

# FLOURISH FURNISHINGS

---



---

*THE Furniture Bank of Kansas City*

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Warehouse/Showroom  
11971 Grandview Road  
Suite A  
Grandview, MO 64030

Mailing  
P.O. Box 778  
Grandview, MO 64030

**816-946-8600**

[info@flourishfurnishings.org](mailto:info@flourishfurnishings.org)  
[www.flourishfurnishings.org](http://www.flourishfurnishings.org)



Gold  
Transparency  
2022

**Candid.**

# REFLECTION



## Dear Friends,

In May of 2021, I knew that becoming the Executive Director at Flourish Furnishings was the right move. While I've been in non-profit work for a long time, I wanted to be part of a movement, something making a real difference in Kansas City.

I remember my very first month at Flourish and seeing just how important shopping for their very own furnishings was for our clients. For many of them, their appointment has been the culmination of many things leading them to that point. It is often filled with much hope and expectation as they see all this stuff being loaded into their trucks, helping them have a sense that things are going to be okay for them.

It is not unusual for me to see a kid's face light up when we roll that furniture down the ramp to their truck. Several have told me how excited they are to have a bed all to themselves. Countless clients cry in relief when they realize they don't have to spend thousands of dollars (that they don't have) to outfit their new home with furniture and housewares.

James, a veteran who was referred to us for help getting back on his feet, stood in the lobby and shouted a huge thank you and blessing to all of us. "You remind me that there is so much good in this world," he said. There were tears in most eyes that morning.

Through all the challenges our community faced in 2021, Flourish Furnishings continued to be laser-focused on its mission, serving 760 families. Building on this movement, we hope to serve 900 or more in 2022. Kids are in beds, families are at tables, and meals can be cooked and eaten with the goods that we provide.

Momentum is growing and the movement is building. Won't you join us in 2022?



**Rich Shockey, Executive Director**

# OVERVIEW



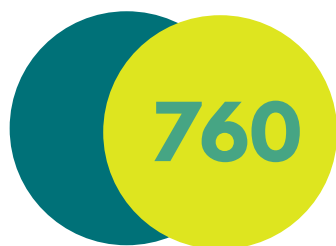
**MISSION** To improve lives by providing essential home furnishings to those seeking housing stability.

As THE furniture bank of Kansas City, Flourish Furnishings distributes free furniture, bedding, cookware, and more to families and individuals experiencing poverty and/or houselessness. In 2021, we fully furnished **760 homes** composed of **1,853** household members, including 907 children.

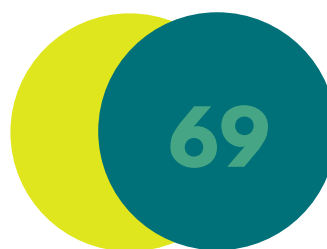
We partnered with **69 social service agencies** ranging from mental health centers to domestic violence shelters to refugee resettlement agencies. While each person had a unique story, everyone we served suffered from losing their home or belongings, with **85%** having been previously unhoused.

**317 volunteers** contributed **17,141** hours to collect, repair, and distribute furnishings to our clients. Volunteers offered skills ranging from woodworking to accounting. Their service had a big impact by empowering families to establish comfortable, permanent homes.

We distributed a total of **30,475 items**. Through our reuse initiatives, we diverted **208** tons of waste from the landfill by transforming unwanted furniture into a resource for those in need.



