

GIVING – IT’S THE BEST LESSON OF ALL LAUNCHING GIVIT SCHOOLS

Online charity GIVIT is aiming to nurture a future generation of philanthropists by making the process of giving a natural part of children’s lives.

GIVIT Schools is a new program harnessing the generosity of students who can give and connecting them, through GIVIT’s safe donation portal, with disadvantaged students and other vulnerable members of the community.

The program at givit.org.au/schools will launch initially in Queensland schools, both private and state, with the aim of spreading nationally.

GIVIT Founder and Director Juliette Wright said she was excited to launch GIVIT Schools and looked forward to the changes it would make in children’s lives – both for the givers and receivers.

“Right now, 731,000 Australian children under the age of 15 are living in poverty,”¹ Mrs Wright said. “Those children need material items to help improve their situation - to grow and thrive and strive.

“We are launching a way for schools with big hearts to give. It might be for another school who needs items such as sporting and music equipment, or simple items like school hats; a remote indigenous school establishing a footy team; or a fridge for a family recovering after a natural disaster.”

Initially GIVIT Schools will target rural, remote and regional Queensland and Western Australia. The program will focus on providing mass items but will also include one-off donations for specific needs.

GIVIT is thrilled to have the support of our major funding partner, the Road Boss Rally, for the program. RBR organiser Jamie Lawson said: “The Road Boss Rally community is very proud to be able to continue our support of GIVIT and be involved in this vital project.

“By having the Road Boss Rally network and community involved from the inception of GIVIT Schools, we are able to help GIVIT fast track it and ensure it is on the road to success very quickly. The Road Boss Rally community has the motivation, manpower, extraordinary generosity and energy to get behind GIVIT to get this project mobile and deliver positive outcomes for people and communities everywhere, especially in the Australian bush.”



Students of supporting schools will be encouraged to use their initiative and imagination to gather donations or raise funds.

It is hoped that in the first year GIVIT Schools will match 20,000 donations of vital items to others in need.

“Through this project, schools will have a platform to direct the generosity of their students to exactly where it is needed the most,” Mrs Wright said.

“It’s my goal to make giving a natural part of a child’s life and spark a giving impulse. It feels good to make a difference in the life of someone else. I always say that giving is addictive.

“The benefits of generosity are known. It feels good to know you’ve made a difference in the life of someone else. Not only does it foster a sense of community but the action of giving builds a sense of confidence and connectivity to others.”

If you are a charity, principal or chaplain supporting students and their families in need or involved in a school able and willing to give to others, go to GIVIT Schools at givit.org.au/schools.

One hundred per cent of funds received by GIVIT will be used to purchase essential items from local retailers.

To get involved in GIVIT Schools:

- 1: Go to givit.org.au/schools
- 2: If you are a school needing help – you can request support
- 3: If you are a school wanting to give – find a project that best suits your school community
- 4: You can also fundraise and help spread the word about GIVIT Schools

For more information or to arrange an interview, contact media@givit.org.au or call 0444 503 759

Reference: 1 ACOSS 2018 Poverty in Australia report

About GIVIT

GIVIT is a national online not-for-profit connecting those who need with those willing to give. Through its website givit.org.au, trusted Australian charities are supported as they request essential, quality items on behalf of their clients. GIVIT matches their needs with public and corporate generosity, facilitating quality goods to reach our most vulnerable, impoverished and marginalised individuals in a safe, easy and timely manner. Since establishment in 2009, more than 1,200,000 items have been donated via GIVIT to assist Australians in need. In 2011 GIVIT established its disaster recovery service following the Queensland floods and managed the donation of more than 18,000 items. Since then GIVIT has become the official partner of the Queensland Government managing offers of assistance after disasters on its behalf and is currently distributing tens of thousands of items after 2019 Queensland flooding. GIVIT distributed more than 16,000 items to people in need after the 2018 Queensland fires and after 2017’s Tropical Cyclone Debbie, coordinated the donation of 92,000 items. In 2015, GIVIT gained national attention with Founder and Director Juliette Wright receiving Australia’s Local Hero Award by the National Australia Day Council and inducted into the Australian Businesswomen’s Network Hall of Fame. In 2019, she was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM). GIVIT also received a National Resilient Australia Award by Australia’s Attorney-General for its disaster recovery service and The Australian National Innovation Challenge Award.

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