

Media release  
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## **OPEN - Queensland Flooding Official Donation Channel: Donate now to help people affected by Queensland monsoonal flooding.**

To help communities affected by serious flooding in North Queensland please donate funds, goods and services online at [givit.org.au](http://givit.org.au).

GIVIT is working in partnership with the Queensland Government and Townsville City Council to manage donated funds and all offers of goods and services following flooding around the Townsville and Burdekin regions.

Donations made via GIVIT will provide critical and immediate support to residents impacted by the flooding as well as providing longer recovery support to re-establish homes and help communities recover.

One hundred per cent of funds received will be used to purchase essential items. To help stimulate local economies affected by a disaster, wherever possible, GIVIT purchases items from local providers to support the business community as it also recovers.

GIVIT Founder and Director Juliette Wright said GIVIT's website [givit.org.au](http://givit.org.au) was an easy, quick and efficient way to donate directly to people in need without overwhelming charities on the ground.

"GIVIT works directly with outreach teams, local charities, community groups and councils in the impacted regions. These outreach groups identify exactly what is needed and GIVIT provides the assistance to get affected people exactly what they need, when they need it most," Juliette said.

***"It is essential that first responders to this disaster are not inundated with unsolicited donations by well-meaning members of the public.*** Only after charities request needed items via the GIVIT website should community groups begin to donate their quality goods."

GIVIT has extensive experience managing public and corporate donations during disasters including the recent Queensland bushfires and tropical cyclones. After the devastation of 2017's Cyclone Debbie alone, more than 91,800 donated items were successfully matched and more than \$395,000 donated to help people recover.

"We know from past events Australians are incredibly generous and want to help people who have been devastated by a disaster. It doesn't seem to matter where a disaster occurs; we have people all over Australia who want to donate money, goods and services," GIVIT's Queensland Manager Nikki Howson said.



“We want to make sure that frontline services aren’t inundated with donations they don’t need, or donations they might need but at a later time, by encouraging people to pledge their donations through [givit.org.au](https://givit.org.au).”

The [GIVIT website](https://givit.org.au) 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.

“We also ensure items donated are of a high quality. It is about giving exactly what is needed while respecting the dignity of the person needing help by only giving quality donations - goods you would proudly give to a family member or friend,” Nikki explained.

To donate funds to the Queensland Flooding Appeal please visit [givit.org.au](https://givit.org.au).

One hundred per cent of funds received will be used to purchase essential items. To help stimulate local economies affected by a disaster, wherever possible, GIVIT purchases items from local providers to support the business community as it also recovers.

To donate items you can see the list of urgently needed items at [givit.org.au](https://givit.org.au). If you have an item to donate that is not listed please pledge it on [givit.org.au](https://givit.org.au) which enables local charities to see what donations are available.

If you are an individual needing support contact your local charity or go to [givit.org.au/community-hub](https://givit.org.au/community-hub) and enter your postcode to locate a charity registered with GIVIT.

If you are a local charity or frontline service wanting to access donated goods and services, please register at [givit.org.au/charity-registration](https://givit.org.au/charity-registration).

**For further information or interviews please contact GIVIT’s media team**

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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](https://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, 945,000 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 33,500 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 92,000 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. In 2019, Mrs Wright was awarded the 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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 [givit.org.au](https://givit.org.au)