

Beds for Kids CWC Questionnaire

What issues are you addressing and what results are you committed to achieving?

Beds for Kids is a faith based non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a bed and other essential furniture to every child and family in need in Charlotte. Each night over 7500 children sleep on the floor and thousands of families live daily without basic furniture pieces that bring sustainability and dignity; Beds for Kids intends to change that. Currently working through referral partnerships with successful local agencies, Beds for Kids supplements existing holistic services to marginalized families by fulfilling a major gap that exists with bed and furniture supplies. Knowledgeable social workers employed by our partner agencies vet and then refer their organization's clients with requests that can supply all bed and furniture items needed. Careful research has been done and strategic partnerships have been established in order to create the best business practices to effectively develop new levels of self-sustainability for the clients we serve. Beds for Kids believes both in serving an immediate need and cultivating the independence of each client towards self-efficiency, therefore considering each client's referral as a transaction and not charity alone.

How do you measure success? Provide recent information if available.

Since January 2011, our results have been over 4,580 total furniture and bed units delivered, with over 924 of those being beds delivered actually to the homes of the clients we serve. So far in 2013 we have delivered 984 total furniture and bed units, with 228 of those being beds.

How does your organization move vulnerable populations from crisis to stability?

Beds for Kids clients include the children and families who have either recently moved out of a homeless shelter and in to stable housing or those who risk falling in to homelessness because of lack of stability and resources. Our clients are often of Charlotte's working-poor class, who rarely has discretionary income to purchase basic furnishings that would advocate healthier lifestyles for them and the children in their homes. Without these basic furnishings a child and their family members are much more likely to suffer the intangible effects of poverty that often last a lifetime or are likely to be financially exploited by furniture rental companies. Many of whom we serve are the "orphans" and "widows" without a father or husband, some are nuclear families, but all are in need of a resource that much of Charlotte and Western North Carolina has in abundance beds and furniture. The beds and furniture pieces provided are a crucial part of each family member's need for a stable home. Without the furniture the families are living in a shell of a home and often still suffer the psychological effects of homelessness because they still are eating on the floor, socializing

on the floor and sleeping on the floor. This stability is critical to the confidence of each person and the improvement of each family member's mental and physical health; thus improving a child's ability to perform in school and parent's ability to manage a household and work at their job.

Who are your community partners? Are they Profit or Non-Profit?

Referring non-profit community partners include: A Child's Place, Charlotte Family Housing, the YWCA and Project 658. Local (for-profit) business community partners include: Ashley Furniture HomeStore, Haverty's, and CBS Radio. Other community partners include Salvation Army's Center of Hope, the Harvest Center, and Huntersville's The Bin.

Is the organization a 501c3 charity?

Yes, Beds for Kids is a 501c3 Charity, our tax ID is 27-4153074.

What are existing funding sources?

Beds for Kids receives the majority of its funding through local individuals, church congregations and businesses. Some additional sources of funding have included local service club grants, national health association grants and income-generating projects that are done in-house to create self-sustaining support. Those projects include metal and mattress recycling as well as making furniture pieces with pallets.

What percent of contributions/budget go to administration vs. recipients of benefits?

12% of our yearly budget is administration vs. recipient of benefits

What is your current financial budget?

Our current financial budget is \$215,000.00.

Provide a copy of your most recent Annual Report.

Who are recipients of benefits from the organization?

Our clients are children and their families; many of who live in subsidized housing developments and other permanent housing in Charlotte. These individuals have either spent months sleeping on the floor, sharing beds with other family members or have yet to own their own bed since moving out of shelters into permanent residence.

What geographical area do you serve? Must recipients reside in the area? There are over 7500 'couch-homeless' in Charlotte (at least on record) who have no bed to call their own. Our clients are children, many of whom live in subsidized housing developments across Charlotte. Beds for Kids clients are somewhat evenly spread through most every zip code within Charlotte city limits. Higher concentrations of clients live in areas with subsidized housing and of higher poverty.

What type donations would you need/want?

Beds for Kids is continually looking for new bedding supplies that go out with each mattress delivered, warehouse tools that help restore many donated items, and gently used bed and furniture donations that help us serve more clientele.

Volunteer jobs – indicate type available

There are multiple types of jobs we may ask for help on including: prepping furniture for deliveries, lifting & moving heavy furniture items, organizing & cleaning the warehouse, sorting bed kits and/or categorizing donations to name a few.

Financial

- 1) Sponsoring 6 months worth of new mattress purchases (~\$3,000/mo.)
- 2) Helping purchase materials for the construction of 100 twin bunkie boards (small versions of box springs, \$20.00/ bunkie board).
- 3) \$400.00 furnishes an entire client's home. To furnish one home once a month would be huge as we typically furnish 25 homes each month.

Volunteer Coordinator Name and Contact Number. Other contact numbers applicable

Brandon Holmes – Assistant Director (980) 254-3921

Daniel Fogarty – Executive Director (980) 254-3994

Volunteer schedule – Monday thru Friday only 8AM-5PM and/or evenings? Do you need week-end volunteers? Are there any requirements for volunteer, i.e., background check, drug test? If so, who pays for these?

Beds for Kids encourages small groups and individuals to volunteer on Saturday mornings at the Beds for Kids warehouse from 9am to 11:30am. We do ask that all volunteers be at least 15 years of age or older.

Do you need interpreters? If so, what languages? No, we currently are not in need of interpreters.

Are there other ways to “plug in”, i.e., Luncheons or Events?

Besides volunteering on Saturday mornings at the Beds for Kids warehouse, you can also participate by hosting a fundraiser or bedding drive, donating hard goods and raising awareness in the community by distributing our 5x7 inch information cards.