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Bethany for Children and Families receives donation of 20 mattresses

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By Kelly Steiner, ksteiner@qconline.com

At least 20 fewer people will be sleeping on the floor thanks to a donation from Slumberland Furniture in Moline and Davenport.

The stores donated 20 Simmons mattress sets to Bethany for Children and Families, which will give them to Quad-Cities area families in need.

"It just makes us feel good. It's nice to give back to the community," said Lee Kerr, owner of both Slumberland stores, who valued the donation at \$5,000.

He said it's part of Slumberland Furniture's "Homes for the Holidays" program, in which stores across the Midwest donate 2,000 mattress and box-spring sets each year.

The program began in 1993 and the Moline and Davenport locations started donating to Bethany for Children and Families in 2009.

"As long as we can make people feel comfortable and get a better night's sleep, that's what it's all about," Mr. Kerr said.

Bethany for Children and Families has more than 150 people on a waiting list for mattress sets through its Family Furniture Assistance program, said communications coordinator Joscelyn Stone.

"It can take as many as three months because we have to wait for the donations to come in," she said. "To receive this large of a donation all at once is a huge help."

She said the 20 sets from Slumberland will be given to families based on need. "It is a hard decision. We do try to service those who are in the greatest need, but we have so many people who need assistance. This is a wonderful contribution, but the need is still great."

Bethany for Children and Families accepts donations of new or gently used furniture as well as monetary donations.

To make a donation or for more information, call Bethany for Children and Families at (309) 797-7700.



Photo: Kelly Steiner

Moline and Davenport's Slumberland Furniture locations donated 20 Simmons mattresses to Bethany for Children and Families, who will pass them on to needy families. Top from left, Jesse Norchut, Paul Skovronski and Trent Lebarge. Bottom from left, Lee Kerr, Jenny Hager and Joscelyn Stone.