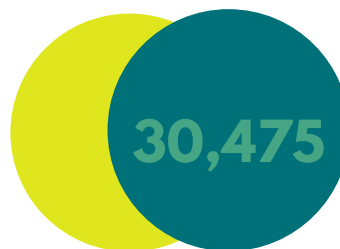
**HOMES FURNISHED**



**PARTNER AGENCIES**



**VOLUNTEERS**



**ITEMS DISTRIBUTED**

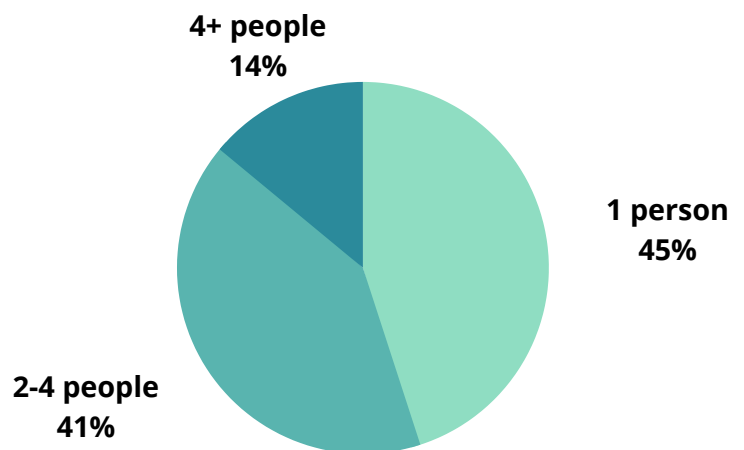
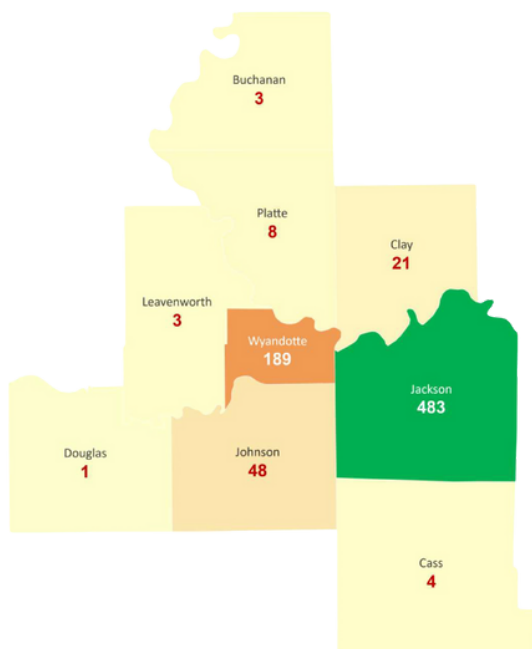
# CLIENTS



Housing is only the first step to establishing a home. In 2021, we fully furnished **760 homes** for clients transitioning from homelessness to housing stability. A stable home is a place where families can rest, cook meals, spend time together, and feel the sense of security needed to pursue larger goals. While everyone had a unique story, each had been affected by poverty and displacement. Furniture and household items helped create more permanent homes for a total of **1,853 people**, including 907 children. We hope to assist 900 households in 2022.

Our clients faced a wide range of hardships and circumstances, resulting in **85%** having previously experienced homelessness. A furnished home is essential to long-term success, especially for the **87%** of clients with incomes at or below the poverty level. Whole-home furnishings are an economic boost while laying foundations for a long-term, safe, and comfortable home.

## CLIENTS BY COUNTY



## HOUSEHOLD SIZE



# CLIENTS



## 2021 TOP REASONS FOR REFERRAL

20%

**Loss of Home** - 154 clients lost their home due to foreclosure or eviction, many of whom experienced houselessness for one or more months.

17%

**Domestic Violence** - 126 clients were forced to leave their home due to domestic violence, leaving them without resources or belongings.

16%

**Mental Illness** - 118 clients were affected by mental illness, and were establishing a new home as part of their ongoing treatment and support plan.

15%

**Disability** - 114 clients were referred due to disabilities that made home furnishings unobtainable, from financial to physical barriers.

