

GIVIT spreading the generosity of corporates across Top End

As part of GIVIT's National Indigenous Support Program the online charity is spreading the generosity of corporate donors across the Northern Territory.

GIVIT is collaborating with existing support services to address the social inequalities among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by connecting those who need with those who can give.

GIVIT's Northern Territory Coordinator Tali Dunnage-Burke said she was incredibly excited to see the positive impact the donations of toiletries, shoes, underwear and clothing were making.

"The provision of basic items within vulnerable communities can have a profound and positive effect on health, education and employment outcomes," Ms Dunnage-Burke said.

"All Australians deserve to live with dignity, comfort and purpose."

GIVIT is coordinating the delivery of new underwear and clothing items donated by a major Australian clothing manufacturer to charities supporting some of the most impoverished residents in the Top End.

Ms Dunnage-Burke said the items, including underwear and bras, had been gratefully received by the clients of the FORWAARD Aboriginal Corporation's alcohol and drug rehabilitation centre at Darwin's Stuart Park.

More than 300,000 surplus items from the generous manufacturer have been passed onto to charities registered with GIVIT across the country. Charities have told GIVIT of the joy of their clients after receiving never-before-worn underwear.

GIVIT is also distributing new school shoes donated by children's footwear company, Skobi Shoes, to remote charities in NT. The Brisbane company has provided more than 100 pairs of their podiatrist-designed children's shoes to GIVIT.

"GIVIT is beyond thrilled to be able to match these comfortably designed Skobi Shoes to kids without school shoes. For these kids, the joy of a brand-new pair of shoes is unmeasurable," Ms Dunnage-Burke said.

Victorian not-for-profit Pinchapoo has provided 300 packs of personal hygiene products for GIVIT to distribute to vulnerable NT residents. Pinchapoo (pinch-a-shampoo) receives donations from guests and holidaymakers who collect and pass on complimentary toiletries after their hotel stay. The small

hygiene products will be used by charities registered with GIVIT who support the homeless, women's shelters, schools and crisis housing.

GIVIT supports more than 2,700 charities around the country and 36 in the NT. If you are a charity, not-for-profit or community group working directly with impoverished Territorians please register with GIVIT to have access to donations from generous corporates and individual donors, at no cost. Visit <http://www.givit.org.au/charity-registration>

Vital items for clients can be requested by registered charities on givit.org.au. Currently there are urgent requests on the GIVIT website that include towels, kitchen items and toys in Coconut Grove; blankets in Stuart Park; a study table and chair, linen and assorted furniture in Casuarina; and a floor mat and toiletries in Nhulunbuy.

If you have good quality pre-loved items to donate to someone in need please list them in GIVIT's clever "virtual warehouse". Take a photo of your item/items, add some basic information and your contact details. Only charities registered with GIVIT are able to see your item and when they have a client who needs your item they will contact you to organise collection or delivery. However, GIVIT donors and recipients never meet – privacy is vital. To donate your quality pre-loved goods go to givit.org.au/give-items

If you are a corporate with excess stock you wish to donate to someone in need, please contact info@givit.org.au

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 1,300,000 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 222,000 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.