WALKER AND WHEELCHAIR BAG INSTRUCTIONS

Item for the VSQ Outreach

Fabric requirements:

Cut two strips $\frac{10.5'' \text{ by } 5''}{10.5'' \text{ by } 10.5''}$ for the bag lining. Cut two pieces $\frac{10.5'' \text{ by } 10.5''}{10.5''}$ for the outside of the bag. Cut one square $\frac{5.5'' \text{ by } 5.5''}{10.5''}$ for the pocket.

Now you are ready to assemble the bag.

A. Pocket:

- 1 -- Fold in ¼" on all four sides of the pocket and iron well.
- 2--Topstitch one side of the square to be the top of the pocket.
- 3--Place the pocket about 2.5" to 3" below the top of the lining, making sure you have centered it.
- 4--Sew along three sides of the pocket to adhere it to the lining, leaving the top edge open.

B. Preparing the bag and straps:

- 1--Sew the lining right sides together, leaving the top open. Put it aside for now.
- 2--Right sides together, sew the outer bag on three sides. Put it aside.
- 3--Fold the strap strips in half inside-out lengthwise and sew two sides together (one end and one long side).
- 4--Once you have finished sewing these, turn them <u>rightside-out</u> so the right sides are showing. Iron the straps well.
- 5--Fold down the top part of the lining $\frac{1}{2}$ " so the seam allowance is facing the wrong side of the fabric. Now, iron the top lining.
- 6--Fold down the top part of the outer fabric ½" so that it is facing the wrong side and iron the fabric.

C. Finish bag by adding lining, straps, and buttons:

- 1--Place the straps about 1.5" deep into the space between the lining and the outer fabric. They should be placed on either side of the pocket. This is so the buttons will be able to be sewn securely.
- 2--Next, carefully place the lining into the outer fabric shell.
- 3--Pin the lining to the inside upper edge of the bag shell.
- 4--Topstitch around the top of the bag attaching the lining and the straps to the shell.
- 5--Now, firmly attach the lining and the straps to the shell by adding decorative stitching on the outside along the top of the shell, being sure to catch the straps and lining in your stitching.

 Be creative!
- 6--Mark the straps for the 1" buttonholes to start one inch from the edge. Make the buttonholes.
- 7--Sew the buttons to the <u>outside of the bag on the same side as the straps</u> so the straps will button onto themselves.

When making your fabric choices, please try to use sturdy attractive fabrics. Remember, these bags will be for women <u>and</u> men to use on walkers and wheelchairs, so it would be nice to have fabrics that appeal to both sexes. We hope you have fun making the bags.

Any questions? Call Rhona Hiney at:

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