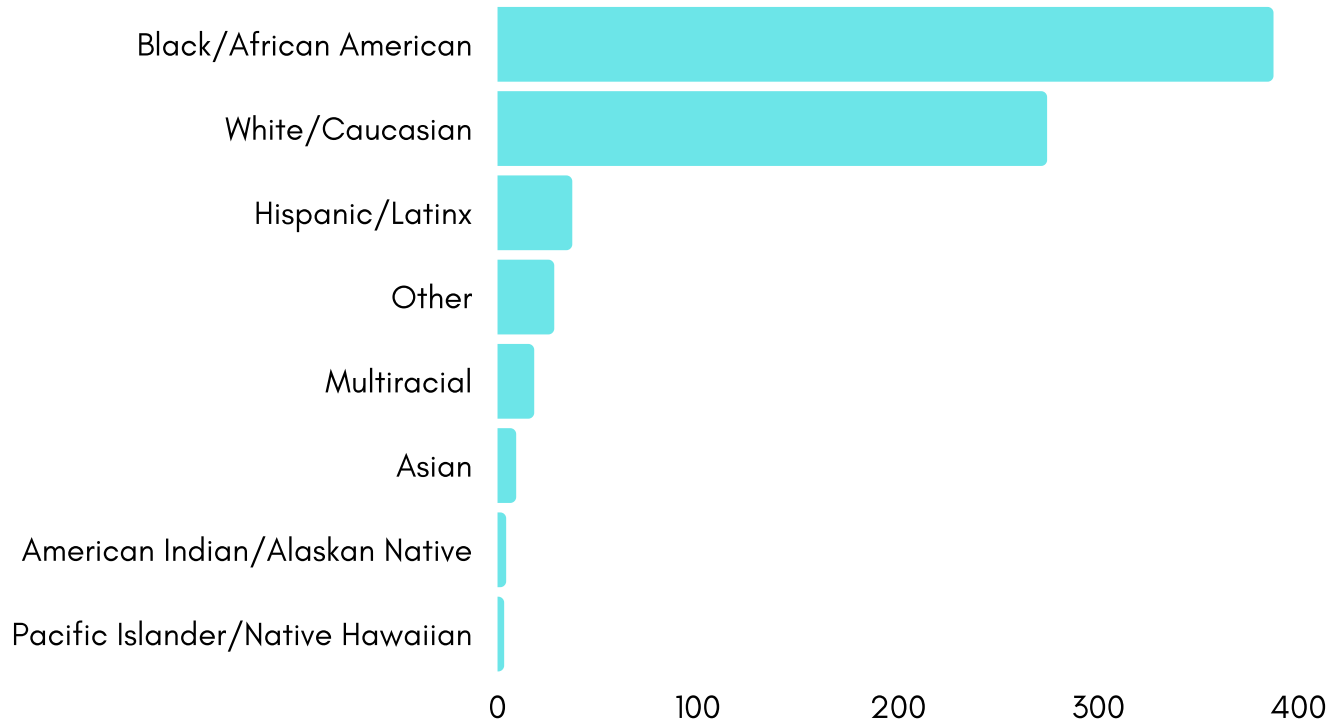
10%

**Incarceration** - 77 clients were re-entering independent living after having been incarcerated, with few resources to establish a new home.

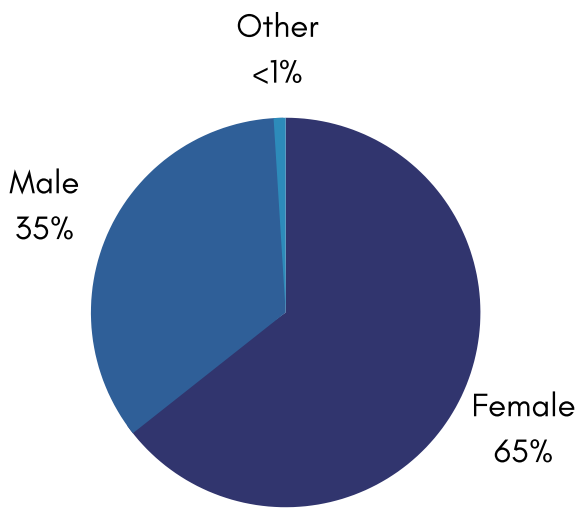
8%

**Job Loss** - 60 clients lost their jobs, causing financial hardship and limiting their ability to furnish their home while providing basic living necessities.

