

Don't dump – donate!

National not-for-profit GIVIT is urging anyone wanting to give away goods to direct their generosity to someone in need rather than dumping it at an overflowing charity donation bin.

GIVIT, via its website givit.org.au, coordinates the direct donation of quality used items to vulnerable Australians. More than 2,450 of the nation's most trusted charities, schools and community groups request via GIVIT for vital items required by the individuals they support. Charities can also access GIVIT's "virtual warehouse" where donors list their items to give.

Unsolicited donated items have created mountains of waste and headaches for charities that are forced to use limited finances and manpower to sort, store or dispose of the donations.

Lifeline announced this week that half of its stores around the country had stopped accepting items after being overwhelmed by an avalanche of donations after Australians' post-Christmas decluttering efforts.

GIVIT's CEO and Founder Juliette Wright said Australians were generous and wanted to give to others less fortunate in their communities but explained the items being donated had to be of good quality and actually required.

"GIVIT has been matching public generosity with genuine need for almost 10 years and within the next few months we will reach one million donations. GIVIT is a powerful solution to the overwhelming problem of corporate and household waste," Mrs Wright said.

"Whether it's baby clothes for a new mum fleeing domestic violence or kitchen items for a homeless man who has just moved into a house, we all have something to give.

"GIVIT is safe, easy and free. All you have to do is take a photo of the item you want to give and upload it at givit.org.au. Charities in your local community will see your donated item and contact you if it is required by someone less fortunate."

The virtual warehouse is an e-solution to donation management, eliminating the need for physical warehousing, sorting and disposing of unwanted items by directly linking donors to charities who need that item. For example, if you've just upgraded your smart phone and your old phone is in perfect working order then pledge it in GIVIT's virtual warehouse.

GIVIT has partnered with several major national corporate donors to redirect their slow moving, damaged or obsolete stock from landfill to someone who needs those items. These large corporate donations include clothing, linen, furniture and whitegoods.

“So before dumping your quality items please head to givit.org.au and instead of it becoming a waste problem your items could change the life of someone in real need,” Mrs Wright said.

For more information or to arrange an interview, contact media@givit.org.au or call 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 933,000 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 most recently ensured that 91,860 items made their way to people in need after Tropical Cyclone Debbie in 2017. In 2015, GIVIT gained national attention with Founder and CEO 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. 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.