

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am incredibly proud of how adaptable and resilient the New Life staff and volunteers have proven to be over the past several years. By leveraging technology and working in a virtual capacity, we were able to further expand upon our primary goal of recycling furniture and rebuilding lives. However, 2022 highlighted the reality that technology is no replacement for real-life human connections. It was encouraging to witness the return of volunteers to the warehouse, in-person client appointments, the spring 5k Trail Run, and our Friends of New Life Reception and Auction. Reuniting our community enabled us to attain truly remarkable milestones despite the challenging landscape.

For nine years, our team of volunteers have been essential to both the day-to-day operations of our organization as well as the expansion of our ability to serve an increasing number of clients. By highlighting individuals for their unique contributions that often happen behind the scenes, we hope to inspire others to find their own niche area to serve. The work and creativity of Ken Davison and Fred Bunger transforming unused dining tables into much-desired coffee tables demonstrates what can happen when individuals come together to share their talents in meaningful ways. It is our hope that New Life will continue to build upon our current volunteer programs by developing avenues that enable others to share their unique talents or passions.

The story of the upcycled coffee tables is also emblematic of New Life's commitment towards sustainability. Environmental protection is one of the world's most pressing issues and it will take collective action to achieve net zero by 2050. By collecting and distributing reusable furniture and household goods, New Life is helping to reduce the amount of waste that is dumped in landfills. But New Life also contributes in many other ways, including recycling metal, sending items that don't fit our mission to not-for-profit partners who can use them, and reusing card board boxes for our household items for clients.

Now entering our tenth year of operations, we find ourselves reflecting on how far we have truly come in almost a decade. It is hard to imagine our humble beginnings in a donated space behind the CrossFit in Medfield. At that time, we had no conceptualization of what New Life might become. We saw a need and we believed that we had a potential solution. And, most importantly, we found others who also believed in our mission.

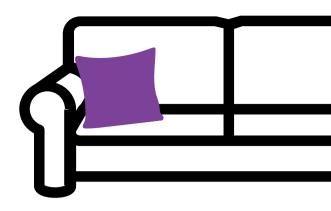
Doug Marshall President & Co-founder





OUR MISSION

New Life Furniture Bank of MA provides gently used household furnishings to individuals and families transitioning out of homelessness.



New Life is amazing. I was overwhelmed with how much I got. I am very grateful. I do not know how and when I would have been able to get everything they gave me. It brought me to tears and made me feel lucky. This is life changing. - Maria K.

66

CONNECTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

2022 was the year of community connections. Every milestone we reached was a reflection of the support from the community in the form of volunteer hours, financial support, and furniture donations. This year, New Life gave out our 40,000th item of furniture, served our 4,000th family, expanded our team to add a third full-time staff member, raised over \$200,000 dollars in our annual campaign, and reached a record 10,000 volunteer hours.

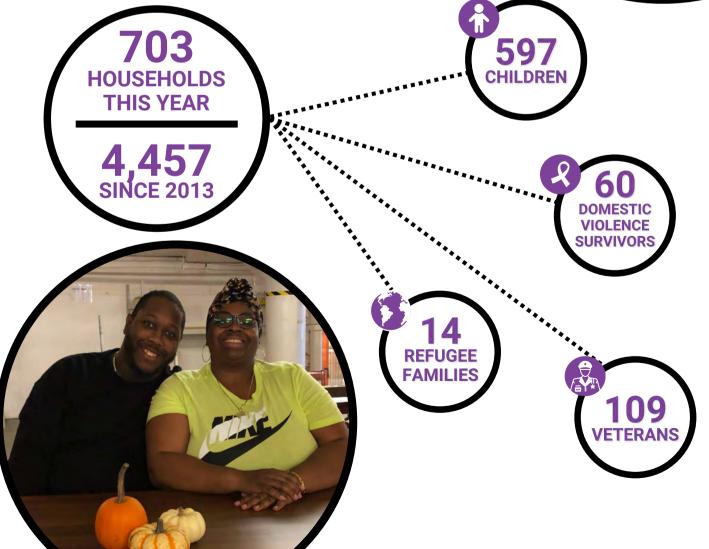
YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

From the moment a piece of furniture is given to New Life to when it is gathered by our volunteers to go home, we have the privilege of helping families achieve stability. Our clients this year included veterans that gave everything to our country, refugees fleeing conflict in Afghanistan and Ukraine, and domestic violence survivors starting over. These families make up the fabric of our community.

Clients Return In-person

2022 also was the return of serving clients in-person. By combining the virtual model with the in-person model, we are able to serve households more efficiently while still providing the personal experience New Life guarantees all clients.





VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are involved in more ways than ever. In 2022, our volunteer roles and opportunities grew to serve more clients. We also introduced three new committees including Warehouse Committee, Outreach Committee, and Inventory Team. These efforts

are a reflection of our commitment to involving volunteers in the decision making process at New Life.



