



# HopeNow Furniture Bank

# COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT 2023-2024



## *Our Mission:*

HopeNow Furniture Bank of Knox County collects donated gently used furniture and distributes it to families in Knox County who cannot afford to furnish their homes. Families are eligible if they are Knox County residents with an income low enough to qualify for food stamps or Medicaid assistance. These families cannot afford even the most basic furniture for their homes because of conditions such as unemployment, homelessness, mental/physical disability, domestic violence, fire/flood/bedbugs/mold, divorce, and death in the family.

HopeNow FB operates on an annual budget completely funded by donations from individuals and groups within Knox County who share with us a passion to serve the neediest and on grant funding for special projects. Our annual mail campaign invites our friends to support the ongoing operational costs of HopeNow Furniture Bank. All that we do is completely free to our clients through the generous support of our donors.

## *Highlights of 2023-24*

This Community Impact Report covers the past 18 months to provide information closer to our annual mailing. In the future, it will provide annual information for the July 1 to June 30 time frame each Fall.

### IMPACT SNAPSHOT

346

families served

**93** with disabled members

**32** families previously homeless

482

adults

**17** disabled veterans

**10** domestic violence victims

319

children

## Furniture and Items Distributed

**2,769** beds, dressers, couches, living room chairs, kitchen tables and chairs, bookshelves, end tables

**1,338** bags/boxes of dishes, silverware, bed linens, towels, pillows, kitchen appliances

PROJECTS	DETAILS	OUTCOME
<b>Stock the Shelves</b>	Secures funds to purchase needed items when donations are not sufficient.	Purchased microwaves, electric mixers, toasters, crock pots, coffee pots, box fans, misc. kitchen utensils
<b>Beds For Kids</b>	Provides a new bed frame, foundation, mattress, sheets, pillow, pillow case and comforter for needy children	68 families provided with new beds for kids  \$50,433. spent on goods for redistribution for these two programs
<b>Truck Logo Project</b>	Local business names and logos are added to the side of our truck for a donation of \$250 per year.	The advertising gets exposure as the truck travels across the county for pickups and participates in events and parades. HNFB benefits from the support of our business sponsors.

Community partnering continues with Knox County Job & Family Services (JFS): Continuing through our third contract, the number of JFS clients we serve has increased significantly. We are receiving subsidies from Knox County JFS based on the number of children in the household. These funds are critical to our financial stability, and we find that our help is more efficient when working through an agency.

Woodshop Productions: Volunteers continue to upgrade and re-organize the woodshop area that provides efficiencies in storage for all shop supplies. We continue to build dressers, smaller kitchen tables, bookshelves, and bed frames in single, double, queen and king sizes as needed, all from lumber donated by **Brenneman Lumber Company**

*We couldn't have done it without your generous support.*

***HopeNow Furniture Bank relies on community organizations to make us aware of clients in need of our services. We want to say “Thank You” to these agencies and community services for your cooperation in helping us carry out our mission.***

Behavioral Health Partners  
 Freedom Center  
 Interchurch Social Services  
 Kno-Ho-Co  
 Knox County Children’s Services  
 Knox County Job and Family Services  
 Knox County Veteran’s Office  
 Midwest Innovations  
 Red Cross  
 Salvation Army  
 The Main Place

**2023-24 Contributors of \$1000+:**

**Contributors of \$500+:**

Anonymous	Larry and Sarah Reed
First Congregational Church	Joe and Krys Mortellaro
BPOE #140	Mearle and Jane Griffith
Knox County Foundation	Ed and Arlene Hall
Ariel Foundation	Karen Greever
Beth Prince	South Vernon UMC
Faith Lutheran Church	Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Vance
Energy Cooperative	Ian and Charlotte Watson
Park National Bank	Killbuck Savings Bank
United Way of Knox County	Catherine Ellsworth
James and Diane Goodrich	Kevin Schad
Elizabeth R. and William G. Mather Fund	First Presbyterian Church
Dennis and Pat Tuttle	
Mark and Denise Ramser	
Knox County Job and Family Services	
Ariel Corporation	
CES Credit Union	
Paul and Maureen Helser	
Joan and Richard Stallard	
Anonymous	

## Our Volunteers:

HopeNow Furniture Bank's operation is run by a small group of approximately three dozen supremely dedicated volunteers who provided more than 15,000 hours of service through June 2024. Several of our volunteers also serve at other local service agencies where they often provide information about and referrals to HNFB. If interested in volunteering with us, go to <http://www.hopenowfurniturebank.org> or call our office at 740-392-3155. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization and always welcome sharing their talents with our mission efforts.



## Furniture and Houseware Donations:

To schedule a furniture pickup for a requested donation of \$20, go online to <http://www.hopenowfurniturebank.org> and click on the Donations tab. Then complete the pickup request form or call HopeNow FB's phone number at 740-358-2998 and leave a message. Furniture can be delivered to our warehouse Tuesdays 1-3:30 and Thursdays 10-12:30.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Lee Rhoades, President; Lorraine Olsheski, Vice President; James Harder, Treasurer; Lee Dunlop, Publicity & Media; Cindy Sperry, Housewares; Beverly Actis Hierl, Administrative Operations; Marshall Winkle, Woodshop; Marilyn Hoy; Dawn Porter, Elaine Stull; Kelly Brown;

**STAFF:** Rev. Mearle L. Griffith, Executive Director; Steve Frye, Director of Operations; Nikki Alfrey, Office Manager; Rachel Cook, Scheduler