

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Thursday 19 September, 2019**

## **DROUGHT AFFECTED RIVERINA REGION TO BENEFIT FROM \$11K STEAK FUNDRAISER AS PART OF GIVIT VISIT**

National online charity **GIVIT**, official drought charity partner of the NSW Government, will be visiting the Riverina region to provide much needed support to charities and drought-affected residents, including coordinating the spending of more than \$11,000 donated by NSW grocery retailer [Harris Farm Markets](#).

This money, along with other funds donated by the Australian public, will be used to meet the genuine needs of drought affected families and individuals, with a focus on purchasing these items locally so as to also provide an economic benefit to local businesses.

NSW Drought Relief Manager, Scott Barrett will visit Griffith and West Wyalong on Monday 23 September, Cootamundra to Narrandera on 24 September and Wagga Wagga on 30 September.

Scott will meet local charities and community groups to assess the region's needs and offer a wide range of assistance for vulnerable residents.

The meetings include coordinating the spending of over \$11,000 donated by NSW grocery retailer Harris Farm Markets who raised funds through sales of beef eye fillets during the last week of July. One dollar from every kilogram sold went towards supporting NSW drought-affected communities.

"Communities across the Riverina region are doing their best to soldier on through the increasing effects of drought. GIVIT is here for the long haul to help charities and service providers get exactly what regional and remote communities need to get through." Mr Barrett said.

"The needs of every community, every house hold are different and can include items such as a set of tyres for a ute, food for working dogs, or even essential school items. That's why we work with hundreds of local charities, schools and community service providers across NSW to identify these needs, then look to purchase them locally where possible."

GIVIT has coordinated the donation of over 100,167 items across drought-affected regions since August last year. In NSW, GIVIT has supported 151 charities and community groups working with residents in drought regions.

Mr Barrett urged other charities and community groups assisting drought-affected families and individuals in the Riverina are encouraged to register with GIVIT in order to request vital items for their clients.

GIVIT is free, private and easy to use, and currently supports over 2,700 charities across Australia. If you are a local charity or service, please register at [givit.org.au/charity-registration](http://givit.org.au/charity-registration).



**GIVIT itinerary for Riverina community visits:**

Mon 23 September: Griffith and West Wyalong

Tuesday 24 September: Cootamundra, Junee, Coolamon and Narrandera

Friday 27 September: Young and Temora

Monday 30 September: Wagga Wagga, Gundagai, Coolac and Jugiong

***For more information or to arrange an interview please contact  
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**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](http://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 1,400,000 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 has already distributed more than 212,000 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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