

Safe Havens Ministries

Who We Are:

For more than a decade, a group of Christian volunteers in Jacksonville has gathered and redirected gently used home furniture and furnishings to help the neediest among us. Our goal is to show God's love by transforming houses into homes and ensuring that struggling families can focus on independent living. We want to represent compassion in action!

What We Do:

While our primary focus is providing furniture necessities that empower people to achieve stability, we also strive to give the gift of comfort and beauty through the installation of curtains, pictures and decorative items...ensuring that each home is truly a haven. The opportunity to develop personal relationships with recipient families is valued. Through these relationships we are sometimes able to determine other ways to serve and minister to these families.

Whom We Serve:

Safe Haven's focus is to assist the "poorest of our poor" and only ministers to individuals or families who have been personally vetted by Safe Havens administration or its partnering agencies. We currently serve refugees of all races and religions (refugees are invited to the U.S. by our State Department due to persecution in their country of origin). We also serve graduates of faith-based mental health, alcohol & substance abuse rehab organizations, sex-trafficking organizations and faith-based homeless organizations. We typically have a lengthy list of vetted needy families waiting to receive assistance; therefore, we do not accept self-referrals or requests to assist individuals outside of these parameters.

How You Can Help:

Donate gently-used furniture and household furnishings (we can provide Tax Donation Receipts...see our list below of items accepted.) Donate your time and talents (see our list below of volunteer opportunities).

For more information, email LynnBledsoe@Gmail.com

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We are grateful for donations appropriate for *small living spaces*. We encourage only “gently used” items that would be valued as a “true gift” to our recipients.

Items Accepted

Furniture

Sofas
Upholstered Chairs & Recliners
Coffee Tables, End Tables
TV Stands
Book Shelves
Kitchen Tables with Chairs
Dressers, Night Stands
Headboards & Bed Frames
Small Student Desks
Bunk Beds
Mattresses & Box Springs
(twin, full, queen)
Lift Chairs

Household

Decorative Items
Framed Artwork
Lamps & Floor Rugs
Decorative Pillows
Curtains, Rods with Brackets
Bedding & Bed Pillows
Bath Towels, Mats, & Curtains
Washers, Dryers, Microwaves
Bagless Vacuums, Trash Cans
Serving Trays, Pots & Pans
Working Lawn Mowers
Silverware, Dishes, Glasses
Infant & Children’s Clothing

Do NOT Donate

No Stains, Rips, Odors, Broken Parts
No Missing Hardware
No Shoes or teen/adult clothing
No Heavy Compression on Beds/Sofas
No Heavy Drapes
No Holiday Decor
No TVs
No Large Desks & Desk Chairs
No Specialty Kitchen Supplies
No Items Needing Batteries

No King Beds or Headboards
No Large armoires
No Sleeper Sofas
No Large Sectional Sofas
No Clocks
No Artwork Depicting People
No Artwork Depicting Words
No Random Glasses & Mugs
No Wine glasses
No Empty Picture Frames

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Volunteer Opportunities

Pick Up Furniture:

Got a truck or trailer? Volunteer to periodically pick up furniture from donors.

Deliver Furniture:

Got a truck or trailer? Volunteer once or periodically to deliver furniture to the home of needy families.

Sort Donations:

Got a free hour or two? Volunteer to sort & organize donated items at our warehouse.

Repair Furniture:

Handy? Volunteer to provide minor repairs for wobbly chairs, loose picture frames, etc. Work at your place or ours!

Paint & Stain Furniture:

Love to give “rough” items a brand new look? Volunteer to clean, paint or stain scratched & chipped furniture donations.

Alter Curtains:

Like to sew? Volunteer to periodically alter curtains to accommodate recipient window dimensions.

Find Needed Furniture Items:

Like to find “free stuff”? Volunteer to check social media sites to locate specific furniture items we are needing for a recipient family.

Purchase Supplies:

Like to shop? Volunteer to periodically purchase needed supplies such as new bed pillows, mattress covers, etc.

Clean Warehouse:

Like to Clean? Volunteer to periodically sweep floors & clean the warehouse.

Organize Children's Clothes:

Like to put a smile on a mother & child's face? Volunteer to collect, sort, wash or organize donated children's clothing.

Set Up Homes:

Love to turn a house into a home? Individuals or small groups may volunteer to install (previously delivered) furnishings at our needy families' homes. We work together to assemble & stage furniture, install decorations, and hang curtains & pictures.