



Furniture Bank
of Southeastern Michigan

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

FALL/
WINTER
2019

newsletter

www.furniture-bank.org • 248-332-1300



50 Beds for 50 Kids to Celebrate 50 Years

2019 marks our 50th Anniversary, and to celebrate we gave away new beds to 50 local children. Each child received a new mattress, box spring, and frame, as well as new sheets and blankets.

The Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan is always looking for gently used mattresses. No child should ever be forced to sleep on a cold, hard floor. The American Association of Pediatrics links poor sleep to a number of physical and mental health issues, and the Furniture Bank wants to make sure local kids are getting a good night's rest. This year we hope to provide beds and furniture to more than 2,000 families in the Metro Detroit area!



These are just a few of the kids who benefitted from our "50 Beds for 50 Kids" giveaway this summer. In all, the Furniture Bank will help make sure as many as 1,000 local kids aren't sleeping on a floor this year.



GUARANTEED PICKUP SERVICE

Sometimes people call with items to donate that we cannot use for our "Furniture for Families" program, either due to size, damage, or space constraints. Examples include desks, armoires, and china cabinets, among others. We now offer a **Guaranteed Pickup Service** where we remove these items and recycle them. The fees collected from this service allow us to keep our operations running, and most items picked up stay out of a landfill. Call us today at 248-332-1300 for an estimate!



*50 Years
and still
going
strong*



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 by a network of Birmingham and Bloomfield area volunteers and churches, incorporating as a non-profit 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, as the Furniture Bank is to this day."

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!

FCA volunteers give the Furniture Bank a fresh coat of paint!

In September, we had nearly 30 volunteers stop by to help us paint the exterior of our building. It was in desperate need of a fresh coat of paint, and the crew got it done in record time! A thunderstorm rolled through just as we were getting started, but we lucked out when the storm cleared. We are extremely grateful to **Sherwin-Williams** for supplying the paint and supplies, Scott and Dan at **Perfect Touch Painting**, and of course **The United Way** and their group of wonderful FCA volunteers!



FCA volunteers rolled up their sleeves and put their noses to the grindstone to paint the Furniture Bank's building in Pontiac.





Presented by



Our 10th Annual Comedy Night presented by PNC Bank was another huge success! The show was held at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak and featured Emmy Award winning Paul Mecurio. Paul's quick-witted humor was engaging, original, and absolutely hilarious!

We raised over \$52,000 toward our mission of providing beds and essential home furnishings to children and families in need.

(Top) PNC Senior Vice President of Community Development Bryan Kieler gets in on comedian Paul Mecurio's act at the Furniture Bank's 10th Annual Comedy Night.

(Bottom) Our good friend Dick Euler sports timely – and tasteful – headwear for an October event!



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

Presented by

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. Registration will be available soon!





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333 NORTH PERRY STREET
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48342

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Check out our website at
furniture-bank.org or give
us a call at **248-332-1300** to
discuss your furniture donation!
Ask about our “We’ll Take It Out
for You” service for only \$30.

Essential items needed:

Mattresses and box springs –
all sizes

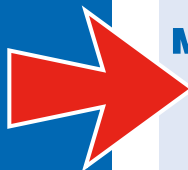
Kitchen and Dining Room tables
+ Chairs

Dressers

Nightstands

Sofas, Loveseats, and
Living Room Chairs

Coffee Tables and 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 150 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 2,000 families with more than 19,000 items of furniture and other household items.

DETAILS: www.furniture-bank.org