

FURNITURE BANK OF CENTRAL OHIO RED CHAIR TIMES

Fall 2017



furniturebankcoh.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When you support the Furniture Bank of Central Ohio, you're not just helping recycle your old, unwanted furniture and household goods. You're giving a furnished purpose to these items for families in crisis. A mattress and bed frame replaces the floor. A kitchen table and chair brings a family together for meals. Couches and chairs provide a place for relaxation and recovery. Furniture helps stabilize chaotic and trying times for families and allows them to focus on underlying issues like homelessness, unemployment and education. Having the basic comforts and tools essential to everyday life increases positive outcomes for mental health, childhood development, school achievement and chronic health issues. Supporting the Furniture Bank is not just about furniture- it's about supporting families trying to escape poverty and better their lives. Please join our #furnishedpurpose campaign by donating, volunteering and spreading the message.

Steve

Furniture Bank of Central Ohio

BED RACE

2018

presented by



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, May 5, 2018
Hollywood Casino Columbus
furniturebankcoh.org/bedrace

DORJANA'S FAMILY

Dorjana, 2, picks out a nightstand for her new bedroom. Dorjana's family visited us through The Homeless Families Foundation after her family became homeless due to a serious car accident. Now they have comfortable furnishings to recover and rebuild their lives. If you know a family in need, contact us at 614.272.9544 or visit our website for information on how to make a one-time sponsor referral.



- Donate funds through your workplace giving campaign, online at furniturebankcoh.org/donate or by texting "Furniture" to 243-725
- Include us in your estate plans
 - Volunteer your time
 - Shop at Furniture with a Heart Thrift Store

TURNING EMPTY HOUSES INTO HOMES



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Thank you to all of our sponsors and donors who helped us raise funding to furnish nearly 700 homes at Big Hearts on Friday, September 8th, 2017! For pictures and more, visit furniturebankcoh.org/bighearts

Presenting

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Volunteer Make a Difference Every Day!

Furniture Bank volunteers have always been integral to fulfillment of our mission. Thousands of generous individuals have given their time and talent to help build dressers, tables, chairs and bed frames, assist clients in selection of furniture and perform numerous other volunteer assignments. As the Furniture Bank has grown over the years, so too, has the need for volunteer support as well as the number and variety of available opportunities.

With the 2016 opening of Furniture With a Heart thrift store, volunteer opportunities increased exponentially. Keeping a 20,000 square foot showroom stocked with furniture and other household items and prepping items seven days a week is no small feat. Our great volunteer groups help make sure that the store is in good shape on a daily basis.

During the store's first year of operation, a total of 4,500 volunteer hours were provided with the current total at 7,000 hours! Volunteers perform such activities as moving furniture, assembling boxed furniture, cleaning and sorting donated items, and more. Among the corporate volunteer groups that we have welcomed are Nationwide, L Brands, Philadelphia Insurance, BMW Financial Services, Cardinal Health and others. We are so grateful to all of our volunteers for giving from their hearts so that the Furniture Bank can continue to help families in our community struggling with poverty and other severe life challenges.

Is your company looking for volunteer projects and team building activities for employees? The Furniture Bank welcomes the opportunity to benefit from your service.



For more information or to inquire about scheduling a volunteer activity, please call 614-272-9544 x 212 or email volunteer@furniturebankcoh.org.

Downsizing Can Be Uplifting



You've made the decision - it's time to downsize. But you ask yourself, where do I start? Here's a plan that attacks every nook and cranny of your home. You need to set up a "staging area": one for keep, one for donate and one for trash. Different colored stickers can be a great sorting tool.

Week 1. Paperwork! Pull together all the paper - receipts, magazines, pictures, filing cabinets and start making piles. Give yourself a deadline. Start with the paper you haven't touched in more than 5 years. Chances are it can be shredded or recycled. Pictures can be very emotional. One hint, if you don't recognize the people in the picture, toss them! What you can't sort in a week, store in marked boxes. You may have to take this with you and continue the sorting after your move.

Week 2. Kitchen. Cupboards, drawers, pantry. Old cool whip containers, storage containers without lids, etc., need to go. Dispose of expired food.

Week 3. Laundry, mud room, cleaning supplies. Most of us have multiple bottles of cleaning supplies. Stop purchasing new products and follow manufacturer directions on how to dispose of the expired containers.

Week 4. Bathroom cabinets, linen closet and cosmetics. Most of those sample cosmetics have expired.

Week 5. Miscellaneous closets. If you haven't worn an article in 2 years, chances are you won't wear again. Donate.

Want tips for weeks 6-10 of your downsizing plan? View this article in its entirety on our website at downsizewithaheart.org/tips. Or call our Senior Transition Specialists at 614-545-3844 for information and support to help you reduce the anxiety, confusion and burden of the downsizing process.

Columbus Realtors Helps 20 Families

The Columbus REALTORS® Foundation recently helped give 20 families stability in their homes with their \$5,000 grant to the Furniture Bank of Central Ohio. A longtime partner of the Furniture Bank, The Columbus REALTORS® Foundation (CRF) is the charitable arm of the Columbus Association of REALTORS®. Together we work to provide stable homes to families in need by providing furniture to families living in poverty and experiencing severe life crisis. For our families, having beds to sleep on, tables to enjoy their meals, do homework and engage in family activities, dressers for their clothing and sofas to relax and share family time can be just the boost they need to further improve their lives. Thank you Columbus REALTORS® Foundation for your ongoing support!



Remembering Longtime Volunteer

Dave Baxter, one of our longtime volunteers, passed away in June. Over the past six years, Dave racked up more than 1,300 hours volunteering every Wednesday in our woodshop. Dave worked with table and panel saws cutting down large sheets of wood into parts for tables, dressers, bed frames and chairs. His actions have given so much to our families and we are deeply honored to be included in his memorial. Thanks to Dave and his family, we're able to use these gifts to build more tables, dressers and beds in memory of him.



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