

## **STOP DUMPING COVID19 DONATIONS AND RUBBISH AT CHARITY BINS**

**Online charity GIVIT is the safe and smart way to help Australians in need.**

In light of the widespread dumping of donated items and waste at Op Shops and charity bins, GIVIT is calling for generous Australians to donate the safer and smarter way - online at [GIVIT.org.au](https://givit.org.au) - to best support those in need during the unprecedented Coronavirus crisis.

GIVIT's unique online donation platform allows individuals and businesses anywhere in Australia to donate items, services and cash. Registered charities then reserve donations when they're needed.

GIVIT CEO Sarah Tennant said Australians standing together in goodwill, kindness and a united approach to navigate the pandemic will be critical to support affected people and communities.

"As we saw through the outpouring of well-meaning generosity for bushfire-affected communities, unsolicited donated items create mountains of waste and headaches for charities that are forced to use limited finances and volunteers to sort, store or dispose of the donations," said Ms Tennant.

"That's why we're encouraging people to pledge now and actually exchange the item only when it's needed in their local area. GIVIT's online donation platform is a safe and practical way of donating to those most vulnerable and have been hardest hit by this public health emergency.

"With negative economic impacts being felt across the country, we will see a significant increase in people needing assistance over the coming weeks and months – including many who may never have found themselves in such a vulnerable position before."

At this stage, the immediate need for vulnerable Australians are toiletries, grocery vouchers and home-schooling items. Many are struggling due to panic buying, on top of the virus' economic effect exacerbating existing hardships and challenges for disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

If you wish to help fellow Australians impacted by the Coronavirus, please donate funds via [GIVIT.org.au](https://givit.org.au) to best help those in need - 100% of donated funds to GIVIT's '[COVID-19 Appeal](#)' will be used to purchase vouchers and urgently needed items, from local businesses where possible.

To donate items or services, pledge them online at [GIVIT.org.au](https://givit.org.au). Please be aware charities may not be able to receive donated items immediately. The coordinated transfer of items are managed by the requesting charity, in keeping with their internal protocols and available capacity, ensuring the safety of their staff and the person in need receiving the item.

Ms Tennant also stressed donated items need to be of high quality - "Goods you would proudly give to a family member or friend" - to best assist and respect the dignity of recipients.



As in disasters and emergencies such as the recent bushfires, GIVIT is working with all levels of government and over 3,200 registered charities and community groups to best manage donations and ensure people impacted by COVID-19 have access to essential items when they need them.

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

Ms Tennant urged all Australian charities, schools, councils and community groups to register via [GIVIT.org.au](#) to access thousands of wonderful donations pledged from generous individuals and corporates for the communities they're supporting through the Coronavirus crisis and beyond.

**GIVIT.org.au** is free, private and easy to use and currently supports over 3,200 charities across Australia.

***For more information or to arrange an interview please contact  
E: [media@givit.org.au](mailto:media@givit.org.au) M: 0444 503 759***

#### **About GIVIT**

GIVIT is the smart way to give. Through [GIVIT.org.au](#), we channel generosity where it is needed to support vulnerable people and communities in Australia.

Working with more than 3,200 support organisations, we ensure people get what they need when they need it most – whether recovering from a disaster event, or experiencing hardship due to circumstances such as drought, domestic and family violence, homelessness, disability, and mental health.

GIVIT captures all offers of goods and services online, removing the need for charities and services to sort, store and dispose of unsolicited donations, saving valuable resources.

100% of donated funds received by GIVIT to support people in need are used to purchase essential items. We buy locally, wherever possible, to support local businesses. GIVIT's operational costs are covered by government contracts and our amazing corporate partners.

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

[givit.org.au](#)