



Community Forklift is a nonprofit reuse center for home improvement supplies. We accept donations of surplus and salvaged building materials, fixtures, and furnishings, and then make them available at low cost. We also offer free events, workshops, and education around sustainability, green living, and home repair.

Our thrift store is open to the public, so anyone can shop at Community Forklift's large warehouse. We are open seven days a week from 9 am – 6 pm, and open an extra hour until 7 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. All donation drop-offs and vehicle loading must be finished by a half hour before closing time on any given day.

In addition to our store where anyone can purchase materials, Community Forklift operates the **Community Building Blocks Program (CBB)**. This program donates a portion of our inventory for free to our fellow nonprofits, schools, parks, volunteer groups, and other services and events that benefit the greater community.

Please observe the following general guidelines regarding our CBB Program:

- All materials MUST directly support the organization's services, operations, projects, programs, or events. These grants are not for personal use and are non-transferable. Any misuse of funds will result in immediate termination of grant.
- Faith-based organizations are more than welcome to apply and we have worked with many in the past! However, Community Forklift follows the same guidelines put forth for federal funding when it comes to our grants:
 - The organization's projects and services carried out using materials from our warehouse must be open and accessible to all, regardless of faith.
 - The materials we provide cannot be used in renovation or repair for a place of worship or religious instruction, but rather they must be used directly in the organization's projects and services offered to the community at large. (Ex: carpet for a free community daycare can be donated, but tile for a church's lobby cannot.)
 - Acceptance of that organization's faith or religious instruction of any kind cannot be a requirement to receive services. (Ex: Offering Bible Study courses is fine; mandating Bible Study courses to graduate is not.)

In each case, we will conduct background checks on the organization and those listed as contacts to ensure our donations are going to verified nonprofits or community endeavors.

Our online application **must** be filled out for us to move forward. Since we are primarily a nonprofit thrift store, we do not have the resources or staff that agencies would have to dedicate to this type of program. It may take up to several weeks to process the form and get back in touch with the applicant after submission. If approved, the organization's representative will be scheduled for an appointment. During that time our staff will check verification, review our policies with the representative, and a specific grant of materials or store credit will be issued.

Please see our online application for a list of the types of items we are typically able to donate, but this list is also not all-inclusive. Some commonly requested items that we **do not carry** include mattresses, beds, couches, loveseats, linens, small electronics, TVs, apartment-sized or portable washers and dryers, and vacuums.

Please note that **we are unable to make deliveries, installations, or repairs.**

The review process does take up to several weeks to conduct the background checks and research necessary for our reporting purposes. If your group or organization needs an item immediately, our main operation is a thrift store, so you may be able to purchase the item you need more quickly if you are in urgent need and cannot wait to be served by the program.

Please contact our Community Services Coordinator at (301)-985-5180 ext 303 or (301) 832-0515 should you have any questions. Thank you for your time and we look forward to working with you!