000 blankets to various hospitals/organizations/individuals. Some organizations who have received these blankets are:

- South Shore Hospital
- Mass General Hospital
- Dana Farber's Jimmy Fund Clinic
- Boston Children's Hospital
- High Point Hospital in Middleboro
- The Cancer Center at Beth Israel - Plymouth
- The Pediatrics Surgery Center at Beth Israel – Plymouth
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Ronald McDonald House in Dallas, Texas
- VA hospitals and facilities across many states
- Daycare facilities
- Domestic Abuse Shelters
- Delivered to the homeless in Boston on cold winter nights
- Various hospitals in Sydney, Canada, Ireland, England and Scotland through a variety of travelling volunteers
- Teamed up with Simon Says Give – Worcester
- Teamed up with Sleep in Heavenly Peace – Middleton
- Teamed up with Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA for their annual day of service.
- Teamed up with TLC and The Discovery for their day of service.
- The campaign has dropped off blankets to many individuals that request them for a loved one in need as well

Below find some resources regarding the Kindness campaign and how far the girls have reached.

- WBZ News Report: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TcFhutS6gbc&feature=share>
- You Are Never Alone Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_YmFJMrwbQ
- Gladwire Report: <https://gladwire.com/sisters-lose-mother-suicide-honor-remarkable-way/>
- Annie's Kindness Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/annieskindnessblankets/>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/annieskindnessblankets/%20%20Annie's%20Kindness%20Blankets>
- Website: www.annieskindnessblankets.org
- Five For Good Interview: <https://youtu.be/RVqR40Dg0bI>
- SouthCoast Today: <https://www.southcoasttoday.com/special/20190321/annies-kindness-blankets-hosts-blanket-making-fundraiser-event>
- Being Boston – Boston 25 Report: https://www.boston25news.com/news/being-boston-family-uses-own-loss-to-help-remind-others-they-are-not-alone/882579157?fbclid=IwAR2RqxOep3hSj-DGkET_O-zCsAv8NJmeioxoNTdVK4WNC58BOyQ78VS8SXU
- Awarded 2020 Massachusetts Heroine Award
- Awarded the 2019 TLC/Discovery Channel [Give A Little Award](#).
- Featured in Lady Gaga's book [Channel Kindness](#)