

# FRIENDS IN DEED

*Helping people in need;*

*Building community to end poverty.*

Joye Clute  
Director of Service Programs

# Wealth Gap in Washtenaw County

*Even before COVID, nearly 1 in 4 families struggled to afford basic necessities. Why?*



# Friends In Deed – We can help!

- Founded in 1983 by community churches
  - Furniture/beds/cribs
  - Emergency financial assistance
  - Transportation assistance
  - Car & bike donation
  - Circles
  - Referrals



# Furniture Program

What we have (most of the time)

- Sofas
- Armchairs
- End table/ coffee tables
- Lamps
- Mattresses, box springs and bed frames
- Dressers and nightstands
- Kitchen tables and chairs
- Small desks
- TV stands
- Small to medium book cases



# Furniture Program – Documentation

What we ask for

What we ask for

- First 2 pages of lease agreement
- Housing voucher (if applicable)
- 30 days proof of income



# Furniture Program - The more you know...

## Process:

- Call
- Send in paperwork
- Complete intake
  
- If you can pick it up, you can pick it out.
- Free delivery is available, but there is a waitlist.

## Hours of operation:

Tuesday-Friday

9:30am – 12:30pm

Phone: 734-484-7607

\*We can only provide furniture services once every 12 months.



# Transportation Assistance

We help with...

- Car insurance
- Car registration
- Car repair – does not include general maintenance
- Fuel
- Bikes
- We can also give you a Lyft



In order to receive assistance with transportation services client must have **a valid drivers license**. In order to receive car repair license, insurance and registration **must all be current**. Clients must be working 20+ hours per week, attending weekly medical appointments, or be on a fix income.

# Transportation Assistance – The more you know

## Car Donation

- Clients **MUST** be working 20 hours or more a week or attending weekly medical appointments.
- Typical wait time once you are placed on the waitlist is approximately a year to a year and a half.
- Client must be able to purchase insurance and registration for the vehicle.
- Eligibility is based on a questionnaire that determines the highest need.
- Vehicle availability is based on donations received.



# Helpline – Emergency Services

Services we provide;

- Utilities, both DTE & Water - Must have a denied SER.
- Personal documentation; birth certificates & ID's (agency referral needed).
- Prescriptions – requires a letter of medical necessity from a physician.
- Eyeglasses
- Other prescription medical needs (shoes, adaptive equipment, ect.)
- Internet bills; client must use the internet for work or have children participating in remote schooling.
- Unusual circumstances caused by covid.

# Helpline – Emergency Services (the more you know)

- Dental procedures (for upcoming services only, cannot pay debts).
- Storage units – must have a transition plan.
- Employment costs; finger printing, work shoes, work or school uniforms, ect.
- Housing – Limited to half a month's rent, cannot be eligible for HAWC services, agency referral is needed.
- If you can't find help anywhere else, call us!



# Transportation & Helpline

## **Hours of operation:**

Monday-Friday

9:30am – 2:00pm

## **Process:**

- Call
- Send in paperwork
- Complete intake
- Speak with the Case Manager

\*We can only provide Transportation/financial assistance once every 12 months.

# Circles

## What is Circles ?

- A national program designed to inspire and equip communities to reduce poverty and remove the barriers that stand in the way.
- A nearly 2-year commitment for individuals and families that are trying to break the poverty cycle and gain financial independence.
- Relationship based: Matches people in poverty (Leaders) with 2-3 middle income partners (Allies).
- Eligibility to become a leader: Be motivated, open to a new way of doing things, a desire to increase your income and are not currently in crisis.

# Circles: The more you know

- You'll receive job and money skill training
- Education support
- Parenting, health & personal goals
- There's a Children's Program with a kids curriculum (because adults don't go through poverty alone)
- A large support system, a community of individuals helping you reach your goals
- Dinner is served -
- **Nationally: Circles USA Reports:** 39% more income after six months, 54% more after one year, and 75% more in 18 months

# Contact Us

## Helpline

[helpline@friendsindeedmi.org](mailto:helpline@friendsindeedmi.org)

734-484-4357

## Furniture

[furniture@friendsindeedmi.org](mailto:furniture@friendsindeedmi.org)

734-484-7607

## Circles

[tracey@friendsindeedmi.org](mailto:tracey@friendsindeedmi.org)

734-340-9042

## Admin line

[office@friendsindeedmi.org](mailto:office@friendsindeedmi.org)

734-485-7658

Thank  
you!

Questions ?