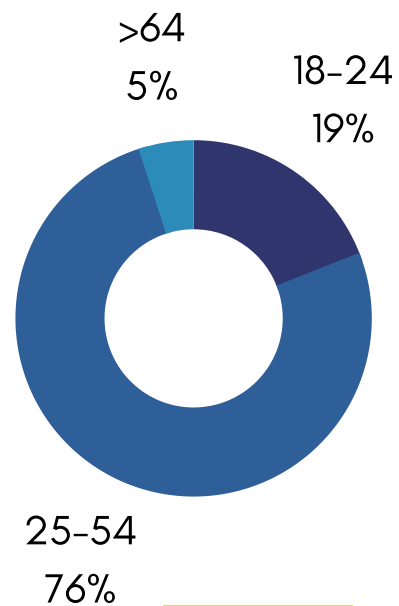
# CLIENTS



## RACE & ETHNICITY



## GENDER



## AGE

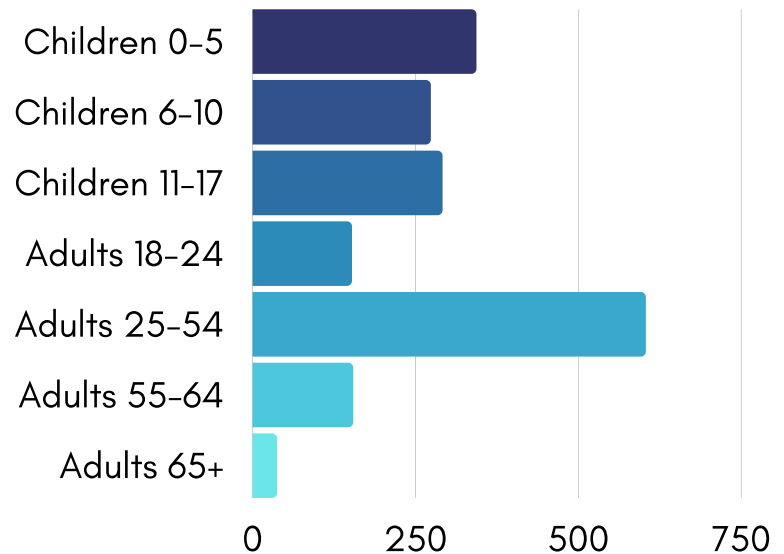
# CLIENTS



## HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

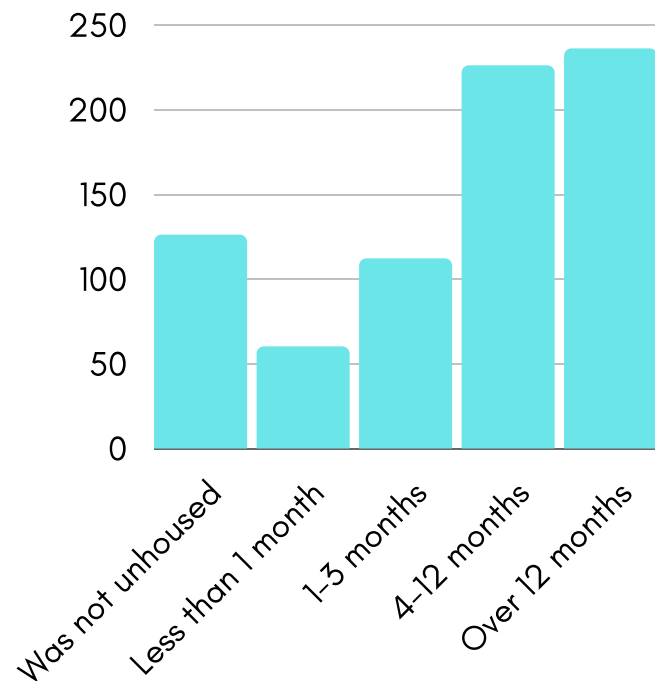
In 2021, Flourish Furnishings provided whole-home furnishings for **760 homes**. Our service impacted 1,853 people, including **907 children and 946 adults**.

Furniture stabilizes the home environment, creating a safe, comfortable place for families to rest, share meals, and spend time together.



## PERIOD OF HOMELESSNESS

**85%** of those we served previously experienced the **trauma of homelessness**. Being unhoused robs families of their belongings, social support, and physical and mental well-being. We aim to restore hope and security by empowering families to rebuild their sense of home. More than **60%** of our clients were unhoused for **4 or more months**.



# CLIENTS



Bailey was referred to Flourish Furnishings by Hope House, a domestic violence center providing survivors with shelter and comprehensive services. Bailey worked with case managers to secure a new place to live after being forced to flee an abusive situation. Domestic violence survivors are forced to rebuild not only their home, but their sense of security and well-being. With the help of our volunteers, Bailey chose furniture, bedding, kitchen items, and décor for her new home. Her time at Flourish Furnishings was an essential step in recovery after experiencing trauma. We hope that Bailey and her daughter find peace and happiness as they move forward!

# CLIENTS



**VA** | U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



Sylvester was referred to Flourish Furnishings by the Veterans Administration, the resource center of Veterans Affairs. He worked with case managers to secure housing in addition to a range of other employment, health, and education services. Flourish Furnishings serves as an essential resource in conjunction with organizations like the Veterans Administration to serve those experiencing hardships including PTSD, disability, and financial barriers. At Flourish, Sylvester chose everything he needed to make his new place feel like home. It is our privilege to help veterans like him on their journey to happiness, security, and success!

# PARTNER AGENCIES



We partnered with 69 social service agencies who served a diverse range of communities, from mental health centers to domestic violence shelters to refugee resettlement agencies. As a centralized source for whole-home furnishings, we saved case managers time and money by providing everything needed to furnish our shared clients' homes. Working together allows our partners to put their valuable resources towards funding essential services and programs.

Our partner agencies provide wrap-around support to clients, including housing, employment, health, and family services. Home furnishings are a barrier for many living with low incomes. Our resources are an essential step to establishing a permanent home, pursuing employment, and maintaining health and happiness.

The screenshot below was taken from our monthly orientation for new referring case managers. We love getting to know our partners and learning about the work they do. We are so proud to be a part of the thriving network of non-profits in Kansas City!



