

Our Vision:

No Child Within Our Reach Sleeping on the Floor



Bridging AZ Furniture Bank

www.BridgingAZ.org

Name _____

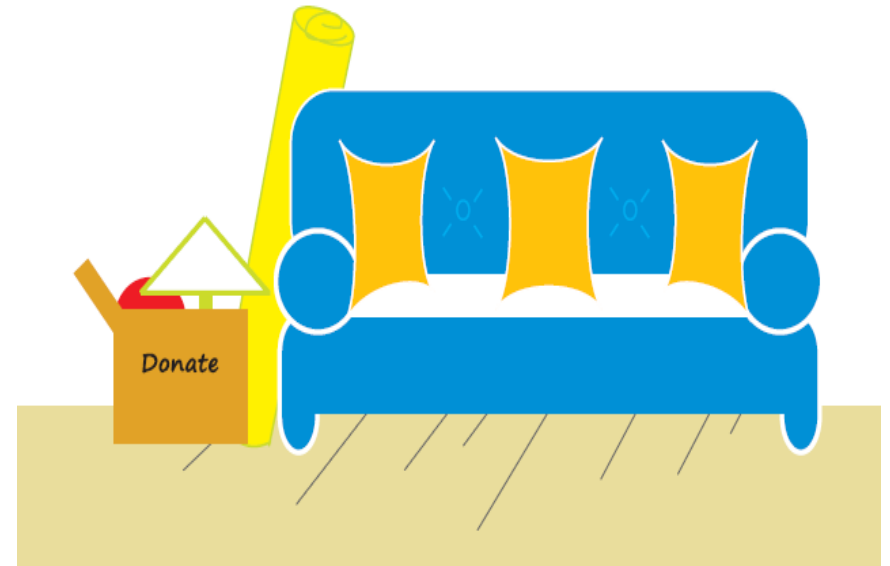
Phone _____

Email _____

Your Contact at Bridging AZ

See the Furniture Drive Video on You Tube (search Bridging AZ).

How to Sponsor a Successful Furniture Drive



Bridging AZ Furniture Bank

www.BridgingAZ.org

25 N. Extension Rd., Mesa, AZ

Bridging AZ qualifies for the AZ "Helping the Working Poor Tax Credit"
all donations are Tax Deductible

Bridging AZ is the ONLY Furniture Bank in Arizona. We support over 100 social service agencies who identify, qualify and support families who receive the gently used furniture and household goods your team will help collect.

Imagine a family or individual transitioning from a temporary shelter to a new, permanent home. Now imagine the harsh reality confronting them—no beds, no kitchen table, chairs, or sofa—none of the items that make a house a home. With your help Bridging fills an unmet need for women, children, minorities, elderly, and the economically disadvantaged.

IMPACT

Last year Bridging was able to distribute over 53,000 items. Our resources depend on the generosity of our community and donations. A furniture drive is a great way to engage volunteers and show the surrounding community your commitment to helping others and to ensure Bridging AZ has the items needed to continue serve the less fortunate living right here in Arizona. The furniture and household goods you collect will help hundreds of individuals and families, many who just need a hand up not a hand out.

SATURDAY 4-6 Hours

This booklet is intended to help you plan and implement a successful furniture drive. It will explain what furniture is collected, the volunteers that are needed, and a week by week break down. We hope you will find this booklet an easy to use tool. We have found that a Saturday drive beginning at 8:00 am works best.

NOTES

Celebrate Your Success!

After the drive, have a get-together to celebrate your success.

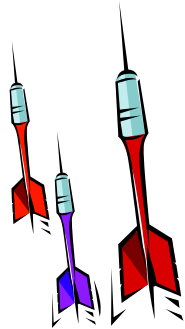
Use an auditorium, reception hall, or someone's home.

Maybe pot-luck style. Invite everyone to share their favorite dish.

Helping with direct costs

It cost Bridging approximately \$1,000 to conduct a well organized Furniture Drive at your church. Below are some ideas to help us defer the costs.

Great Fundraisers



- Car Wash
(\$200-600)
- 'No Talent' Show
(\$300-500)
- Pancake Breakfast
(\$200-500)
- Spaghetti Dinner
(\$200-600)
- Board Game Night
(\$100-200)
- Fifty/Fifty Raffle
(\$200-1,000)
- Parking lot Bedrace
(\$200-1,000)
- Silent Auction
(\$300-1,200)
- Pizza by the Slice
(\$100-400)
- Bake Sale
(\$100-600)
- Choir Concert
(\$200-1,000)
- After Drive
Celebration
(\$1,000-2,000)

WHAT IS NEEDED?



- Beds (recycle fee of \$15 each)
- Sofas & Loveseats
- Kitchen Tables and Chairs
- Dressers & Nightstands
- Lamps & Framed art
- Kitchen & Household items
- Linens (clean and labeled)
- New or gently used items only

NOT ACCEPTED:

- Patio Furniture
- Exercise Equipment
- Yard sale leftovers

POSITIONS:

Drive Leader _____

- Acts as a liaison to Bridging AZ
- Signs up volunteers
- Responsible for internal publicity

Volunteers (# per 2 hour shift)

- ◆ Day Of Drive manager (directs people to drop-off point/ answers questions/ hands our donation slips) (2-3)
- ◆ Furniture Movers (unload and load donations) (2-3)
- ◆ Truck Drivers (pick up furniture that can't be dropped off) (2-3)

*Schedule volunteers in 2 or 3 hour shifts

WEEK 1

Get Organized _____

(date, and location)

- Review Furniture Drive Packet with Bridging AZ staff.
- Form a Drive committee
- Schedule the date, time, and location
- Choose a drive leader
- Select a fundraiser to offset the cost of marketing the Furniture Drive (set a goal of \$500 to \$1,000)

WEEK 2

Get the Word Out!

Drive Leaders...



- Notify your membership/parishioners about the upcoming Furniture Drive via posters, flyers, emails, newsletters, bulletins, etc.
- Bridging website will track donations that need to be picked up.
- Continue to post in weekly bulletin until the drive
- Encourage friends and family to volunteer/donate.
- Get the community involved (youth groups, civic clubs, other churches ...)

*Templates are available for fliers.

WEEK 3-4

Final Preparations

- Invite Bridging to speak or have an information table (wk 3)
- Bridging will send 1,000 postcards to the surrounding community. (wk 3)
- Continue to spread the word about the Furniture Drive. (wk 3-4)
- Email volunteers of their shift time. (wk 4)
- Double check Furniture Drive checklist. (provided week 3 during Bridging visit)



Day of the Drive

Drive leader, Bridging staff, and volunteers set-up 1/2 hour prior to the drive.

Review volunteer roles.

Bridging staff & volunteers will pick up items from the surrounding community

Make sure you have water and access to restrooms.