

Bridging AZ Furniture Bank

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[www.bridgingaz.org](http://www.bridgingaz.org)

25 N. Extension

Mesa, AZ 85201

For Immediate Release

Press Release

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Beds in Short Supply at Furniture Bank

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Mesa, AZ

Arizona's only Furniture Bank is in short supply of beds, particularly twin-size beds for children. As recently as October of last year, Bridging AZ's warehouse had a steady supply of furniture and household goods to distribute to families transitioning from shelters into their new found homes. Last year Bridging distributed more than 50,000 items and this year they expect a 50 percent increase.

To meet the current demand for beds, Bridging AZ needs at least 20 beds a week. Al Gonzales, operations manager for Bridging AZ, said, "We are at a critical level. A few months ago we received two or three furniture donations a day, now we are down to two or three a week, sometimes even less."

As a result of the low inventory, Bridging AZ is frequently only providing one or two beds per family, leaving family members with less than adequate sleeping arrangements, choosing either the couch or the floor.

Due to the down turn in the economy, there has been a greater need for social service programs while donations have dwindled. Case Manager Priscilla Guerrero of UMOM New Day Center understands what basic furniture means to her clients.

"My clients work hard to get out of the shelter where they have nothing, not even a bed of their own," says Guerrero, adding, "to come home and lay in their own bed gives them a real sense of accomplishment."

Bridging AZ Furniture Bank is a non-profit organization that works through social service agencies to provide furniture and household items necessary to create a safe, comfortable and healthy home environment. To donate or volunteer, contact Bridging AZ, which is located at 25 N. Extension, Mesa, AZ 85201. Phone 480-833-3997. [www.bridgingaz.org](http://www.bridgingaz.org).