



FLOURISH

KANSAS CITY'S FURNITURE BANK

Where Compassion Meets Sustainability



ANNUAL
REPORT

2024

A YEAR OF GROWTH FOSTERED BY COMMUNITY

In 2024, Flourish continued to provide an entire home of furniture and home essentials to families that were living in empty homes, eating and sleeping on the floor, and hoping for more.

Over the year, we served more families than we have ever served and, at the same time, were able to reduce the amount of time a family had to wait to get an appointment. Flourish increased our capacity to serve up to 40 families per week, yet we continued to provide families with all the items needed for their homes, right down to the artwork on the walls. We did not do this alone. We did this all through amazing partnerships with social service agencies, volunteers, community groups, corporate partners, and donors.

Most importantly, Flourish provided kindness and dignity. Guests were greeted on the parking lot and walked into the registration area where they were introduced by name. A waiting area where coffee and snacks are offered welcomes guests. Hosts provide care and compassion as they shop with our guests. Volunteers busily move furniture, pack boxes, and load trucks while showing each guest that we care about them and are happy to be a part of the beginning of the next chapter of their life story. The end of their Flourish shopping trip is a celebration and a launching point for each family we serve!





We've had lots of ups this year - receiving an award on the field at a Kansas City Royals game, being a part of the Kappa Homes Tour and the Giving Machines, being selected as a United Way Impact 100 agency and many more happy times. We've had some downs - having our truck stolen, having it recovered, and working without it for six weeks while it was repaired. Through it all, we felt a deep sense of being a part of a community that really cares about how their neighbors are getting along in the world.

We know you were a big part of all of our successes and milestones. We want to share with you the impact that we, together, were able to create in our community.

We ask that you share this annual report with others. As we grow and find ways to continue to deepen the relationships that make Flourish a really special place, we hope that our story and our impact resonates with others.

Thank you for being a part of this truly incredible year and for your part in our beautiful Flourish story.

Warmly,

Amy Cox
Executive Director
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816-946-8601



HOMES FURNISHED



Homes Furnished

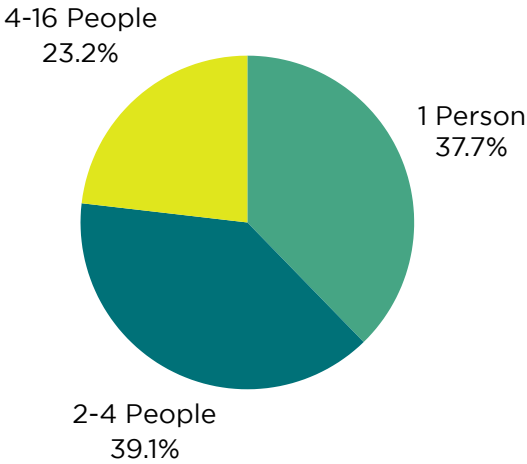


People Served

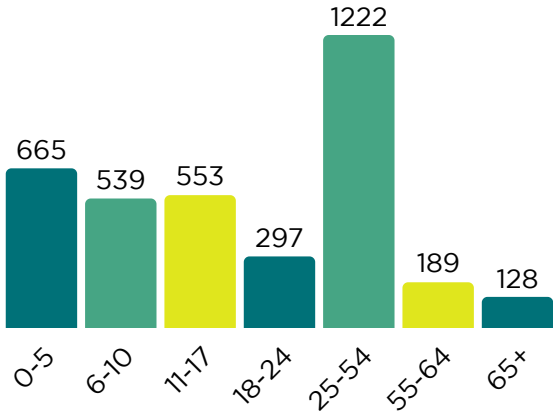


Items Distributed

In 2024, Flourish furnished 1,302 homes with 59,417 donated items. Through collaboration between donors, volunteers, and community partners, we empowered 3,593 people including 1,757 children with safe and comfortable homes. 81% of our guests were transitioning from a situation of houselessness. With the support of donors and volunteers, we provided 59,417 items – averaging a value of \$1,300 in furniture given to every household.



