



**Beds and essential
furniture help 1,717
families in need in 2018**

Our goal is to be sure that every family in Metro Detroit lives in a properly furnished home; that every child gets a healthy start in life by sleeping in a warm bed or crib; and that all useable furniture helps those who are most vulnerable to live with dignity.

In 2018, we served **1,717** families (5,846 individuals). Of those, **1,064** children were under age 4, **1,219** were between the ages of 5-14 and **323** were teens.

Additional 2018 highlights:

- Items valued at **\$619,706** were provided to our families including: 1,825 mattresses, 1,635 box springs, 1,177 dressers, 535 dining tables, 2,162 dining chairs, 975 sofas, 1,336 other living room furniture and 3,654 non-furniture household items.
- The Furniture Bank serves those in extreme poverty. Sixty-nine percent reported earning less than \$10,000 and 88 percent had household incomes below \$20,000.
- Some **2,892** residents of Metro Detroit donated furniture to the Furniture Bank and **387** families received no- or low-cost deliveries of furniture in conjunction with our nonprofit partners.
- In our newest region of Wayne County, **215** families received **2,526** items of furniture. We continue to grow our efforts in this geographic area.

*All for our kids: Community groups
host bedding drives for families*

One of our biggest volunteer efforts is our “Bedding for Kids” program, where our core group of volunteers (headed by Tami Jelinek) coordinate bedding drives throughout the area. This ensures that all children receiving a bed also get a coordinated set of bedding selected and personalized for each child in colors and styles that they love.

In 2018, 734 children received twin beds with new bedding, 89 were provided cribs, 91 got portable cribs and 62 children received toddler beds.

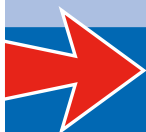
Individual donations are welcome at our Pontiac office. We also rely heavily on community groups that assist us throughout the year to collect new bedding sets that are given to each child receiving a bed. The Furniture Bank also keeps an ongoing “Bedding for Kids” fund for monetary donations which are always welcome.

We are grateful to members of **Northbrook Presbyterian Church** in Beverly Hills who hosted a bedding drive in February for Furniture Bank kids (donations pictured at right). Their efforts provided at least two dozen bedding sets. This is one of many



community outreach projects taken on by church members. We appreciate the help for our families!

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Each family helped by the Furniture Bank has a unique story to tell. Read a recent Macomb Daily article about Cinnamon Newell of Warren, a mother who went from being homeless with her 5-year-old son to a furnished home in Warren thanks to the Furniture Bank and its donors. Find the story here: <http://bit.ly/MacombDFBSEM2019>



**Furniture Bank
celebrates
50th year
of service
in 2019**



One of many trucks used by the Furniture Bank in its early years to help children and families in need.

The Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan was founded in 1968 by a network of Birmingham and Bloomfield area volunteers and churches, incorporating as an organization in July 1969. It is the oldest furniture bank in North America, helping more than 65,000 families since its inception, evolving over time into an organization of caring professionals committed to helping local families in need.

“When we started, it was the case of someone needing a sofa, another person having one to donate and the basic concept of ‘we’ll get it over to them’,” explained Executive Director Robert Boyle. “They were very community focused and that remains one of our core values.”

The Furniture Bank was exclusively a volunteer organization through 1995 before its first staff members were hired. The organization first served Oakland County, expanded services to Macomb County in 2007 and then into Wayne County (including the city of Detroit) in 2015.

Our heartfelt thanks go to all of our volunteers, board members and the many donors who provide both monetary and furniture donations throughout each year. We couldn’t do it without you!

Community Groups host bedding drives for families *(continued from page 1)*



A big thank you to staff members at the **Rochester Junior Women’s Club** which hosted a February bedding drive for our kids! Pictured here (from left) are: Executive Director Rob Boyle, “Bedding for Kids” Lead Volunteer Tami Jelinek and RJWC President Mary Anderson showing the collected bedding that went home with local boys and girls receiving beds. It’s our goal to have EVERY child who gets a bed from us to also receive new bedding, personalized and labeled with their name on it.



Our good friends at **Main Street Bank** wrapped up a Furniture Bank Holiday Bedding Drive in mid-December. Main Street staff collected dozens of items including sheets, blankets and comforters, all of which were given to local kids who receive beds from us. Main Street also made a generous contribution to our “Beds for Kids” fund. And we can’t thank them enough!



