

GIVIT has one million reasons to celebrate

GIVIT is celebrating two huge milestones – the coordination of one million donated items to people in need and a decade of successful operation.

GIVIT's Founder and Director Juliette Wright said without the support of the Queensland Government since 2013, GIVIT would not have been able to help change the lives of so many Queenslanders in need by engaging with charities around the state on a daily basis.

"It's been such a momentous year for GIVIT already," Mrs Wright said. "We started January still providing urgent assistance to farmers and families facing serious drought and people affected by fires around the Gladstone and Mackay regions. Then soon after Queensland faced the devastating effects of the monsoonal trough and flooding.

"We are so grateful for the ongoing support of the Queensland Government which allows GIVIT to continue to provide vital items for all communities of Queensland."

Communities Minister Coralee O'Rourke said the Queensland Government was proud to work with GIVIT to support vulnerable people across the state.

"We have provided a range of funding to GIVIT since 2013 so they can do what they do best – manage offers of donated goods and services across the state particularly following natural disasters," Mrs O'Rourke said.

"Following the recent flooding, we have seen first-hand the difference GIVIT can make in times of disasters when people need a helping hand.

"GIVIT has been outstanding supporting people affected by the floods in North, Far North and North West Queensland who have faced an incredibly tough time over the past few weeks."

The online not-for-profit supports almost 2,600 charities and community groups across the nation to access vital items for their clients. GIVIT's goal is to ensure vulnerable Australians have what they need through the simple act of giving.

From a humble beginning in 2009, GIVIT has successfully coordinated the delivery of one million new or quality used items to impoverished Australians or those recovering from natural disasters.

GIVIT, as a trusted and efficient disaster and emergency recovery service, works with state governments, councils, local charities and community groups to get urgently needed items quickly to people in crisis. Recovery agencies now view GIVIT as a critical partner in times of disaster.

"Now 10 years on, we are assisting charities from Cape York in Queensland's far north and south to the border and across the drought-affected west," Mrs Wright said.



In the wake of the recent Queensland floods, GIVIT has already provided more than 136, 921 requested items for affected residents and is distributing more than \$2.7 million in donated funds.

“One hundred per cent of donated funds goes towards items for people in need and fervently believe in buying locally, so in a disaster we support the recovery of an entire community including its traders.”

Since 2016, GIVIT has also supported the Queensland Government’s Kids in Care appeal coordinating the donation of tens of thousands of Christmas gifts.

Mrs Wright said the millionth donation and the 10th anniversary were cause for much celebration at the not-for-profit she founded in 2009.

“I started GIVIT after finding it difficult to find a charity to take my baby son’s unworn clothes,” she said. “I quickly realised that to make a difference it wasn’t about arriving at a charity’s doorstep with unsolicited items but recognising the specific needs of the people they support.

“Charities told me what they actually needed were sanitary items for women in a shelter or steel-capped boots so an unemployed dad could work to support his family. So I set off on a journey to source these really basic items.

“I signed up 15 charities when I first launched the GIVIT website. I was so excited when the first donated item came through - a microwave for an elderly gentleman who had lost his wife. I can’t describe the joy when that first donation was made by a stranger. I couldn’t believe someone other than my Mum would go on to my little website and donate.

To donate items or funds go to givit.org.au. If you are a local charity or frontline service wanting to access donated goods and services, please register at givit.org.au/charity-registration.

**For further information or for interviews please contact GIVIT’s media team
E: media@givit.org.au M: 0444 503 759**

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, one million 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.

PO Box 3061
Newstead, QLD 4006
Australia
ABN: 21 137 408 201