

# ONE YEAR ON IMPACT REPORT

GIVIT'S STORMS AND FLOODING APPEAL

# Acknowledgment of Country

GIVIT acknowledges the Traditional Owners of all the lands and waterways impacted by this flood event.

We pay our respects to all First Nations Elders in the region past, present, and emerging.

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## **GIVIT'S Impact**

### Queensland and New South Wales Floods

In February and March 2022, the east coast of Australia was battered by torrential rain. The resulting floods caused devastating loss of life and property. One year on, the recovery continues for many people and communities.

GIVIT continues to work with the Queensland and New South Wales Governments to manage donations for flood recovery. GIVIT is also working with recovery organisations, outreach teams, charities and community groups to identify and meet the exact needs of those impacted.

As is always the case in natural disasters, Australians have shown incredible generosity. It is this generosity that enables GIVIT to provide immediate assistance and the security of short and long-term support, ensuring people who've been impacted by floods get exactly what they need during each stage of recovery.



Support The Girls holding Bras n Things donations from GIVIT

# Top 5 most requested items after one year:





## **GIVIT'S Impact**













# We help take away the headache of donated goods

With years of experience in disaster donation management, GIVIT understands the problems and drain on government and community resources that come with trying to sort, store and distribute donations during an already stressful time.

GIVIT is a home-grown, proven and smart solution to donation management. GIVIT can manage the influx of donations during a disaster and the subsequent recovery, enabling organisations to focus on delivering their core community service.

GIVIT is the smart way to direct public generosity to ensure vulnerable people get what they need, when they need it.



Unsolicited donations can overwhelm support organisations, hinder recovery, and end up in landfill, like they did after flooding in Townsville in 2019.

#### How we do it

- Utilise technology to provide a coordinated and transparent solution to donation management
- Support community led recovery by empowering communities to request and receive exactly what they require
- Build the capacity of local organisations so they can focus on recovery
- Ensure 100% of publicly donated money received is used to purchase essential items
- Purchase items and services locally, wherever possible, to support the economic recovery of affected communities
- Work with corporates to encourage them to pledge now, but give later as required
- Build donor trust and confidence through our transparent donation platform
- Support long-term recovery
- Connect people requiring assistance to local support organisations

We aim to ensure people devastated by disaster get exactly what they need to recover, where and when they need it. We aim to make it easy for big-hearted Australians to have the greatest possible impact.

#### QLD & NSW FLOODS | ONE YEAR ON



# 213,444

Items and services have been donated through GIVIT's online warehouse in the last year towards flood recovery.

# GIVIT'S online warehouse

Generous Australians give the smart way, and offer their good-quality items through GIVIT's online warehouse.

These items are available to all organisations registered with GIVIT, and can be claimed and distributed by support organisations in floodimpacted areas when they're needed.

This reduces the strain on recovery organisations, and ensures donations match the needs of local communities during each stage of recovery in a way that's simple, sustainable and safe.

#### G V T Organisation Portal

ធ	My organisation	Requests 🔗	Virtual warehouse							
Id	Donor	Appeal	Item	Images	Delivery	Expiry	Available	Admin	Status	
47229	Kingscliff NSW 2487 Donor Id: <u>41190</u>		Trolley Older but excellent		10km	03 May 2022	1	All	Available	Reserve Flag
47201	Grange SA 5022 Donor Id: <u>41164</u>	۲	Complete Royal Doulton dinner set Gently used	S	20km	17 Apr 2022	1	All	Available	Reserve
46863	Padstow NSW 2211 Donor Id: <u>40881</u>		Cleaning Products ① New	Suurn	200km+	30 Jun 2022	2304	All	Available	Reserve Flog
46816	Kuraby QLD 4112 Donor Id: <u>40838</u>		Pet bed ① Gently used		20km	14 Apr 2022	1	All	Available	Reserve Flog
46741	Brookvale NSW 2100 Donor Id: <u>40777</u>	۲	Window and glass vaccum cleaner Gently used	IN ISI	20km	30 Jun 2022	1	All	Available	Reserve Flag
46737	Brookvale NSW 2100 Donor Id: 40777		Rug Gently used		20km	30 Jun 2022	3	All	Available	Reserve
46720	Hope Island QLD 4212 Donor Id: <u>40765</u>		Clothing rack D New	A.	100km	30 Apr 2022	200	All	Available	Reserve Flag



A flooded house on fire in Lismore.

A representative from Container of Dreams giving a donated laptop to a flooded resident.

#### Lismore



When Gemma's\* Lismore home was inundated, she was forced onto the roof to escape the rising floodwaters. Incredibly, while she was on the roof, her house caught fire, and she was rescued by a neighbour. Gemma spent the next six hours watching the lower part of her house flood, and the upper part of her house burn.

