

## HEARTY GIFTS FOR THOSE IN NEED



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JUMPSTART

Bernardsville Starbucks manager Jennifer Mattingly (center) serves refreshments to Jumpstart artist Claudia Sabino Benowitz and guest Ryan Pottorf.



Corey Davis, manager of the Warren Starbucks, shows the heart-shaped pillow he designed.



Brittany Poulo, 13, of Randolph, displays the fleece pillow she created.

## Volunteers' Valentine's Day gifts go to Morris agencies' clients, patients

STAFF REPORT

Sixty-five volunteers gathered recently at Starbucks in Bernardsville to craft 80 Valentine's Day gifts for neighbors in need: colorful fleece pillows for young patients at the Zufall Health Center in Dover and heart-covered journals for survivors at Jersey Battered Women's Service and the Morris County Sexual Assault Center.

The event — brought about through a partnership between Starbucks and Jumpstart, a Morris County arts consulting firm — drew guests of all backgrounds and ages, including a Girl Scout troop, professors from the College of St. Elizabeth, families, Starbucks partners, and young couples on dates.

"We were thrilled that participation was so high," said Lucia Vicari, Starbucks district manager. "Our partners were so passionate and excited about working with Jumpstart and the local community that it energized the residents to take part in a worthwhile event that touched many."

Guests who made pillows worked with Jumpstart artist Michaelle Weinger, who helped them stuff heart-shaped pillowcases, seal them with colorful cord and tulle and then add decorative touches.

Montclair Art Museum's Claudia Sabino Benowitz guided journal artists as they designed front and back covers with exotic paper hearts and stars, adding uplifting words in gold pen.

Starbucks manager Jennifer Mattingly and her partners volunteered more than 40 hours preparing for the event, braiding yarn and cutting fleece and paper shapes.

To learn more about Jumpstart community outreach programs, contact [jumpstartss@aol.com](mailto:jumpstartss@aol.com), 973-540-1142, or visit [www.caringcap.com](http://www.caringcap.com).

4 Wren Court  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
973-540-1142 phone  
973-898-1022 fax  
[jumpstartss@aol.com](mailto:jumpstartss@aol.com)

**Susie Schub**  
President

**JUMPSTART**

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