



**Furniture Bank**  
of Southeastern Michigan

*Providing beds and essential home  
furniture to children and families in need*

SPRING/  
SUMMER  
2017

**newsletter**

[www.furniture-bank.org](http://www.furniture-bank.org) • 248-332-1300

# BEDS FOR KIDS: Donate a bed - or money to purchase one - for a local child in need

The Furniture Bank absolutely needs twin beds. If you have one that's in good condition and not being used, we can give it to a child. Don't have a used bed and still want to help? Consider making a \$100 donation earmarked for our new "Beds for Kids" program, which will be used to purchase a new bed for a child who needs one.

Last fall, Furniture Bank Executive Director Robert Boyle received an inquiry from a donor. "I don't have a bed to donate, but if I donate money can you buy a new bed?" she asked, then donating a generous \$5,000. With this gift, the "Beds for Kids" program was born. The Furniture Bank raised another \$5,000 that helped to establish the fund.

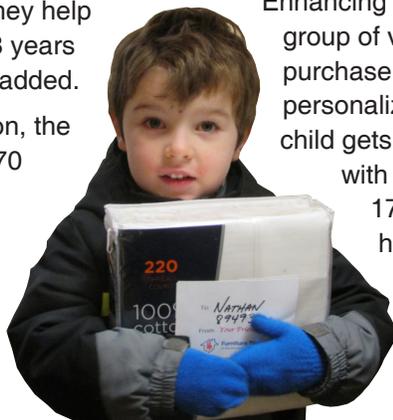
"If we find ourselves short of gently used beds, we are able to use this fund to buy more," Boyle said. The Furniture Bank monitors all of the families they help to ensure that all children 18 years and younger have beds, he added.

Since the program's inception, the Furniture Bank is providing 70 beds to kids each month.

"Twin beds have always been hard to get. Some families have two, three or four kids and they all need a bed." Boyle said the Furniture Bank's staff is pleased to be able to help in this way.



*Bailey Stephens is flying high on his new bed.*



*Nathan McCoy loves his new sheets, which will go on the bed he received from the Furniture Bank.*

Enhancing the fund is a local group of volunteers who purchase new bedding and add personalized labels so that every child gets a new set of sheets with their bed. To date, 170 pieces of bedding have been donated.

To donate a bed or money in support of our Beds for Kids program, you can do so at <https://www.furniture-bank.org/beds-for-kids> or by calling (248) 332-1300.



*Ayres and Asia Blair are happy with their new beds from the Furniture Bank.*

**We are growing every year and serving more families.  
The more furniture we get, the more people we can serve.  
Donations are tax-deductible and receipts are provided at pickup.**

**Visit [furniture-bank.org](http://furniture-bank.org) to donate online or call 248-332-1300.**



## New furniture for her home, thanks to the Furniture Bank



*Shanetta Moner (second from left) brought plenty of help on her visit to the Furniture Bank.*

Meet Shanetta Moner, who lives in Roseville with her three boys. All of them have comfortable places to lay their heads at night thanks to the generosity of the Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan, which provided the family with beds this fall.

Shanetta's social services caseworker referred her to the "Furniture for Families" program at the Furniture Bank, and "it's been a blessing since then," she said. "They gave me two twin beds – I was excited about that."

As she describes it, the family was in a predicament with mom and kids, age 3, 8 and 15, living in a shelter and Shanetta experiencing a back and shoulder injury from her 15 years of work as a nurse. She is now in a new place getting her family settled and receiving help for her injuries. She is grateful to the Furniture Bank for helping to make their apartment more comfortable and livable.

"The Furniture Bank is a great organization," she added. "They have helped so many families. It's good to know somebody cares."

For a modest appointment charge, the "Furniture for Families" program provides gently used furniture and household goods to families and individuals who are referred through a network of nonprofit partners. In her situation, Shanetta said she especially appreciates Furniture Bank Program Coordinator Amy Fulbright, who worked closely with her to coordinate the logistics and get the children their beds. "She has a considerate heart and was willing to work with me. This helped me so much and I really appreciate it," she added.

## STILL GOT THE spring cleaning BUG?

Haven't started spring cleaning yet? Looking to get rid of useable furniture? It's the time of year to consider donating to the Furniture Bank and help a local family in need! Your generous donation is tax-deductible and our truck will come right to your home to pick up gently-used beds, dressers, dining tables and chairs and sofas.