Through Container of Dreams, GIVIT provided Gemma with a range of vouchers to local Lismore businesses to help her replace destroyed white goods and furniture as she recovers. As floodwaters rose through their house, Lismore residents Jake\* and Leonie\* emptied their fridge and were preparing to use it as a life rat when they were rescued. GIVIT coordinated the donation of vouchers to Jake and Leonie so they could buy a new fridge.

Through GIVIT, Container of Dreams has distributed many other donations including camera gear for a photographer, and a full house of furniture for an elderly couple in Coraki. GIVIT's assistance is thanks to corporate donors like Bunnings.

#### Thank you message

"WOW! That might not seem like much but for me – this is HUGE. A bed, a fridge and a washing machine are pretty much all of the 'major' items I need to help rebuild my life. Bless you and thank you!"

#### - Recipient of vouchers through Container of Dreams



#### Yeronga



A young couple were flooded in the unit they had recently purchased near the Brisbane River. They tried in vain to move as many of their possessions as possible before their home was inundated.

One of the couple is completing an electrician's apprenticeship, the other runs a small business from home. Due to the flooding many of the business items were damaged or affected by sewage and therefore she lost her income as well.

GIVIT purchased a new fridge/freezer, washing machine and laptop for the couple, while a printer and blenders were donated under the Small Business Hardship Appeal, enabling the couple to get their business back up and running.

# Thank you message



"I have just contacted him to let him know that you have provided the vouchers. He was speechless and so thankful. It has been such a stressful time for him and his partner, as they are due to move to a new temporary rental on Friday (after looking for over 6 weeks) and had no fridge or washing machine for the new place.

This is amazing and life changing for them. They send their thanks and appreciation to all the GIVIT team."

- Yeronga Community Centre







#### Yeronga



A young couple who'd recently purchased their house list all the items that made it a home. Flood waters inundated their two-story home, causing damage to both levels. The couple were unable to live in their property and had to stay with family. They did not qualify for government grants due to them both working part-time jobs.

GIVIT funded the purchase of essential household items such as a fridge, microwave, kettle, toaster and basic kitchen items, a washing machine and a queen-size bed base and mattress. This allowed the couple to move back into their home and focus on rebuilding their life following the flood event.

GIVIT assisted Alex\* and Renee\* of Rocklea (pictured above with Melinda from Yeronga Community Centre), who were grateful for the support they received to get back on track. GIVIT is able to help people impacted by flooding thanks to support from corporate donors such as Salesforce.

## Thank you message 😪

"They are so grateful and said to say they do not have the words to express their gratitude. They said we are the fairy godmother of their lives. You are amazing!!! Thanks to all the GIVIT team."

- Melinda, Yeronga Community Centre



#### Lismore 🚅

Lismore Library, which was inundated by floodwaters, asked for help replacing an estimated 30,000 children's books, toys, and multicultural resources which were destroyed.

The big-hearted GIVIT community donated over \$12,000. Officeworks also donated \$10,000 worth of books, to be purchased locally from Book Warehouse Lismore.

While library repairs are ongoing, donated funds have meant the mobile libraries are fully restocked, and the library's Story Time, Let's Read and Baby Bounce programs are back up and running.



First Nations Family from Cabbage Tree Island who GIVIT assisted during the floods.



GIVIT Engagement Officer Bree with a staff member from Book Warehouse Lismore.

#### Wardell

A First Nations Family from Cabbage Tree Island lost their home and possession in the floods, escaping with only the clothes on their back. Over the past year, mum, dad and their seven kids have been forced to move between emergency accommodation four times.

The family recently moved into a temporary housing village at Wardell with nothing. Working with Bunjum Aboriginal Corporation, GIVIT provided the family with household essentials, baby items, groceries, fuel and school uniforms. GIVIT's support was possible thanks to generous corporate donors like Kmart.

#### Thank you message



I just wanted to say a BIG thank you from the bottom of my heart. Everyone that's received their vouchers in the last two days has cried. I am forever grateful. Your kind generosity and support will not go unnoticed."

- Bunjum Aboriginal Corporation



#### Thank you message



"Via Australian Red Cross, GIVIT changed mine and my child's world today (in a way that the words "saved us" would not be an exaggeration). We were impacted by the QLD floods three weeks ago. My child is a higher support needs disabled child, and last year I was diagnosed with a degenerative brain disease, the symptoms of which have made it largely impossible for me to access flood recovery support for us via mainstream services.

This afternoon - because of GIVIT and the people who donate to GIVIT - we have access to food for the first time in three weeks. In the next few days, our basic household items (eq fridge) and specific disability communication needs will be met. GIVIT has given our small family hope, and sustenance, at a time when I was beginning to fear what would become of us. Thank you so very, very much."

