

BUSHFIRE SURVIVORS REQUEST HUNDREDS OF ITEMS THROUGH GIVIT'S ONLINE DONATION APPEAL

Online charity **GIVIT** is calling for donations of cash, new items and quality second-hand goods to assist communities recovering from the earliest start to the state's bushfire season on record, as part of their **Queensland Fires 2019 Appeal**.

GIVIT is working in partnership with the Queensland Government to manage donated funds and all offers of goods and services following destructive fires in a number of locations across the state.

Requests through GIVIT include furniture and kitchen appliances for damaged residences near Canungra, water tanks, warm clothing and refrigerators in Stanthorpe, and linen for affected residents near Peregian Beach.

All bushfire-affected communities are also urgently requesting grocery and fuel vouchers, to alleviate financial pressures associate with the bushfire recovery compounded by severe drought.

GIVIT Queensland Manager, Jo Beadle, says uncoordinated and unsolicited donations hamper services on the ground, and implores well-meaning people to reconsider how they give support.

"Our partners and contacts on the ground help us identify exactly what is needed, and GIVIT provides the assistance to get affected people exactly what they need, when they need it most. We encourage Queenslanders with big hearts to register their donations of items and cash through our easy to use website, GIVIT.org.au," Ms Beadle said.

Cash donations are gratefully welcomed to purchase essential items, or 'Good Samaritans' can donate the exact item requested by charities and community groups supporting recovery efforts.

Since the online appeal was launched on 7 September 2019, GIVIT has coordinated the delivery of over 11,500 items for bushfire-affected communities, including hundreds of new clothing items from a national donor for vulnerable Granite Belt residents.

Fundraising has included cash donations from young children at an Ipswich childcare centre, to appreciative Americans grateful to Australian firefighters who battled 2018 blazes in Washington.

Ms Beadle says GIVIT stimulates local economies after disasters by using 100% of donated funds received to purchase items, wherever possible, from local businesses as their communities recover.

"Donors can leave a comment in the online donation process nominating their cash for a specific bushfire affected community, meaning they can immediately support Aussies doing it tough in their local neighbourhood or hundreds of kilometres away."

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Newstead, QLD 4006
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ABN: 21 137 408 201



Donations can be made through any of the following channels:

- Online at **GIVIT.org.au** (funds, services, new and quality second-hand goods)
- In person at any Westpac branch in Queensland
- Direct deposit to the account: GIVIT Appeal Queensland Fires
 - o BSB 034041
 - o Account number 382805

The [GIVIT website](#) removes the need for councils and charities to physically collect, sort and store donations, greatly reducing the administrative and financial burden, as well as saving valuable resources for critical recovery activities.

GIVIT is currently working with Scenic Rim Regional Council, Southern Downs Regional Council, Noosa Shire Council, Sunshine Coast Regional Council, Gold Coast City Council, recovery agencies and local services to provide critical and immediate support, as well as longer recovery support to re-establish homes and help communities recover. GIVIT is also working with services in the Northern New South Wales area affected by bushfires.

GIVIT is the official partner of the Queensland Government managing offers of assistance after disasters on its behalf, and has already distributed more than 225,000 donated items after the 2019 Queensland flooding. GIVIT helped distribute more than 17,000 items to people in need after the 2018 Queensland fires and after 2017's Tropical Cyclone Debbie, coordinated the donation of 92,000 items.

GIVIT is free, private and easy to use, and currently supports over 2,700 charities across Australia. 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 more information or to arrange an interview please contact
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, more than 1.4 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 has already distributed more than 225,000 items after 2019 Queensland flooding. GIVIT distributed more than 17,000 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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[givit.org.au](#)