Donating is EASY and we will gladly accept other furniture and housewares when we pick up! Our trucks make regular stops throughout Metro Detroit. Contact us to see when we'll be in your community next!

Share this with your friends and "Like" us on Facebook... it will make a difference in the lives of a local family!



*Elijah Thompson gets a ride through the Furniture Bank showroom.*



*Sisters Jazmyn, age 4, and Skylyn, age 2, are happy to pick up their new beds, courtesy of the Furniture Bank.*

## Furniture Bank by the Numbers: 2016

**We help kids:** 2,136 children between 5-14 were served

**We help families:** 1,398 families, more than 4,380 individuals, received 12,110 furniture items valued at \$682,000

**Move into Wayne County and Detroit:** Our new program served 122 families of 262 individuals with 1,433 items of furniture in these communities

**Popular furniture pieces:** Among the hundreds of furniture items given to families, a total of 1,948 mattresses, 1,770 box springs, 1,269 dressers, 20,143 sofas and 584 dining tables (along with 2,347 chairs) were provided

**Portable cribs:** Families with at-risk infants received 105 new portable cribs

**We love our donors!** More than 2,000 individuals and partners donated gently used furniture in 2016



## Recent events support the Furniture Bank's mission

### *Picking Grapes:*

More than 200 people were on hand for the Furniture Bank's Second Annual **Wine Tasting** at The Guardian Building on Saturday, May 6, which raised more than \$45,000 in support of our mission. Guests enjoyed fine wine, cool jazz, great food and historic tours of one of Detroit's true architectural gems! Thank you again to our Platinum Sponsors, Joseph Aiello & Associates and Secure-24 Hosting & Cloud Services, as well as all our sponsors, auction donors and attendees. Special thanks go out to our outstanding volunteers, Joyce Weishaar and Judge Kathleen McCarthy... *we couldn't have done it without them!*



Board Member and Event Chair Joyce Weishaar and her daughter Lindsay Harrod greet guests as they arrive.



Dick Euler always brings a number of "unique" hats to these occasions, and Krystol Rappuhn is clearly a beneficiary.

### *Painting With a Purpose:*

Thirty supporters of the Furniture Bank turned out for our first-ever **painting fundraiser** in January, where \$525 was raised to help children and families in need within Southeastern Michigan. Thank you to Painting with a Twist Rochester Hills, and to all that came out for an evening of painting, wine and a ton of fun!



### *Let's Play!*

Some 50 supporters of the Furniture Bank came out for a night of cards and games during the **Fifth Annual Euchre Party and Game Night** on March 26, with \$1,500 in proceeds going to the Furniture Bank. For those who do not play euchre, board games and other card games were offered at the event, which included dinner, 50/50 raffle and cash prizes.



Courtney Hall, Furniture Bank Board Member Kevin Centala and Robert Gleba enjoy the annual Euchre Party benefitting the Furniture Bank. About \$1,500 was raised at this year's event.



Furniture Bank Executive Director Rob Boyle with Kathy and Jaime Le Claire, winners of the booze basket and 50/50 raffle at the Fifth Annual Euchre Party and Game Night, held in support of the Furniture Bank.



The popular **Furniture Bank Comedy Night** is back this fall, scheduled for **Thursday, Oct. 5** at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle featuring comedian Michael Harrison from the Comedy Network and NBC's "The Bridge." Tickets for the 8th annual event are \$50 and can be purchased online at [furniture-bank.org](http://furniture-bank.org). Information: 248-332-1300 or email [events@furniture-bank.org](mailto:events@furniture-bank.org)

Presented By PNC BANK



# Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan

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## SPRING/SUMMER 2017 newsletter

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CALL  
US AT **248-332-1300**

or visit [furniture-bank.org](http://furniture-bank.org) to donate. Ask about our FREE pickups or take advantage of our "We'll Take It Out for You" service for only \$20.

### Essential items needed:

**MATTRESSES** and/or box springs of all sizes

**Kitchen/dining room TABLE and CHAIR sets**

**DRESSERS**

**SOFAS**



### OUR MISSION:



The Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan (FBSEM) has a mission to provide beds and essential home furniture to children and families in need.

One of more than 120 independently operated furniture banks throughout North America, FBSEM receives referrals from a network of more than 70 local health and human service agencies and has provided furniture to more than 60,000 families since its inception. This year, we are on target to provide 1,500 local families with 12,000 items of furniture and other housewares.

DETAILS: [www.furniture-bank.org](http://www.furniture-bank.org)