- Recipient of donations



#### Thank you message 🛛 🛞



"Thanks so much [GIVIT]. We received the vouchers from the team this afternoon.

Matt\* "doesn't do email," so I had promised to take the vouchers to him. I printed them straight away and drove down to see him tonight. He broke down in tears as I gave them to him. I got a bit teary too standing in the garage of his gutted-out house, hearing about how he was going to go and see his dad and plan out getting the furniture so his dad could come back home guickly. Matt wanted me to let you know how grateful he was, and to pass on his appreciation to you."

- Lifeline Lismore



#### Lismore



Nine months after the floods, many families in Lismore were trying to prepare for Christmas while living in temporary accommodation, and without their Christmas trees and decorations that were destroyed by floodwaters.

GIVIT provided vouchers for Christmas trees and decorations to Lismore City Council, wich worked with local grassroots organisations to distribute the donations to people in hardship.

The items helped people take their minds off flood recovery, and temporarily return to some normality.



#### Thank you message 🔍



Sending big hugs to you all at GIVIT and our deepest thanks for all of your fast acting and fantastically organised support at Christmas and since the floods (bushfires too) began.

What a time it is in our country, and you are still there alongside all of the different groups, helping to hold all of our disaster-affected community afloat.

"Many, many thanks for the wonderful work that you all do there."

> - Nikki Treanor, Community Recovery **Officer, Lismore City Council**



Above and top right: volunteers from a grassroots community goup distributing Christmas trees and decorations to flood-affected families in Lismore.

## Lockyer Valley



Lockyer Community Centre's toy library is a valuable resource for families who've had toys lost or damaged in floodwaters.

GIVIT provided a new pony cycle for children to play on.

GIVIT's support of organisations like Lockyer Community Centre is made possible due to support from corporate donors like Target.



"I was 100% not expecting anything. This money is so welcome as my husband just became unemployed. (This is not all bad as we are rebuilding and have made great inroads this week).

Would you be able to thank the people who donated the money for me as well please?

It is much appreciated and it is nice to know that 7 months on that people are still understanding that this flood was life-changing."

- Recipient of a voucher



A young girl from the Lockyer Valley playing on a pony cycle provided by GIVIT.

#### Hawkesbury

Some people and families in the Hawkesbury region have been through four flood events in two and a half years. The student community at Narwee Public School donated over 300 gifts for kids impacted by flooding. Hawkesbury's Helping Hands ensured these presents were under trees in time for Christmas.



#### Thank you from Hawkesbury's Helping Hands

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Thank you to Kirsty, GIVIT and the staff students, parents and carers of the school for helping bring smiles to many more faces this year.

-Recipient of voucher

GIVIT Engagement Officer Kristy and Linda from Hawkesbury's Helping Hands picking up donated Chrismtas presents from Narwee Public School.





"As we are assisting those impacted by the 2022 flood event in QLD, it has been so special providing brand new and top quality items to those in need. It is bringing a bit of normality back to many people's lives.

We are so grateful to be able to use the GIVIT platform, which enables us to receive amazing donations from companies like Hanes. Thank you so much for everything!"

#### **Face to Face Foundation**





Many families in Darra in Brisbane's southern suburbs were impacted by the floods. The Vietnamese Society in Australia said that the impacts of COVID-19-induced job and income loss were affecting flood recovery, and impacting the physical and mental health of its community.

The organisation requested items to set up a learning and relaxation space for kids and families in their area to provide a space that promotes positive interactions and aids in reducing stress and anxiety.

GIVIT provided bean bags, educational toys, children's books and art and craft supplies.

Community members can now come to read and borrow books, paint, draw, and participate in other activities beneficial to their recovery journey. GIVIT is able to meet need with support from corporate donors such as NRMA Insurance.





#### **Resilient Lismore**



"Volunteers accessed through GIVIT have helped bolster our volunteer forces and provided backup to our workforce who were tired, overworked and in many cases overwhelmed."

- Claire Sowden Recovery Coordinator, Resilient Lismore

Lismore



Through GIVIT, flood recovery organisation, Resilient Lismore, has been connected with more than 60 volunteers. These volunteers have assisted with flood clean up, removal of debris, washing houses, monitoring email inboxes, managing logistics and other admin duties.

#### Thank you message from It Takes A Town in Murwillumbah

"I gave Joe his vouchers and he was in tears. Thank you so much. He is a single dad of a little girl and he said now he can get his daughter the bed she really wanted. These little things make such a difference and these moments remind me each day why we are all doing the work we do.

I feel fortunate working directly with community and get to see the tears and smiles and photos of homes improving. I want you to know that the work you are doing is really making a big difference."