Design consultants Scott Douglass and Connie Meconi of **RJ Thomas** pose with the many sets of bedding collected at their showroom, located in the Michigan Design Center in Troy. They started in mid-December, extending their bedding drive through early March so they could donate as many sets as possible for children in need. We are so appreciative of their efforts. Thank you!

**Would you, your company
or your local civic group or
church like to host a drive
of your own?**

Contact us to schedule your event or make a donation by emailing us at beds4kids@furniture-bank.org



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Join us for wine, cards, comedy or let your artistic side show

The Furniture Bank provides beds and essential home furniture to children and families in need, through earned income, grants, donations and fundraisers such as the following upcoming events. Visit our website for details about tickets and various levels of sponsorships: <https://www.furniture-bank.org/events/>

Saturday, May 4, 2019:



Fine wine, hors d'oeuvres and a taste of history

Presented by **JOSEPH AIELLO & ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Our 4th Annual Wine Tasting and Tour will take place at the Historic Guardian Building in downtown Detroit. Join us for our annual gala which includes wine tasting, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and architectural tours of this historic Detroit landmark. The evening also includes a live auction. Proceeds support our mission, which includes purchasing beds for children and helping to furnish homes for local families in need. Last year, 200 guests and supporters attended, raising \$78,000 for Furniture Bank programs. Visit <http://bit.ly/Wine2019> to purchase tickets at \$60 each or for more information about sponsorships.



Saturday, May 18, 2019:

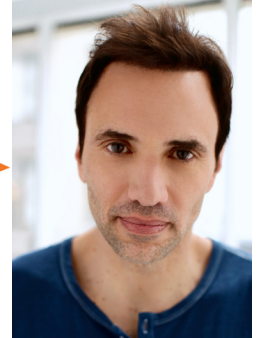


Enjoy cards? We've got a fun night in store for you

Presented by **GLEBA & ASSOCIATES**

Join the fun at our 7th Annual Euchre Party & Game Night at Kilgour Scottish Centre in Troy. Spend the evening with dozens of game-loving friends for a fabulous evening of cards and board games. Nearly \$5,000 was raised toward our mission in our last game night event. Registration/dinner starts at 6 p.m. (pizza and salad) with games commencing from 7-11 p.m. (Euchre will have eight timed rounds). The event includes a cash bar, 50/50 raffle, cash prizes and the popular booze basket raffle. Tickets are now available on our website (<http://bit.ly/Euchre2019>) for \$35 each or \$45 each at the door.

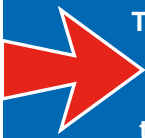
Thursday, October 17, 2019:



Presented by



Plans are well under way for our 10th Annual Comedy Night at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak. The evening of laughter and fun begins at 6 p.m. with a return performance by Paul Mercurio who appeared at this event in 2015. Mercurio is a frequent visitor to "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert," is an Emmy and Peabody award winner and appears as a commentator on "CBS Sunday Morning" and other news networks. Tickets are \$50 each and will be available in early Fall 2019. Check back for more information: <http://bit.ly/ComedyNight2019>

 The Furniture Bank has a "Beds for Kids" program that accepts gently-used twin beds or purchases new ones with a donation of \$100 so a local child will no longer have to sleep on the floor. Tax-deductible donations (beds or money) can be made at www.furniture-bank.org/beds-for-kids.



Wednesday, January 15, 2020:

Bring out your inner artist



Save the date for our 4th Annual Painting with a Purpose in Rochester. This popular event will be from 7-9 p.m. at Painting with a Twist Rochester Hills, located at 3320 S. Rochester Road, just north of M-59. Cost is \$35 per person, with 50 percent of proceeds returned to the Furniture Bank as a donation. This past January, 35 supporters sipped wine and let their creative sides show, raising \$650 toward our mission of helping children and families in need in the region. The money raised went to our "Furniture for Families" fund, which allows us to serve close to 1,900 families each year. Registration will be available soon at <http://bit.ly/PWAP2020>





Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan

333 NORTH PERRY STREET
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48342

Spring/Summer 2019 newsletter

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



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

or visit furniture-bank.org to
donate gently-used furniture.
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

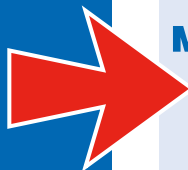
Kitchen/Dining Room table/chair
sets (at least 2 chairs)

Dressers & Nightstands

Sofas & Loveseats

Living Room Chairs & Recliners

Coffee Tables & End Tables



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 65,000 families since its inception. This year, we are on target to provide 1,700 local families with more than 15,000 items of furniture and other housewares.

DETAILS: www.furniture-bank.org