**Community Furniture Bank**

Local congregations are developing a system to receive donated furniture and household items and distribute them to those who need it.   In partnership with other local service organizations, Micah has secured a 2550 sq. ft. warehouse for storage and started putting together some volunteer teams to help with the collection and distribution.

Here are some ways that you can participate:

• Contribute one month’s rent ($1,062) for the storage space. We already have a commitment from several partners in the community, so if just a few would do this, we could have plenty of funds to secure the space for at least a year. You could make this contribution in smaller increments over the year or one lump payment.

• Agree to coordinate a pick up/delivery team on one Saturday per month. We will make arrangements to have a U-haul truck available every Saturday. Someone from your group would need to pick it up. The rental, mileage and gas should come to about $100. After you pick up the truck, all you have to do is get your group together, pick up the furniture and deliver it to the warehouse. We will send you an advance email with pick-up/delivery information.

**Furniture Bank FAQ’s**

1. Where is the warehouse?

It is centrally located in the city of Fredericksburg off Lafayette Blvd.

1. How often would our group be responsible for furniture pick-up?

Right now, we are asking for a one Saturday a month commitment. We’ll send an email a couple days prior to inform you of addresses and items you are picking up. Eventually, we would like teams available every day of the week. So, let us know if you are interested in a different day.
2. How many folks do you think we need each Saturday based on past pickups?

A furniture team, includes at least two strong folks, but sometimes there is an odd piece that requires extra help. At least one person needs to have a truck or trailer, or be able to drive a U-Haul (if your group is able to obtain one). We’d suggest 2-3 people per team, but feel free to organize multiple teams based on manpower and available trucks. Sometimes deliveries/pick-ups can be located in multiple jurisdictions and more teams will help us to divide and conquer. We encourage each congregation to develop a healthy base of willing volunteers and trucks, so that teams can be pulled together quickly based on the volume of donations on your given Saturday.

1. Will Micah cover the cost of the rental, mileage and gas? Or is that something you were expecting the church groups to cover?

We are asking that covering the cost be part of your commitment. You may choose to use pick-up trucks and trailers belonging to your group members, or Micah can arrange for a U-Haul rental, but we ask that you pick it up and pay for the rental. The average cost for truck rental, mileage and gas should be about $100.

1. Obviously, the amount of furniture to pick-up will change each week, however, to have a basic understanding of the time commitment, how have the donations and pickups been in the past?

We estimate that groups will be able to complete their pick-ups in no more than 2-3 hours.

1. Who do I call if I have furniture to donate?

Notify someone that you have something to donate by leaving a message on the furniture line, 540-693-0472. Our team checks messages regularly and will return your call within 24-48 hours. Donations may also be submitted online at: http://bit.ly/makehouseshome

1. How do I sign up my team?!

Contact Lori Yelverton at 540-479-4116 x11 or lori@dolovewalk.net. She will answer your questions, get you set up with a start date and connect you with our scheduler.