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## Managing donations with diligence

GIVIT coordinates donations through our 4,500 registered support organisations, charities, not-for-profits, schools and councils. We do this for a number of reasons:

#### Verified need

We allow organisations to request donations of items, services and vouchers only once they've registered and completed comprehensive identification and verification checks. These organisations can then place requests on behalf of people in need. This ensures donation requests are legitimate, truthful, transparent, and exactly what's needed.

#### Impacted people and communities get exactly what they need

There are numerous large recovery organisations with resources and expertise well suited to assisting people in need directly. In addition, local grassroots organisations have intimate knowledge of what's needed in towns and communities. GIVIT's role is to complement the amazing work these organisations do, and to empower them to focus on their core mission – directly helping people in need. By managing the coordination of donations, GIVIT builds capacity in recovery agencies and charities, allowing them to focus on providing critical one on one personal support required by people impacted.

#### It's a cost-effective model

By offering an innovative online donation platform that connects generous donors directly to support organisations, we keep our administration costs down, which means more help can be directed to exactly where it's needed.

100% of all publicly received donations for GIVIT's Storms and Flooding Appeal are used to purchase exactly what's needed by people and communities impacted by storms and flooding.

GIVIT's staffing and operational costs are covered by government contracts, and by corporate and public donors, large and small, who donate funds to "Support GIVIT." It's thanks to these generous donors that GIVIT is able to operate, getting essential items and services to people during their darkest hour.



## **Thanks to GIVIT's supporters**

Thank you to our partners, supporters, donors, fundraisers and volunteers, whose generous support makes this recovery possible. This "thank you" is not just from the team here at GIVIT, it's also on behalf of the amazing support organisations we're working with throughout Queensland and New South Wales, and on behalf of the brave people they're supporting.

Thank you to our generous supporters who have made donations of \$50,000 or more to GIVIT (as at 22 February 2023) to assist people impacted by the floods.

AFL Players' Association

**ARA Group** Australia Chung Tai Buddhist Foundation Best & Less **Breakfast Creek Hotel** Brisbane Roar Buddha's Light International Association Bunnings **Bupa Foundation** BWS **Charter Hall** Clayton Utz Country Women's Association of NSW Dan Murphy's **Dowling Family Foundation** Domino's Endeavour Group Epic Good FM Global Francesca Jewellery **Gold Coast SUNS Gold Coast Titans** Golding **Grafer Foundation Grange Investments** Hand Heart Pocket Hanes Brands Australasia

Hare & Forbes Machinery House Heritage Bank Foundation Hillsong IAG **IFM Investors** Incitec Pivot JB Hi-Fi Kmart McTavish Surf MECCA Mick Fanning Charity Golf Day Mirvac Mister Zimi Mitsubishi Development **Morgans Foundation** NAB Foundation nabtrade Naked Wines Australia Neumann Benovolent Fund New Hope Corporation North Bondi Surf Lifesaving CLub NRMA Insurance Ocean Alley **QM** Properties

Queensland Country Health Fund **Queensland Government** Department of the **Premier and Cabinet Queensland Raceway Rio Tinto Road Boss Rally** Salesforce Sealv Secret Sounds Sephora Australia & New Zealand SJ Hill Foundation Star Entertainment Group Target The A2 Milk Company The Good Guys The Lewis Foundation The Perini Foundation The Profield Foundation The Pratt Foundation Toyota Australia Vietnamese Australian Buddhist Assistance Trust Village Roadshow Theme Parks Vine Apparel Wandering Folk West Sydney Christian Church Yancoal Australia Ltd



"We have been a proud partner of GIVIT since 2014, working with them to help communities access urgently needed items and support to get back on their feet after disasters. We're proud to work with an organisation that provides such a smart, safe and environmentally sustainable way to give. By matching requests for help with the people and organisations who can fulfill them, GIVIT reduces waste and ensures people get what they really need."

Michael Lupi, Disaster Resilience Specialist, IAG



## **GIVIT** is here for the long haul

The healing from these floods is still ongoing, and recovery efforts are affected by added complexities such as cost of living increases. The scale of the impact is enormous and GIVIT will be here for the several years it will take to support these communities in their recovery.

Many flood-impacted people are still living in temporary accommodation, or aren't yet in a position to move back into their homes and receive donated items and services. As time passes and recovery progresses, GIVIT will be there to ensure these people and families aren't left behind.

A huge thanks goes to GIVIT's team of staff and volunteers, all of whom are working tirelessly to ensure people impacted by floods receive the essential items and services they need.

GIVIT's impact in flood-impacted communities is made possible thanks to our National Disaster and Emergency Partner, IAG, and the ongoing support of corporate partners Hanes Brands Australasia, Golding, Road Boss Rally and The Star Entertainment Group. GIVIT's recovery work is being delivered in collaboration with the QLD and NSW Governments.

#### **National Disaster and Emergency Partner**





## THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



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B B B DURHEIM PAINTING

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ABN: 21 137 408 201

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