# PARTNER AGENCIES



**Academy of Addiction Services**  
**Accessibility Medical Equipment**  
**Avenue of Life**  
**Baby Grace Foundation**  
**Bishop Sullivan Center**  
**Brothers In Blue Re-entry**  
**Care Beyond the Boulevard**  
**Catholic Charities**  
**Church of the Resurrection**  
**City Union Mission**  
**Colonial Presbyterian Church**  
**Communities In Schools**  
**Community LINC**  
**Community Services League**  
**Cornerstones of Care**  
**Cross-Lines Community Outreach**  
**Della Lamb Community Services**  
**Empire Dreams**  
**Front Porch Alliance**  
**Give 100%**  
**Grooming Project**  
**Healing House**  
**Heartland Regional Alcohol & Drug  
Assessment Center**  
**Hillcrest Hope**  
**Hillcrest Transitional Housing**  
**Hope House**  
**Housing Authority of KC**  
**International Career Institute**  
**Jewish Family Services**  
**Jewish Vocational Service**  
**Johnson County Interfaith  
Hospitality Network**  
**Johnson County Mental Health**  
**Journey to New Life**  
**Juneteenth KC**  
**KC Crime Commission**  
**KC Footprints**  
**KC for Refugees**  
**KC Girls Preparatory Academy**  
**KC Public Schools**  
**KC Redemption Transitional  
Housing**  
**Kansas Department of Children  
and Families**  
**Life in Full Transformation**  
**Lighthouse Maternity**  
**Mattie Rhodes Center**  
**Metro Lutheran Ministry**  
**Mother's Refuge**  
**Neighbors Who Care**  
**NewHouse Center**  
**Olathe Public Schools**  
**Operation Breakthrough**  
**Our Spot KC**  
**ReDiscover**  
**Resource Health**  
**reStart**  
**River of Refuge**  
**Rose Brooks Center**  
**SafeHome**  
**Salvation Army**  
**Serve the World Charities**  
**Synergy Services**  
**Transitions for Life Foundation**  
**Tri-County Mental Health Services**  
**University Health**  
**University of Missouri KC**  
**Veterans Administration**  
**Veterans Affairs Supportive  
Housing**  
**Veterans Community Project**  
**Wyandot Center**  
**YouThrive**



# PARTNER AGENCIES



## 2021 TOP 10 REFERRING PARTNERS

(by referral volume)

### Wyandot Center

Wyandot Center is the designated community mental health center serving Wyandotte County, Kansas.



### Avenue of Life

Avenue of Life mobilizes the community to equip and empower low-income individuals and families.



### Journey to New Life

Journey to New Life works to remove roadblocks and restore opportunity to those re-entering society after incarceration.



### University Health

University Health is a community mental health center providing complete behavioral health services in Kansas City.



university  
health

### reStart

reStart provides a continuum of housing services to all of Kansas City's homeless populations.



### Rose Brooks Center

Rose Brooks Center is a domestic violence emergency shelter offering safety to adults, children, and their pets experiencing violence.



ROSE  
BROOKS  
Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

### Veterans Administration

Veterans Benefits Administration helps veterans and their families buy homes, earn degrees, start careers, stay healthy, and more.



VA | U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

### Metro Lutheran Ministry

Metro Lutheran Ministry connects those in need with food, housing, health care, education, employment services, and other resources.

METRO  
LUTHERAN  
MINISTRY

### Jewish Family Services

JFS provides essential human services for people facing challenges in everyday life or times of crisis – regardless of faith, age, culture, or lifestyle.



### Safefome

Safefome is a domestic violence shelter providing benefits to approximately 8,000 individuals each year.

Safefome



# PARTNER AGENCIES



Journey to New Life works with people when they get out of prison, offering support and resources as our clients strive for stability and the opportunity to live their lives with dignity and self-determination. All people deserve not only the opportunity to achieve their own goals, but also the foundation necessary to do so.

Journey to New Life offers case management services to help clients obtain housing as a critical step in this process. We firmly believe that all people have a right to stable, quality housing, and our partnership with Flourish Furnishings is fundamental to this mission.

Flourish gives clients the ability to furnish their homes intentionally and to uniquely design their own definition of the word 'home'. Journey to New Life is dedicated to helping clients navigate the numerous societal roadblocks to self-empowerment placed upon people when they get out of prison; we could not ask for a better community partner than Flourish Furnishings in supporting our clients in constructing their new homes as they move forward into the next chapter of their lives.



## Nick Flowers

*Re-Entry Specialist*  
**Journey to New Life**

# PARTNER AGENCIES



Our core purpose at Safehome, the only domestic violence shelter in Johnson County, is to provide a healing atmosphere where survivors of domestic abuse can gain inner strength, explore options, and be empowered to live a life free of abuse. We could not accomplish our mission without the help of our partner agencies, and one of the biggest ways we can help someone move on in their life is by our partnership with Flourish Furnishings.

