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Area College Ships 3,516 Pieces of Used Furniture to Guatemala Orphanage

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Tagged as : [Sacred Heart University 2018](#)

Date : October 27, 2018

Sacred Heart University in Fairfield donated 15 shipping containers filled with more than 3,500 pieces of furniture from the Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence Hall to orphaned children in Guatemala this summer.

— [an announcement](#) from [Sacred Heart University](#)

Through the nonprofit organization [Asset 360](#), SHU donated used desks, chairs, dressers, wardrobes, bedframes and mattresses.

Asset 360 is nonprofit environmental company that manages the responsible disposition of materials that are no longer needed.

Joel Quintong, assistant dean of students, said that almost every year, one of the residence halls turns over its old furniture.

It's Hard to Give Away This Much Furniture Here

He said this year, he wanted to find a responsible means of removing it, rather than having it all end up in a landfill.

Residential Life tries to give away the furniture, but many local organizations are not able to take on such a large donation, Quintong said.

Quintong and the Residential Life team were thrilled to learn Asset 360 was interested in obtaining the old furniture.

“They handled all the logistics,” Quintong said. A contractor was hired and the furniture was removed, prepared and shipped off to people who need it the most, all within a week and a half.

“Asset 360 is aligned with the SHU mission. They get it. They’re not re-selling it, they’re making sure it goes to people in need,” Quintong said. “They were a great partner; they made it all happen.”

According to Asset 360, they shipped 3,516 pieces of furniture from the residence hall to El Rosario, Guatemala City, Guatemala. The furniture will be reused in residential campus settings for orphaned school-aged children.