Household Sizes



Ages of Household Members

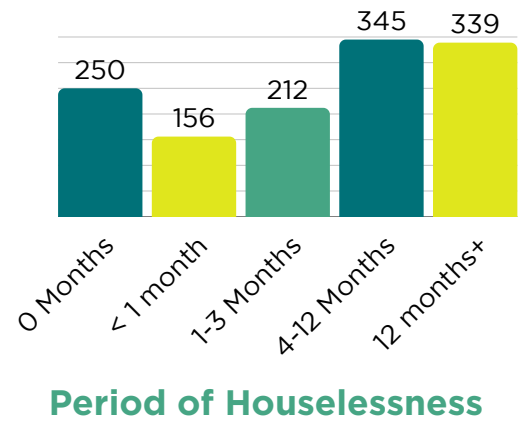


Meet Alisha

Alisha hadn't felt at home in over a year, but when she came to Flourish, her joy and resilience shone through. As a single mom to three kids, ages 5 to 16, Alisha was determined to make their new space feel like home. She'd just found a new place to live, but she wasn't sure how to furnish it. Then, shopping with our showroom host Shirley, Alisha found everything she needed to transform her house into a home for her family.

Housing Insecurity

Housing insecurity looks different for everyone. This simply means you don't have a permanent, affordable, comfortable place to live. 81% of our guests were formerly unhoused, and everyone was overcoming housing insecurity. 91% of our guests earned incomes 150% or less of the Federal Poverty Line.



Reasons for Referral

Families were referred to Flourish for many reasons. Some had experienced eviction. Others lost their homes to fire. Some had to flee their homes, whether they were refugees or domestic violence survivors. Others were coming into homes for the first time, including children aging out of foster care, people re-entering from incarceration, and people overcoming addiction.

- 25% Foreclosure or Eviction
- 20% Disability
- 14% Domestic Violence
- 14% Refugees and immigrants
- 9% Job Loss
- 6% Re-entry from incarceration
- 4% Unsanitary Living Conditions
- 3% Substance Abuse

Long Term Impact

Through Flourish surveys, guests reported that furnishings made life easier, decreased stress, and improved relationships. A year later 80% of respondents still had their furnishings and were stably housed. 66% were employed with a monthly income of \$900 or more.

We pride ourselves on excellent guest service. 98% of our guests reported a high level of satisfaction with their shopping experience at Flourish.

“With the help of Healing House I was referred to Flourish and was able to get furniture for my entire house so that my little family can spend our first Christmas together and my daughter can have her very own room for the first time.”

Jenny, Flourish Guest



PARTNER AGENCIES

Flourish partnered with 83 referring agencies. These nonprofits provide wrap-around social services to families and individuals. Once a family has secured housing, a case manager refers them to Flourish to shop for their new home of furniture - completely free. As a one-stop-shop, we save our partners' limited resources. During a 1-hour shopping appointment, we distribute an average of \$1,300 in furniture, keeping agencies' time and money focused on their mission.



83

Partner Agencies



413

Case Managers



\$1,300

In Kind Per Home

Our Partners

We partner with a wide variety of agencies doing important work in the KC metro area. Each provides wrap-around support for clients including housing, food, employment, healthcare, and more. Most of our partners are in Jackson County, but we furnished homes in 19 counties across the region. In 2024, we onboarded new partners including Frontier Schools, Bethel Neighborhood Center, DePaul Leavenworth Attainable Housing, KC International Academy, United in Crisis, and Project 1020.

Salvation Army SSVF - 106 referrals

Supports houseless veteran families

Wyandot Center - 90 referrals

Supports houseless people in Kansas City, KS

Avenue of Life - 81 referrals

Supports families in the public school system

Jewish Vocational Service - 65 referrals

Welcomes and rehouses recently arrived refugees

University Health - 48 referrals

Mental health provider offering case management

Rose Brooks Center - 40 referrals

Domestic violence shelter and support center



Jewish Vocational service is a refugee welcoming center. Before a refugee family arrives, they secure housing, furnishings, a pantry full of food, school supplies for children, and more. Families are greeted at the airport and welcomed home.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the heartbeat of Flourish. Every item donated to us passes through many hands before it finds a new home with a guest who will cherish it. From those who pick up donations to the friendly faces welcoming them at the dock, our dedicated sorters who meticulously go through each box and bag, the repair team skilled in sewing, woodworking, and upholstery, to the staff who stock, organize, and display our showroom, each individual plays a vital role in our mission. Throughout each stage, Flourish volunteers infuse their love and compassion into everything they accomplish.



1,097

Unique Volunteers



32,688

Volunteer Hours



\$1 million

Value of Service

With over 20 different volunteer roles to fill, Flourish has an opportunity for everyone.