726 VOLUNTEERS



Youth Leadership Program

The program, which originally began prior to the pandemic, returned in fall of 2022. Fifteen high school juniors and seniors applied and were accepted to the program. The students will spend the 2022-2023 academic year participating in volunteering, marketing and donation drives. In their first meeting, the students engaged in a poverty simulation to understand the challenges of affording daily expenses on a limited income.



Volunteer Groups

Volunteer groups are a growing part of New Life. Thank you to the many groups that gave their time and, in many cases, financial resources at the warehouse or organizing a donation drive in the community.



A CREATIVE IDEA

Dining tables are often donated with extra leaf extensions, but most clients don't have the space to

expand their dining table. So the leaves are often left behind. Recognizing the quality of the wood and the need for more coffee tables, volunteer Fred Bunger had the brilliant idea to transform the leaves into coffee tables. Fred initially explored simply adding legs to each leaf, but it was cost prohibitive. Realizing the leaves came in a variety of widths, Fred cut a leaf in half to use as legs and utilized a second leaf as the top. For just the cost of screws and glue, and using some scrap wood for braces, Fred created a new piece of furniture. When Fred moved, coming to New Life regularly became difficult. That's when we met Dr. Ken Davison. Ken had been refurnishing furniture and donating it to families in need with his daughter Susie. When a table was too large for the families he was helping, Ken decided to bring it to New Life. Having never been to our warehouse, he was given a tour in which he learned about the coffee tables. Intrigued, he connected with Fred, who was delighted to pass the project onto someone that could dedicate more time to it. Recognizing our clients' need for storage, Ken revised the design to include a bottom shelf. Over the years, Ken has constructed more than 200 coffee tables. While Fred still makes tables from time to time with his grandson Sam.

Ken hoped to get volunteer groups involved in the process. But earlier this year, Maureen, Ken's wife of 60 years, passed. Ken dedicated 2022 to spending time with his family and developing a new interest in pickleball. Ready to get back to his wood shop though, Ken will be working with the Build Crew to turn the leaves into coffee table kits for groups to assemble. Ken is looking forward to continuing to serve the community while also spending more time with his family. What started as a single idea turned into a family's passion and will soon become an opportunity for all volunteers.

OUR CLIMATE IMPACT

17,486 FURNITURE ITEMS SAVED Massachusetts set a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. Furniture waste makes up a significant portion of these emissions. Beginning November 1st, 2022, textiles can no longer be put in the landfill and must instead be recycled or, when possible, reused. New Life plays a vital role in redirecting gently-used mattresses, box springs, upholstered furniture, rugs, and linens from the landfill while meeting the growing need for furniture.

In 2022, we expanded our capacity to accept surplus donations from colleges, hotels, and other large-scale facilities getting rid of furniture.

Furniture Partners

Thank you to the local communities and businesses that have provided essential inventory.

1-800-GOT-JUNK Boston West Article **Brookline Moving Company College HUNKS Hauling Junk** Gabriel's Auctioneers/Appraisers **Green Standards** Jordan's Furniture Junk King **Junk Teens** LPC Removal Service Harvard Recycling & Surplus Center MassDEP The Junk Removers Town of Dover/Dover Recycling Committee **Town of Walpole** Town of Wellesley/Wellesley Friends of Recycling WayForth



Libertv



COMMUNITY FURNITURE BUILD

Over the summer, New Life hosted our first annual Community Furniture Build! New and returning volunteers of all ages assembled over a dozen dressers for families. The event provided much needed inventory of the high need item, while also serving as an opportunity for families to volunteer together.

FRIENDS OF NEW LIFE RECEPTION & AUCTION

The pandemic gave many people, including members of our community, the opportunity to develop their artistic side. Out of this came the idea to host an auction to benefit New Life, also giving our volunteers, donors, and staff the opportunity to commune together outside the warehouse walls. Between the impressive artwork and the laughs shared with friends, the night was truly memorable.



5K TRAIL RUN RETURNS TO MEDFIELD

For the first time in two years, New Life's 5k Trail Run returned to the Medfield State Hospital Grounds. Runners, walkers, volunteers, and even furry friends came together to enjoy the scenic route and hear live music from DJ Frank White and local artist Jake Swamp and The Pine provided by the Cultural Alliance of Medfield. The event also featured an action-filled Kids Fun Run, which included prizes provided by Medfield High School's Furniture Matters club.

It has been amazing to see this event grow each year and we cannot wait to see what 2023 brings!





OUR NATIONAL IMPACT

New Life is leading the effort to understand the impact of furniture banks nationally.

14 Furniture banks from across 9 states have agreed to provide anonymized data on families served, furniture and household goods diverted from the landfill and operational impact. With nearly 10,000 individuals receiving furniture from New Life in just nine years, just imagine what our fellow furniture banks have collectively accomplished.



FINANCIALS

Support & Revenues

	Ś	446.600
Other Income		13,280
In-kind		13,517
Gifts, Grants, & Contri	butions	419,803

Expenses

	\$448,258
Fund Raising	36,677
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Administrative	28,011
Program Services	383,570

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Change in Net Assets	-\$1,658

Unaudited financials

Furniture & Household Goods

Donated to New Life	16,727
Given to Clients	17,483





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newlifefb.org