



June 5, 2025

Dear Friend,

Alexandria, Virginia, is a city of kindness and compassion.

That's how our city's [Statement on Inclusiveness of 2016 began](#)—a statement I was proud to initiate and draft during my time as mayor. Our spirit of compassion is exactly why I'm reaching out today.

Right now, 100 families in Alexandria are waiting for something most of us take for granted: a bed, a table, a dresser. The need is especially urgent for children who are sleeping on couches, sharing beds, or resting on the floor while they wait for a twin bed to become available from donors in our community.

These families have taken important steps toward recovery after experiencing housing insecurity or a crisis. While they now have a place to live, many are still working to achieve real stability—navigating financial strain, limited resources, and ongoing uncertainty.

That's where ALIVE!'s Furniture Program steps in.

Over the years, I have donated a couple of couches, and I remember how ALIVE!'s volunteers showed up and were so grateful and kind. I soon learned that my couches were going straight to families in need in our community. I love that!

Entirely volunteer-run, the Furniture Program delivers donated beds, tables, dressers, and more to families in need every weekend. **In the first three months of 2025, ALIVE!'s Furniture Program has served 177 families, made 28 truck runs, and delivered 446 items.**

But the needs continue to grow and the demand exceeds the resources. Currently, 100 Alexandria families are on ALIVE!'s waiting list for furniture. Unlike many problems in the world, this is resolvable. ALIVE! is committed to tackling this need and is asking for our help.

I am delighted to share that ALIVE! is focused on raising \$50,000 to expand this vital work by:

- Renting trucks on weekends, so we can serve more families without pulling vehicles from ALIVE!'s food program.
- Creating a Furniture Program Fund to purchase beds or missing parts when donations are incomplete.
- Enhance our storage options when donated items cannot be delivered the same day, for example, if an elevator breaks or schedules change.

This isn't about luxury—it's about comfort, stability, and dignity. Recently, four young sisters received beds so they no longer had to sleep on the floor. A mother and daughter received a desk and dresser. A senior healing from surgery finally got a real bed to rest in instead of sleeping on an air mattress.

There are many ways to support our community and those in need. **ALIVE!'s Furniture Program is one of the most tangible and immediate ways that we can make a difference**

together. I hope you'll consider a contribution today to help us reach our \$50,000 goal. A gift of any size would be so appreciated. Donate here: alive-inc.org/furniture

And if you are downsizing or have extra furniture, please go to ALIVE!'s website alive-inc.org/donate-furniture and complete the Online Furniture Donation Form to get on the list for the ALIVE! volunteers to pick up your donated items.

Together, let's clear the waitlist and give more Alexandrians the dignity of a furnished home.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Allison Silberberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Allison" and last name "Silberberg" clearly distinguishable.

Allison Silberberg
Former Mayor of Alexandria