- Administrative
- Beds
- Dish Packing
- Dock Workers
- Drivers
- Driver Assistants
- Estate Sale Team
- Electrical Testing
- Events
- Floor Captain
- Furniture Cleaning
- Furniture Pickers
- Hospitality
- Laundry
- Packers
- Sewing
- Showroom Host
- Sorting
- Upholstery Repair
- Where Needed
- Woodworking



Our volunteers dedicate their time not just at our warehouse, but throughout the community, working to raise awareness of our organization throughout the Kansas City area.



Volunteer Liaisons, elected by their fellow volunteers, work alongside Flourish staff to ensure each department is able to collaborate and communicate with each other.



Flourish is the ideal place to uncover new talents, deepen your understanding of sustainability, build lasting friendships, and create a meaningful impact in your community!

FURNITURE

Flourish collects furniture donations from businesses and individuals. Each donor wants their items to go to someone who needs them rather than being thrown away. Every one of the 59,000 items we gave away was donated. Through volunteer repairs, we kept 617 tons of furniture from going to landfills. Instead, we created foundations for 1,301 homes.



1,491

Furniture Donors



617

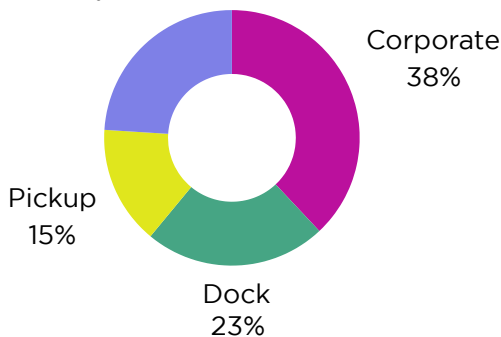
Tons Diverted



\$1.6 m

In Kind Value

ReSupply Pickup
24%



Corporate donors include companies remodeling, including hotels. Some are retailers, like Crowley Furniture and Blessings Abound. Others are junk haulers and estate sales.

Individual donors donate for a wide range of reasons. Some have lost family members and want to continue their loved ones' legacy.

Donation Sources

Blessings Abound - 44.5 tons

Thrift store donating furniture & funds

Gaslight Grill - 19 tons

Restaurant that closed

Crowley Furniture - 16 tons

Furniture store that donates returns

Aladdin Hotel - 9.5 tons

Hotel that remodeled 16 floors

Blue Tape Estate Sale - 6.5 tons

Estate sale & moving company



Volunteers take care to clean and refurbish every donated item. A volunteer reupholsters a well-loved chair.

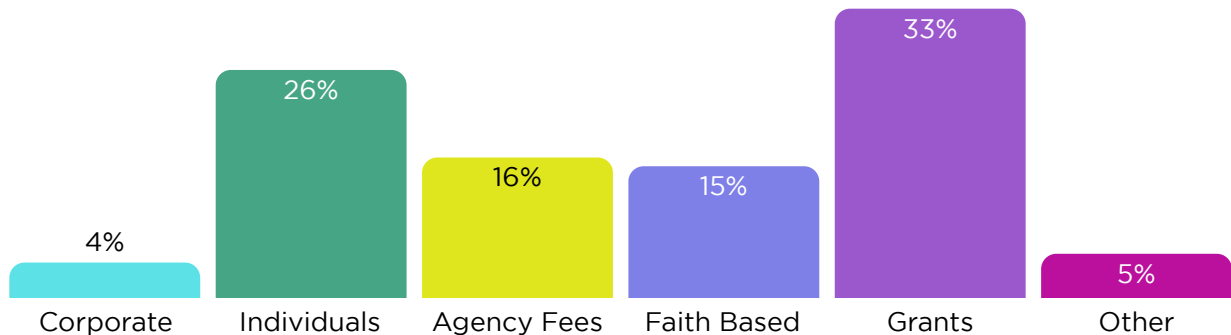
FUNDRAISING

In 2024, Flourish was funded entirely by the community. Our operating budget was supported by contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, our agency partners, faith-based partners, and other sources like recycling income.



663 donors contributed to Flourish’s operating budget. 95% of our funds went directly back to the community. With the support of our community, we built our reserve operating fund to sustain the organization in case of emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic. Together in partnership with individuals, charitable foundations, churches, and our non-profit partners, our services were entirely community-funded and will be sustained for many years to come.

Funding Sources



Blessings Abound contributes a monthly grant and weekly furniture donation to support families.



