

## **GIVIT HITS TWO MILLION DONATED ITEMS FOR AUSSIES IN NEED**

It took 10 years for GIVIT to coordinate their first million donated items, but several natural disasters and the Coronavirus crisis has seen the charity coordinate their second million in just 18 months.

From the first donations of baby clothes and microwaves, to now sourcing vital generators and water tanks for bushfire-hit communities and masks for locked-down Melburnians, national online charity [GIVIT](#) has helped hundreds-of-thousands of people get what they need.

GIVIT Founder, Juliette Wright OAM, says it's difficult to narrow down her favourite moments from so many inspiring, heart-tugging, complex, and touching donations since starting the charity from her kitchen table in 2009.

"One memorable donation was for a Western Australian charity that needed a boxing bag for a young mum, and I honestly thought it was a 'nice-to-have' item she could do without," said Mrs Wright.

"However, our charity partners, who do incredible work, truly know what's needed and so we trusted in them and sourced a donor for the bag. Not long after, I received a wonderful message from the charity telling us the mum had called to say thank you - her sons were using the boxing bag every day and hadn't hit her once since it arrived. It just goes to show you never know what's going to make a difference in someone's life, and often it's the smallest thing."

Mrs Wright said the impact of Coronavirus meant more Australians than ever need support from charities and organisations such as those registered with GIVIT.

"With the economic effects of COVID-19 being felt all over the country, we're seeing a significant increase in people needing help – including many who have never before needed to ask for help."

[GIVIT's COVID-19 Appeal](#) has coordinated over 150,000 items, but donations of hand sanitiser, masks and laptops are urgently needed to meet the demand of frontline charities.

As donors can donate items, funds and services directly to people in need anywhere in Australia, GIVIT has become the go-to charity for local and international donors during natural disasters.

The 2019 Townsville floods saw GIVIT's Disaster and Emergency Recovery Service manage donations for the first time on a truly national scale, coordinating 227,600 items and ongoing assistance to support those who cannot afford to repair or rebuild their homes almost two years later.

In June 2020, GIVIT was honoured to announce HRH The Duchess of Cornwall as their Patron - her first charitable patronage in Australia, after donating to [GIVIT's Bushfires Appeal](#).



"I watched and listened to the daily news of how Australians are suffering from these catastrophic bushfires and, now, the Coronavirus and my heart goes out to them. As Patron of GIVIT, I hope I shall be able to help this remarkable charity deal with a crisis at grassroots level," said The Duchess.

GIVIT's ongoing Bushfires Appeal has coordinated 250,000 donated items for east-coast towns, from groceries and underwear to water filter kits and shipping containers-turned-classrooms.

[GIVIT's Drought Appeal](#) continues to support farmers, families and communities struggling through Australia's worst drought conditions, coordinating 140,000 items and injecting much needed cash into regional economies by purchasing what's needed from local shops and suppliers.

Launched last year, [GIVIT's National Indigenous Program](#) has also provided almost 60,000 everyday and essential items to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities from Kakadu to Redfern.

To donate items, funds or services, please visit [www.givit.org.au](http://www.givit.org.au) and pledge your donation to support GIVIT or a specific appeal. GIVIT uses 100% of donations received to purchase essential items for people in need, and wherever possible from local businesses.

Mrs Wright also stressed donated items need to be of high quality - "Goods you would proudly give to a family member or friend" - to best assist and respect the dignity of recipients.

All charities, schools, councils and community groups are encouraged to register via [GIVIT.org.au](http://GIVIT.org.au) to access thousands of wonderful donations pledged by generous individuals and corporates for the communities they're supporting through the Coronavirus crisis, and beyond.

***For more information or to arrange an interview please contact  
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## **About GIVIT**

GIVIT is the smart way to give. Through [GIVIT.org.au](http://GIVIT.org.au), we channel generosity where it is needed to support vulnerable people and communities in Australia.

Working with more than 3,500 support organisations, we ensure people get what they need when they need it most – whether recovering from a disaster event, or experiencing hardship due to circumstances such as drought, domestic and family violence, homelessness, disability, and mental health.

GIVIT captures all offers of goods and services online, removing the need for charities and services to sort, store and dispose of unsolicited donations, saving valuable resources.

100% of donated funds received by GIVIT to support people in need are used to purchase essential items. We buy locally, wherever possible, to support local businesses. GIVIT's operational costs are covered by government contracts and our amazing corporate partners.

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