**From:** Adam Costello <acostello@eastersealsma.org>   
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 21, 2018 12:16 PM  
**To:** Ryan, William (EOL) <William.Ryan@DETMA.ORG>; Melly, David (HOU) <david.melly@mahouse.gov>  
**Subject:** Household Goods Needed!

Please read and distribute to your Veterans network as appropriate…

Fresh Start Furniture Bank in Hudson has been my go to resource to provide Veterans, Service Members and their families with household items after a significant event.  They store and distribute gently used household items, such as furniture, dish sets, utensils, lamps, blankets, etc., to those referred to them through various local agencies.  Last night I read a message stating that they are very low on common household goods, including cookware, glass sets, flatware, can openers, etc.  I took a ride out there this morning to check it out and ask what they are in need of.  If you or your network are able to supply any of these goods through donations, please consider it.  This is not a call for money.  This is a call for unused goods that you or your network may have.  Upgrading your cookware?  Donate your old cookware.  Dishes didn’t sell at the yard sale?  Donate them.  Got a spatula set sitting in the basement that you never use?  Donate it.

Please check them out for yourself at <https://www.freshstartfurniturebank.org/> .  If you are the member of an agency, and you don’t use them, you may want to consider it.  They’ve been extremely helpful to us over the years, even if you weren’t aware that they existed.  With a budget of $55,000 a year, there’s not a lot of resource available for them to conduct outreach and marketing.   Even so, they’ve nearly doubled their assistance every year.  In 2017, they distributed over 15,000 items to local families.  I’ve used them to help Veterans and Service Members who:

* Lost their furniture during a house fire
* Have fled domestic violence with their children
* Moved off of the street and into an apartment
* Returned from a deployment to find all of their stuff gone
* Went through a bad divorce
* Are simply living in very poor conditions
* And much, much more

Definitely want to get their shelves stocked and hope that you’re able to help me in this endeavor.  Thanks for reading!

**Adam Costello**

Veterans Program Coordinator

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