Domestic violence survivors can very often feel disempowered, alone, and fearful of the future as they try to rebuild a life free from abuse. Home is a refuge for most of us, where we feel safe and at peace, but for victims of domestic abuse, this is not the case.

Flourish Furnishings allows our clients the opportunity to create that refuge, because as soon as they step through the door of the warehouse, they are greeted with kindness and treated with dignity. And then they get to choose their furniture and start to realize that the dream they had of a new home is becoming a reality.

This would not be possible without Flourish Furnishings and the amazing work that you all do. This collaboration makes possible the dream of having a new home free of violence where individuals and families, not only survive, but thrive!



## Adrienne Owings

*Case Manager*  
**Safehome**

# PARTNER AGENCIES



Della Lamb Community Services exists to empower its clients to meet the challenges of education, employment, and self-sufficiency in an ever-changing world. During its 120+ years, Della Lamb has developed a network of services which move children and families out of poverty and toward an improved quality of life and, ultimately, to self-sufficiency. We serve more than 1,500 individuals annually through our Early Education, Refugee Services, Social Services, and Youth Services programs.

The partnership between Flourish Furnishings and Della Lamb is really a true testament to the power of shared and community-developed resources. The resources provided so generously by the donors to Flourish elevate those that we serve in very real, very powerful ways.

With more than 300 refugees in need of almost immediate housing, the housewares, furniture and, most importantly, the empowering shopping experience, is such a powerful reflection of a community that lifts each other up in very real, very tangible ways.



**Cori Wallace**  
*Engagement Director*  
**Della Lamb Community  
Services**

# VOLUNTEERS



Flourish is led by a passionate and dedicated community of volunteers. We strive to make our 28,000 square foot facility feel like home in 8 different departments. Flourish volunteers are the heart and soul of Flourish, and meeting our clients' needs is always the top priority.

Specially trained "personal shoppers" guide our clients through the showroom, assisting with their selections. We offer lovingly prepared and organized bathroom and kitchen kits. We clean furniture, carpentry teams make repairs, sewing teams repurpose fabric, and our electrical teams test and refurbish anything with wiring. Our dish teams combine beautiful sets of plates, glassware, tablecloths, and placemats in boxed sets.

In 2021, 317 volunteers contributed 17,141 hours of labor, equivalent to an estimated value of \$489,000. We are so grateful for our kind, fun-loving, and hard-working volunteers!





# VOLUNTEERS



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Dennis Smith is a long-time volunteer at Flourish Furnishings who collects donations and moves furniture. After suffering a heart attack in 2017, he says that he got "a second chance, and I wanted to do more to give to others and to help make life a little better for them. Flourish gives me an opportunity to do that immediately and directly to those who need it most." Through his volunteerism, Dennis hopes to make the world a more compassionate place where people listen to each other more sincerely. "My impact is small but the impact Flourish Furnishings offers is significant." While he may say his impact is small, Dennis made a big difference for our community by serving **775 hours** in 2021!

# VOLUNTEERS



**WOODWORKING**



**SEWING**



**MOVING**



**DISH PACKING**



**SORTING**



**ELECTRICAL**



**PACKING**



**SHOPPING**

# REUSE

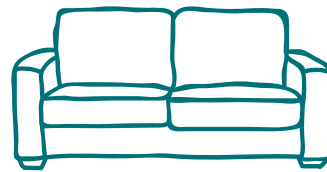


Thanks to our volunteers' hard work repairing and refurbishing donations, we distributed **30,475 furnishings** – saving **208 tons** of unwanted household items from the landfill. Our system diverted waste by turning used furniture from **442** residences and **21** corporate partners into a resource for those who need them. By coupling environmental sustainability with social service, our work is founded in a philosophy of abundance. Through collaboration and creativity, we can make sure everyone lives in a fully furnished home.

