

# Slumberland, Bethany combine to deliver mattresses to needy

By Leon Lagerstam, llagerstam@qconline.com | Posted: Saturday, December 19, 2015 12:20 pm

MOLINE -- New mattresses make tucking kids into bed to wait for Santa far easier.

It's much harder to do when kids have to sleep on the floor or on piles of coats or clothes, according to Jocelyn Stone, development and communication director at Bethany for Children and Families.

The Moline-based nonprofit organization Monday got 48 new twin mattresses from Slumberland Furniture Stores of Davenport and Moline, as part of the company's annual Making Homes for the Holidays program.

It's the seventh year Bethany benefited, Ms. Stone said.

Slumberland owner Lee Kerr couldn't estimate the value of the donation in cash terms.

"It's not about that," he said. "It's about getting people some beds so they don't have to sleep on the floor. That's priceless."

Slumberland delivered the mattresses Monday morning, and Bethany distributed them to needy people it serves later in the afternoon.

"We appreciate that Slumberland is going to such great lengths," Ms. Stone said.

"It's a day to give back to the community," Mr. Kerr said. "And it's a gift that keeps giving every day and night."

This donation "will ensure that 48 people in the Quad-City area will no longer have to sleep on the floor during these cold winter months," Bethany president and CEO Bill Steinhauser said. "The Making Homes for the Holidays program is an incredible and kind way of helping individuals in need, by making sure they are able to have a warm and restful night's sleep."



Ben Cleaveland, Bethany for Children & Families associate director of community services, helps Slumberland employees Brett Bowker and Ken Cameron unload new mattresses donated by Slumberland Furniture Stores of Davenport and Moline on Monday, Dec. 14, 2015, in Moline. The donation of 48 new twin-size mattresses is part of Slumberland Furniture's annual Making Homes for the Holidays program.

"It's hard to tuck someone into bed if all they've got to sleep on is a pile of coats," Ms. Stone said, citing what some of the agency's clients have said.

Bethany has served the community's needy since 1899.

Slumberland Furniture was founded in 1967 in Richfield, Minn., as a mattress and La-Z-Boy specialty shop, and has 125 stores in 12 states throughout the Midwest.