



## **FURNITURE SHAREHOUSE RECEIVES \$95,000 GRANT FROM THE STEVEN & ALEXANDRA COHEN FOUNDATION**

### **Grant Supports Purchasing a New Truck to Pick Up and Deliver Free Furniture to Clients in Need Throughout Westchester**

July 29, West Harrison, NY... Furniture Sharehouse, Westchester's only furniture bank providing free furniture to Westchester residents in need, today announced a \$95,000 grant from the [Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation](#), led by philanthropist and New York Mets Owner Alex Cohen. The grant will go directly towards the purchase of a new box truck to enable the organization to continue to pick up gently-used furniture from residents throughout Westchester and deliver it back out to our clients in need who are currently living in empty homes due to dire personal circumstances or extreme poverty.

Furniture Sharehouse's current truck is over ten years old with over 120,000 miles on it and has required increasingly more frequent and costly repairs over the last several years. The truck is on the road 4-5 days a week, picking up furniture donations throughout Westchester County, and then delivering it to individual clients' homes, transforming their empty apartments into comfortable and dignified homes. When the truck is in the repair shop, pick-ups are delayed, sometimes resulting in lost donations, and clients who have already selected their furniture and are anxiously awaiting its delivery must continue sleeping on the floor and eating off boxes in their empty apartments until the truck is back on the road.

The Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation grant will enable Furniture Sharehouse to buy a brand new, state of the art 18' box truck to reliably pick up and deliver the furniture that is at the heart of its mission. "This incredibly generous grant from the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation is critical for our organization and will absolutely mean the difference between our clients living in an empty space sleeping and eating on the floor or living with hope and comfort," says Kate Bialo, Executive Director and Founder of Furniture Sharehouse. "Our truck touches literally every aspect of our mission – collecting unwanted furniture from the public, keeping it out of the waste stream, and getting furniture into the homes of those who desperately need it. This grant literally puts our clients on the road to recovery."

As Westchester's only furniture bank, Furniture Sharehouse addresses the invisible need of furniture poverty, a sad fact of life for many people who live without basic essential elements of a home. Furniture Sharehouse clients include people moving out of homeless shelters, escaping domestic violence, struggling with physical or mental disabilities, recovering from personal or natural disasters such as fires or flooding; older adults living on lean incomes; veterans; young people leaving foster care; refugees; and people struggling with poverty. When our clients can secure housing, they are often left without funds to purchase furnishings including beds. We provide essential furniture to transform empty apartments into a comfortable and dignified home: kitchen table and chairs, sofa, armchair, occasional tables, beds, dressers, nightstands, mirror, lamps, rug, artwork and household/kitchen items – all for FREE. The furniture we give away is donated by Westchester residents and businesses looking for a responsible way to dispose of unwanted furniture.

Furniture Sharehouse | Building #3, Airport Road | Westchester County Airport | West Harrison, NY 10604