

Slumberland donates beds for people in need



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Twenty people will have a warm, new bed to wake up in on Christmas morning, thanks to a local furniture store and a local agency.

Slumberland Furniture Stores of Davenport and Moline donated 20 new twin-size beds Monday to Bethany for Children & Families. The donation is part of Slumberland's annual Making Homes for the Holidays program.

Bethany employees picked up the beds from the Davenport store at 616 E. Kimberly Road, Davenport, and most of them were expected to be picked up later in the day by those receiving them. The donations are being distributed through Bethany's Christmas Giving program.

"This generous donation from Slumberland Furniture will ensure that 20 people in the Quad-City area will no longer have to sleep on the floor during these cold winter months," said Jenny Hager, vice president of marketing and development for Bethany. "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."

Joscelyn Stone, communications manager for Bethany, said they identify people in need of beds.

"There are some children who will receive beds," she said. "And then some adults from the community. At least seven children will receive mattresses and box springs to get them off the floor. We have one client, a woman, who has multiple sclerosis. She has been sleeping on pillows for at least a year."

Bethany is a nonprofit agency that responds to the critical needs of Quad-City area youth and families. Since 1899, the agency has provided services, contributed to innovative community collaborations and has taken a leadership role in resolving community problems affecting families and children.

Stone said clients inform them of their needs. "Then, we let them know the item has been received," she said. "There are so many who need things like beds. Or another hot item is a kitchen table."

She said that is one of 22 programs Bethany offers to people of all ages.

"We try to serve the whole family," she said.

Stone said a lack of beds, living room furniture or a kitchen table can affect children living in such an environment.

"That is a need we try really hard to address," she said. "A new bed is going to make a child's life better."

Lee Kerr, owner, of Slumberland stores in Davenport and Moline, said the donation, valued at about \$8,000, is a good endeavor for them.

"This is the sixth year we done it, and the 20th year Slumberland has done it," Kerr said. "This is something Slumberland as a whole has done for 20 years. We do it to give back to the community. These beds get kids and grownups off the floor and into beds. Knowing it is going to people who need them, it makes you feel good. That is the whole idea of it."

Slumberland Furniture was founded in 1967 in Richfield, Minn. Over the past 40 years, Slumberland has expanded to 125 stores across 12 states.

Bethany Furniture Assistance Program

Bethany's Family Furniture Assistance Program helps people with furniture needs get gently used items through donations. For more information, call 309-797-7700.