

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Contact:** Brad Robb, Director of Communications  
Mitz Palmer, Communications Manager  
(901) 683-2500



*News about the Cotton Research & Promotion Program from the Cotton Board*

### Cotton Comforts Young Cancer Patients

*Cotton Incorporated Donates Fabric to Sixth-Graders for Pillowcase-Making Project*

**(MEMPHIS, Tenn.)** – A simple idea of four sixth graders wanting to help their friends and relatives affected by cancer has evolved into a generous, pillowcase-making project that has made things a little more comfortable for more than 150 cancer patients – thanks to cotton.

The project, spearheaded by twins Kaylie and Taylor Ogle from Clovis, California as well as Ashlen Albus of Levelland, Texas and Cassidy Gandy of Bledsoe, Texas, stemmed from a national Web-based competition conducted this fall by the U.S. Army in which the girls participated. The contest challenged sixth through ninth graders to propose solutions to real community issues through science, math and technology – and fascinated the girls to research ways to build support systems for those coping with cancer. One of their solutions was to decrease the pain and discomfort often caused by pillowcases that irritate sensitive skin by hand making pillowcases from cotton fabric donated by Cotton Incorporated.

“We gladly donated the fabrics and offered our best wishes to the girls for their outstanding efforts,” said Cotton Incorporated’s Associate Director, Product Development Weaving, Scott Wagner.

Through their tests using several other fabrics – including satin, polyester and flannel – cotton was the favorite among their friends, including a leukemia patient from their church who said the polyester model “felt weird” and that her head easily slipped off the satin model.

The team of girls call themselves “Team Sew-n-Sew” and more information about their efforts can be found at <http://sew-n-sew-girls.tripod.com>. The team received \$8,000 in U.S. Savings Bonds for their winning idea presented in the competition...and their efforts continue to grow.

#### **About the Cotton Board:**

The Cotton Board administers and oversees the Cotton Research & Promotion Program conducted by Cotton Incorporated and funded by America’s cotton producers and importers. The Program works to increase the demand for and improve the market position of cotton. For more information about the Cotton Board, visit [www.cottonboard.org](http://www.cottonboard.org).

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