

15 August, 2025

## To our valued supporters,

I often get asked: what does it mean to be a social enterprise? At Furniture Bank, it means that we put social well-being at the heart of everything we do.

You might already know what Furniture Bank does. We take unwanted furniture – over 90,000 items a year – and use it to help families in Canada who are experiencing furniture poverty.

But what about social enterprise? At Furniture Bank, we look at every link in our chain as an opportunity to empower our communities.

That's where our Legup employment program comes in. We provide work experience, life & skills training, and meaningful job opportunities to individuals facing barriers to employment.

**Meet Dolores.** She came to Toronto from the Philippines in 2019 with her three young children. Like many new Canadians, she faced significant barriers to employment. She took her resume all around town but always got the same answer: they just weren't hiring.

Dolores connected with Furniture Bank through one of our community partners, and before you knew it, she was working full-time in our Repair and Refurbishment Workshop. As part of the Legup program, she was able to access training resources that have positioned her as a future leader in the woodworking industry.



**Meet Dolores**

To me, the Legup program is what social enterprise is all about: helping the helpers. Our Legup team is what makes our work possible.

And the Legup program is made possible by you, our community members, who see the value in social enterprise. Your support is vital for the life-changing opportunities that we strive to offer.

That's why we're asking for a small donation – just \$5, \$10, or \$15 – to help keep this program running. We especially welcome monthly contributions, which help provide us with a regular, reliable source of income that we can use to plan even greater offerings.

Changing political climates have upended the status quo. With our economy so unpredictable, stable, meaningful jobs are more important than ever.

Six years ago, we were able to help Dolores find a sense of calm in this turbulent world. With your contribution, we will bring even more people out of the chaos and into a place where they can build happy, fruitful lives with their families.

**Sincerely,**

**Dan Kershaw**  
Executive Director



P.S. Our Legup program is going to be turning ten years old this year. Wish us a happy birthday with a \$10 donation!