



COMMUNITY IMPACT 2013 - 2014

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

1025 S. Main St., Mt. Vernon, OH 43050-4651

(740) 392-3155

www.HopeNowFurnitureBank.org

FURNISHING EMPTY HOUSES

Poverty is an ever-present challenge in Mt. Vernon and Knox County. Families and their children are served by the HopeNow Furniture Bank for a variety of reasons, including:

- Previously homeless
- Unemployed or under-employed
- Relocating to find work
- Mental or physical disability
- House fire
- Domestic violence
- Death or divorce
- Other



HopeNow works with a variety of churches and other social service organizations in Mt. Vernon who are in contact with families and individuals struggling with these challenges. In 2013 & 2014, these organizations included:

- Interchurch Social Services of Knox Co.
- Knox County Job & Family Services
- Knox County Children Services
- Behavioral Health Partners
- American Red Cross of Knox County
- Salvation Army (Mount Vernon Corps)
- The Main Place

These churches and organizations contacted HopeNow to schedule a furniture selection

appointment for their client families, serving as their advocate and friend in time of need.

In 2013, the HopeNow Furniture Bank served 321 families and provided each an average of 4.8 pieces of furniture. In 2014, HopeNow served 325 families, providing each an average of 5.8 pieces of furniture, and 93% of all clients were at or below poverty income.

At present, the HopeNow Furniture Bank is serving families and individuals predominantly in Mt. Vernon. Looking forward, we plan to serve other Knox County communities.

FURNITURE DONATIONS

In order to be able to provide free furniture and household furnishings to Knox County families and individuals living in poverty, the HopeNow Furniture Bank relies on furniture donations from county residents, as well as other sources such as nearby colleges, furniture stores and other businesses.

HopeNow offers free residential furniture pick-up service. Residents can simply call HopeNow at (740) 358-2998 to schedule their furniture pick-up. Or, residents can also drop off their donations at the HopeNow warehouse facility located at 1025 South Main St. in Mt. Vernon.

In 2013, 396 Knox County residents donated 1,279 pieces of furniture. In 2014, 414 residential donors generously gave 1,872 pieces of furniture. In addition, the following colleges and businesses donated furniture to HopeNow in 2013 and 2014:

- Mt. Vernon Nazarene University
- Kenyon College
- Connell's Home Furnishings
- Furniture Bank of Central Ohio

Both residential furniture pick-ups and business donations were made possible by volunteers with strong backs and a commitment to helping families living in unfurnished or under-

furnished homes.

In 2014, St. Vincent De Paul volunteers began constructing some simple



wooden kitchen tables with the help funding to buy materials. HopeNow plans to continue this exciting venture in 2015 with the help of more funding and more volunteers. As soon as feasible, twin bedframes and kitchen chairs will also be assembled by volunteers.

VOLUNTEERS - COMMITMENT & ENERGY

Volunteers have been the life blood of HopeNow Furniture Bank for the past 9 years. It is their commitment and dedication that has allowed families to be served, furniture donations to be picked up, and funding to be received.

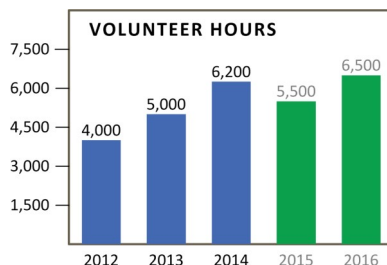


Compared to many of the 75+ furniture banks in the US and Canada, HopeNow has relied on volunteers

more heavily than most. In 2014, volunteers contributed more than 6,200 hours of their

time and talents to serve families in need and grow the organization.

In 2015, it is time for funding resources to be utilized for some part-time paid staff that can perform some key daily and weekly activities,



such as scheduling furniture pickups, coordinating client furniture selection appointments, etc. The team of volunteers also plans to expand its ranks and add more community resident volunteers that will help grow the mission forward in the community.



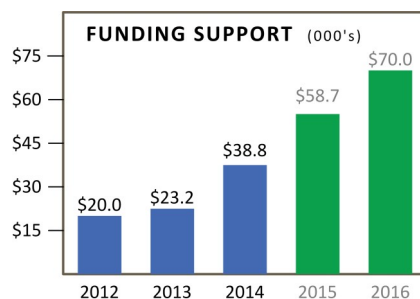
FINANCIAL SUPPORT & STEWARDSHIP

The mission of the HopeNow Furniture Bank was generously supported in 2013 and 2014 by the following major financial donors:

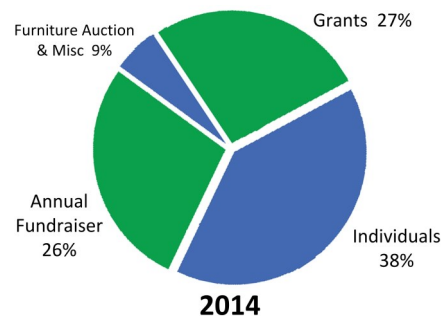
- Ariel Foundation
- Community Foundation of MV & KC
- Harcourt Parish Episcopal Church
- Mt. Vernon Elks #1604
- Thrivent Financial
- Eliz. R. and Wm. G. Mather Fund
- The annual "Spring Talent Show"
- Numerous individual donors

We sincerely thank everyone who has made it possible for HopeNow to provide free furniture to families in need in 2013 and 2014. Increasing community awareness of the mis-

sion and work of HopeNow will make it possible for HopeNow to expand financial support and serve more families in 2015 and beyond. While key funders have led the way to-date, their leadership must be acknowledged by

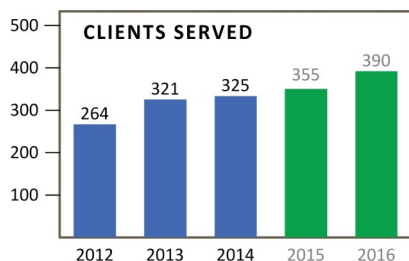


others who will join the donor roster in future years. Financial donations will be used for furniture pick-up service, furniture distribution to families, fundraising efforts, and administration.



LOOKING FORWARD - 2015 & BEYOND

The HopeNow Furniture Bank has been providing a great service to Mt. Vernon and Knox County for 9 years now, but the challenge of poverty continues to grow. There is much work yet to do, and more families will need to be served each year.



The Board of Directors has established the following GOALS for HopeNow in 2015:

- 355 Families Served
- 2,100 Furniture Items Donated
- 450 Residential Furniture Donors
- 5,500 Volunteer Hours
- Increased Community Awareness

We invite you to join the effort to achieve these goals and expand the mission of the HopeNow Furniture Bank. Your involvement as a furniture donor, volunteer, financial donor, and/or community advocate WILL make a difference!

Please remember that families and children living in poverty without an adequately furnished home need your help to grow forward out of their challenging circumstances. We look forward to hearing from you in 2015!

