



## Dressers for Kids Project

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The FreeStore supports women and children leaving domestic abusive situations and shelters by giving them furniture. When a woman leaves an abusive domestic situation, she usually leaves with little but her children and the clothes on their backs. Often they must go into a shelter while she works to get their lives back in order.

Can you imagine what this is like for a child? How would you feel after seeing your mother brutalized—perhaps after being abused yourself? Then imagine how scary and lonely it is to be taken to a strange place to live among strangers without any of your own things. Think how traumatizing this must be for children.

We at the FreeStore have watched children come in with their moms and help pick out furniture. They are so excited! And when we can give a child something that is especially for her or him, the smile we get is dazzling. Unfortunately we often don't have anything special to give children., anything they can call their own.



"Dressers for Kids" Dresser

To this end we've initiated a new project, "Dressers for Kids." We want to give every child a dresser of his own—a dresser where he can put his clothes and his treasures. A sturdy piece of furniture that anchors her to her safe new home, to her safe new life.

We would like to be put in contact with local corporations who would be willing to purchase dressers and provide volunteers to assemble the dresser kits. A final step in the assembly would be to install a corporate logo and acknowledgement of the organization that did the assembly.

FreeStore will provide a work area and tools in our Des Moines warehouse. It takes about 2 1/2 hours to assemble a dresser.