



Contact: Lisa Grubbs, NICU Helping Hands
(817) 584-1437
www.nicuhelpinghands.org
media@nicuhelpinghands.org
Twitter: @nicuhelpinghand

Fort Worth Nonprofit Organization Receives More than 1,000 Wedding Gowns to be used for Angel Gowns
Program provides comfort, beautiful gown for final photos and for burial services

Fort Worth, Texas, March 28, 2014 – More than 12,000 babies will be able to receive angel gowns thanks to the generosity of those that donated more than 1,000 wedding gowns this week to NICU Helping Hands. NICU Helping Hands volunteers turn donated wedding gowns into beautiful infant burial gowns. Hospitals in the Dallas/Fort Worth area benefit from this service, but other hospitals can request the gowns too. NICU Helping Hands will overnight a burial gown to any family in the United States that needs a gown for their baby. Twelve to 20 angel gowns can be made from each wedding dress. NICU Helping Hands has seen an outpouring of love this week.

“There’s such a need and people want to talk about this,” explained NICU Helping Hands Founder and President Lisa Grubbs. “There hasn’t been an opportunity until now. It’s a taboo subject most of the time. This gives people a way to discuss infant loss.”

NICU Helping Hands supports families while they have children in the NICU, many of whom are born premature. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 11 percent of babies are born preterm each year, a group at higher risk for infant mortality. Over 24,000 infant deaths happened in 2010, the most recent CDC data indicates.

NICU Helping Hands believes that providing an angel gown for a family with infant loss shows respect for the child and gives comfort to the families, a best practice that the organization will present this fall to medical professionals at a continuing education conference.

“There’s something hopeful about that start of life, about a wedding, and to me, it’s that full circle,” said Grubbs. “This child who is so loved by its parents, being wrapped in love by a bride.”

NICU Helping Hands continues to accept donated wedding gowns. For a shipping address and drop-off locations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, visit <http://www.nicuhelpinghands.org/angel-gowns/>. In addition, NICU Helping Hands seeks monetary donations to cover the cost of boxes, tissue paper and shipping for the angel gowns. A donation of \$10 is enough to help six families receive a gown for their baby.

About NICU Helping Hands

It is NICU Helping Hand’s mission to provide comprehensive support programs and resources to parents of premature infants not only during their stay in the NICU but during and after their transition home. NICU Helping Hands was created in 2010 because of the overwhelming need in Fort Worth, Texas, for a local organization that could support parents both educationally and emotionally. Since opening, NICU Helping Hands has served its local community as well as families all across the country with education, support and a helping hand during one of the most difficult journeys they will ever make.

Source: NICU Helping Hands, (817) 584-1437, www.nicuhelpinghands.org