## ITEMS REHOMED



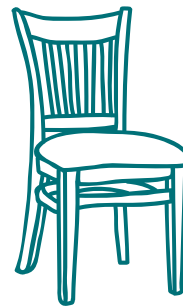
**1,695**  
Beds & Frames



**1,740**  
Upholstered  
Furniture



**6,186**  
Linens



**4,300**  
Wooden  
Furniture



**7,566**  
Miscellaneous  
Items

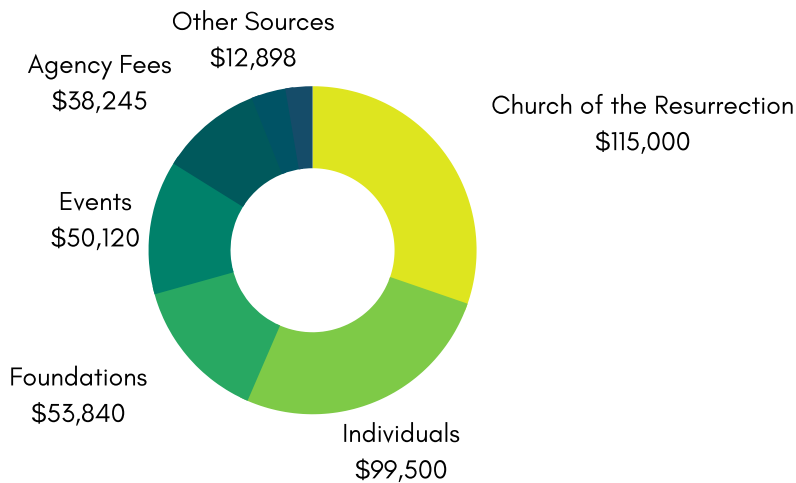


**8,681**  
Household Items

# FINANCIALS



## INCOME



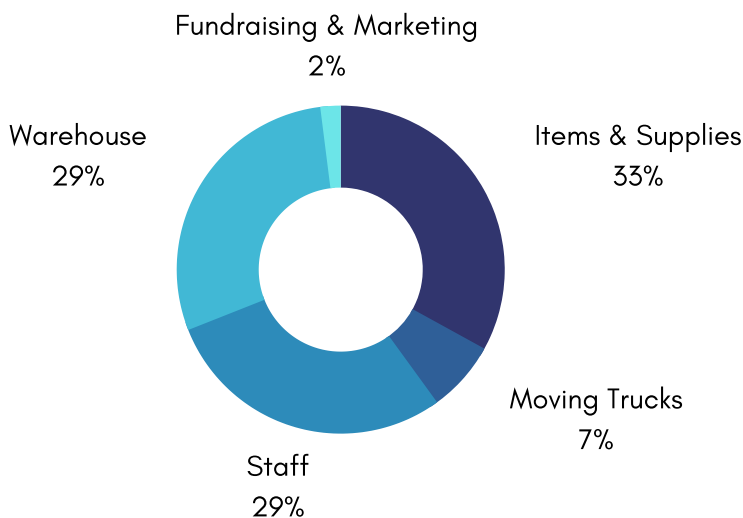
Flourish Furnishings operated with a budget of \$369,603 thanks to generous donations from **individuals, businesses, foundations, and non-profit partners.** Funding supports the essential functions of our mission to furnish homes.

As the hub of our operations, the **warehouse** serves as a work area, a furniture showroom, and our administrative offices.

Our **two moving trucks** enable volunteers to collect donations from 400+ businesses and residences.

Although our **inventory of household items and furniture** is mostly donated, we purchase additional home goods when supply runs low.

With only **two full-time employees**, our service is run by the dedication of our 300+ volunteers and network of furniture donors.



## EXPENSES



# FINANCIALS



## FOUNDATION GRANTS

Creative Planning Foundation  
Dunn Family Foundation  
Freedom Founders Forward Foundation  
Grandview Chamber of Commerce  
Mariner Foundation  
Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation  
Overland Park Rotary Foundation  
Soroptimist International of Kansas City  
Victor E. Speas Foundation, Bank of America,  
N. A., Trustee  
Vivan & Hymie J. Sosland Charitable Trust

## CORPORATE DONORS

1-800-GOT-JUNK  
Assisted Moving  
Bed Bath & Beyond  
Big Dave's Downtown Liquor  
Blessings Abound  
BLN Designs  
Blue Ridge Bank & Trust  
Blue Tape Estate Sales  
Blue Valley Realty  
Bridgestone  
Budget Self Storage  
Charlie Hustle  
Chicken N Pickle  
Church of the Resurrection  
CommunityAmerica  
Costco  
Crowley Furniture  
Droessler Design  
Enterprise Bank  
Equipbid  
Facial Bar  
Fuzzy's Taco Shop  
Great Western Bank  
Hen House  
Hillcrest Thrift Store  
Kendra Scott  
KU Naismith Hall  
Kurtzweil's Meats  
Logic, Inc.  
Maps Coffee  
Martin City Brewery  
McClain's Bakery  
McDonald's  
Paola Center  
Pivotal Healthcare  
Pomps Tire  
ReSupply Pickups  
Revival Home Furnishings  
Roadmap Wealth Management  
Rosehill Gardens  
Seville Home Furnishings  
Sheraton Hotel  
Sleepy Head Beds  
Smashburger  
Superior Moving  
Superior/Chi Omega KU  
Tallgrass Creek  
Tommy's Car Wash  
Topgolf  
TW Sportswear  
Two Men And A Truck  
Unforked  
Winc Wine