MARC SWMD gave grant funding to build Flourish’s pickup program, repair efforts and waste diversion.



50 individuals contributed a total of \$18,651 to purchase 117 mattresses for families, bringing our total to 4,600.

EVENTS

In 2024, Flourish launched two inaugural signature events in the fall and spring. Through a bed race and an art exhibition, we brought our community together to furnish homes. Individuals, businesses, and non-profit partners participated in both events. We are excited to continue these new annual traditions to build awareness and community around our vision that everyone has a furnished home.



Running of the Beds

Running of the Beds was a community festival hosted by Flourish on Saturday, April 6, 2024 that raised support to provide free beds for families. In this thrilling, one-of-a-kind race, 10 teams of five competed neck-to-neck on home-made beds on wheels. There was also an agency fair, games, and a performance by Mr. Stinky Feet.

- **\$25,000 Raised**
- **200 Attendees**
- **90 Volunteers**

Throughout the year, we hosted smaller events including volunteer potlucks, volunteer trainings, community lunch and learns, and donor receptions. By celebrating every facet of our community, we raised support to furnish homes.

Art of Home

The Art of Home was a celebration featuring an auction and exhibition of creative artworks on the theme of home. Presented by Resurrection, a United Methodist Church, proceeds from the event will support free home furnishings for Kansas City families. With an elegant dinner and lively auction hosted at Unity Village, the night was one to remember.

- **\$82,451 Raised**
- **200 Attendees**
- **50 Volunteers**



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

15 Years of Furnishing Hope

Flourish began as a ministry at the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood. We grew with a volunteer force for 10 years before establishing as a nonprofit in late 2019. After navigating COVID, we began quickly growing. Since 2020, we've doubled the number of volunteers, furniture donations, and homes furnished.

Bed Fund

In 2024, we established a bed fund. Supported entirely by individuals, these funds are used to purchase brand new mattresses when our inventory of gently-used, donated beds runs low. We gave away 117 new beds purchased with \$18,651 donated to the fund, bringing our total to 4,600 beds and frames given away.

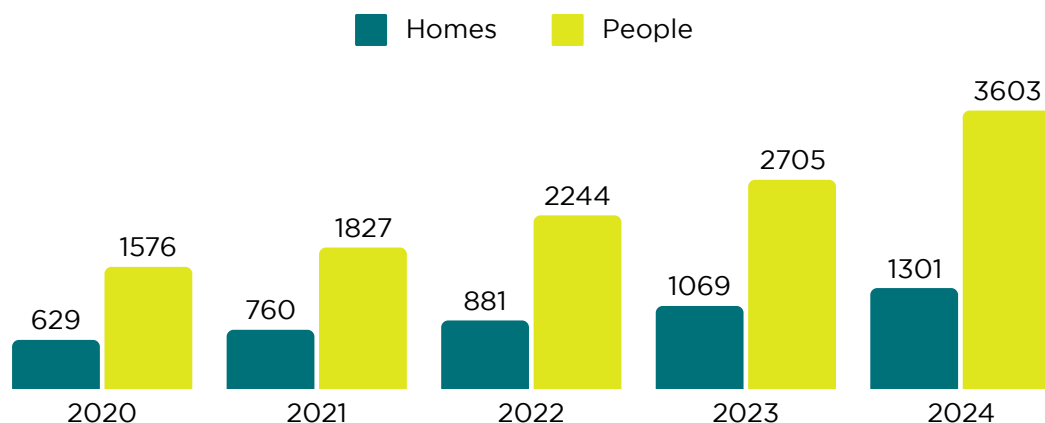
Delivery Service

In 2024, we launched a delivery program to transport furniture for our guests. For many families and agency partners, transportation is the biggest barrier to accessing our services. By using the Flourish trucks staffed by a part-time Driver, we piloted the program and look forward to growing it in 2025.

Community Recognition

We received important recognition in 2024. Flourish was a United Way Impact 100 agency and we were included in the Giving Machines, sponsored by the LDS Church. We were chosen as a beneficiary of the historic Kappa Kappa Gamma Holiday Homes Tour. We received Nonprofit of the Year Award from JustServe. Finally, we were recognized with a Gold Philly Award by Nonprofit Connect.

Impact Since 2020



STAFF



Amy Cox
Executive Director



Allison Mannering
Director of Volunteer Programs



Elinore Noyes
Development Manager



Kathy Olvera
Office Administrator



John Bartlett
Driver

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