STOLEN NEIGHBORS NY

schweinfurthartcenter.org/stolen | stolenneighborsny on Facebook & Instagram

Dear Quilt Guild or Consortium Member,

Between January 2025 and July 2026,more than 19,000 of our friends and neighbors have been forcibly removed from their families, friends, neighbors and communities in New York. Many thousands more have been taken since, but our government refuses to share the scope of the loss.

Stolen Neighbors NY is a community effort to call attention to the sheer number of human beings lost and to create awareness of the enormous impact of each loss. Our volunteers will create an enormous quilt that will remind all of us of our collective loss, including those who have the power to change the policies that create and enforce these injustices.

There are several ways you can help.

1. Invite your members to provide individual 2½ inch quilt squares (as many as you like, remembering that each square represents one New Yorker taken from their home, family, and job). We will be connecting the squares together using ¼ inch seam allowances.
2. Sew the squares into 5x5 blocks. Each block will be a 10½ inch unfinished square.
3. Quilt squares will be collected at the Schweinfurth Art Center in Auburn. They can be dropped off at the Center whenever it is open or can be mailed to 205 Genesee St. Auburn, NY 13021. Blocks can also be returned at the NYS Quilt Consortium Quarterly Meeting in March 2027.
4. The deadline to receive all blocks is May 1, 2027.
5. We will be looking for help to sew the larger quilt together and tie the backing.

Thank you so much for your participation. We will make every effort to acknowledge your organization’s help in this state-wide project.

Meanwhile, you can keep track of our progress at SchweinfurthArtCenter.org/stolen, or on Facebook or Instagram at @StolenNeighborsNY. Of course, if you have questions or concerns, please contact us at staff@SchweinfurthArtCenter.org.

Stolen Neighbors NY Volunteers