# FINANCIALS



THANK YOU FORE  
SPONSORING



Enterprise Bank & Trust was a sponsor for the 2021 Topgolf Fore Flourish Fundraiser. Thanks to their support, the event was a success and raised \$18,977 for our operations during the year! Enterprise has been Flourish's primary bank since its incorporation as a non-profit in 2019. We are so grateful for their dedication to creating safe, comfortable homes for families across Kansas City!

# FINANCIALS



Employees of Mariner Wealth Advisors organized a large collection of household items for Flourish clients and raised \$695 to support our mission! The Mariner Foundation also contributed a grant of \$5,000, providing essential funds for our daily operation. We are so grateful for their commitment to giving back to the community! Their philanthropy provided home furnishings for many of our clients in 2021.

# FINANCIALS



## 2021 TOP 10 FURNITURE DONORS

(by volume)



### **Blessings Abound**

*Blessings Abound is a thrift store that donates profits to aid people in need. Through a partnership with Flourish, they donated **845** pieces of furniture.*



### **Bed Bath & Beyond**

*Bed Bath & Beyond provided overstock merchandise to Flourish, contributing **353** household items.*



### **Paola Center**

*Paola Center is home for much of the community-based activity in Miami County, Kansas, donating **296** items.*



### **Chi Omega - University of Kansas**

*The Chi Omega sorority at the University of Kansas donated **287** furniture items after renovating their campus house.*



### **University of Kansas - Naismith Hall**

*The University of Kansas donated **250** items including beds and dressers after a renovation at the Naismith Hall dormitory.*



SHERATON

### **Sheraton Hotel**

*The Sheraton Hotel at Crown Center donated **203** items of furniture after renovating multiple guest room floors.*



### **Crowley Furniture & Mattress**

*Crowley Furniture & Mattress donated **199** essential furniture items including beds and other furniture returns.*



### **Sleepy Head Beds**

*Sleepy Head Beds distributes donated beds to children and families. They donated **154** beds and furniture items.*



### **United Methodist Church of the Resurrection**

*The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection donated **119** pieces of furniture from donation drives and collections.*



### **Superior Moving & Storage**

*Superior Moving donated **90** items of unwanted furniture and home goods from old storage units and hired moves.*



# FINANCIALS



## 2021 EVENTS

Thank you to everyone who attended our fundraising events during 2021! Our generous community gave \$50,120, providing an essential pillar of support for Flourish's operations.

We are so grateful for the network of individuals who give their time, resources, and passion to furnishing homes. At each event, we were reminded of the thriving community of people who care about serving others. It's an honor to work alongside like-minded individuals to implement solutions to poverty, houselessness, and trauma in Kansas City.



**Topgolf Tournament**



**I-Lan Park BBQ**



**Rosehill Soiree**



**Giving Tuesday**

(featuring KK Assmann from Care Beyond the Boulevard)



**Partner Potluck**

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Steve Warta, Chair**  
Founder and Managing Director  
Roadmap Wealth Management



**Amy Rush**  
General Counsel  
CommunityAmerica, CUSO One, LLC



**Yvette Richards**  
Director of Community Connection  
St. James United Methodist Church



**Rich Kline, Treasurer**  
Managing Member  
Vita Mobile Medical Support Services



**Gene Lampe, Secretary**  
Senior Director, Human Resources  
Garmin International



**Carol Cartmill**  
Senior Director of Missions  
United Methodist Church of the Resurrection

# STAFF AND TEAM



**Rich Shockey**  
Executive Director  
[rich@flourishfurnishings.org](mailto:rich@flourishfurnishings.org)



**Paula House**  
Operations Director  
[paula@flourishfurnishings.org](mailto:paula@flourishfurnishings.org)



**Barbara Patterson**  
Fundraising Chair  
[b.l.patterson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:b.l.patterson@sbcglobal.net)



**Rita Ashley**  
Client Services Liaison  
[rita@flourishfurnishings.org](mailto:rita@flourishfurnishings.org)



**Madison Hadler**  
Marketing Coordinator  
[madison@flourishfurnishings.org](mailto:madison@flourishfurnishings.org)



**Elinore Noyes**  
AmeriCorps VISTA  
[elinore@flourishfurnishings.org](mailto:elinore@flourishfurnishings.org)





**THANK YOU!!!!**

