



GIVIT

BLACK SUMMER BUSHFIRE RECOVERY

One year on.

givit.org.au

GIVIT

National response, local recovery



The devastating Black Summer bushfires saw lives lost and thousands of homes destroyed. Some people had their homes saved, but endured the heartache of unbelievable damage to their properties. Many people were then faced with the overwhelming task of rebuilding and sourcing essential items to help meet their immediate and long-term needs.

GIVIT rolled up its sleeves to meet the challenge of coordinating the almost overwhelming - but much welcomed - generosity of Australian and overseas donors responding to the fires. GIVIT became the official bushfire donation management partner of the New South Wales, Victorian and Queensland state governments, tasked with managing donations of money, goods and services for communities affected.

GIVIT uses a national response to support local recovery. Our aim is to empower local communities and build the capacity of organisations by stopping unrequested donations, instead directing Australians to give the smart way. GIVIT donations ensure people get exactly what they need, when they need it.

One year on...

197,036

Donations provided to
Australians impacted by the fires

145

Community organisations
supported across Australia

\$1,785,605

Donated money received by GIVIT
for immediate and long-term
recovery. 100% being used to
purchase essential items and
services, locally where possible.

This report shares stories of the incredible public and corporate donations provided through GIVIT to support people left devastated by the fires.

Dozens of water tanks installed for East Gippsland communities



Families still recovering from the bushfires across East Gippsland are once again connected to household water thanks to generous donations coordinated by GIVIT and a tradesmen-led project dubbed 'Mission Rainwater'. The collaborative project started by Tradies for Fire Affected Communities (TTFAC) has delivered and installed water tanks first in Upper Murray communities, and then East Gippsland. GIVIT helped coordinate and fund the project thanks to generous public donations.

The feedback from people receiving a water tank has been humbling, and demonstrated the challenges communities are facing to access clean water.

Some people rely on creek water for their home. But after the bushfires and subsequent heavy rain, those creeks were contaminated with debris and ash, meaning they didn't have enough clean water to even brush their teeth. Many were driving long distances to the nearest town regularly to fill containers of water, while others set up make-do catchments with tarps and wading pools to catch rain. One recipient at Clifton Creek said her tank has 'made all the difference to her world'. She no longer has to lug heavy water containers.

Other vital members of 'Mission Rainwater' include Anglicare, Deloitte, Bushfire Recovery Victoria, Equity Trustees, Towong Shire and East Gippsland Shire Council.





Project to build 100 homes



"I am so very grateful for being gifted a vacuum cleaner. I know this might sound odd but I've just been using a broom for the 2 rugs I have on the floor. I am waiting for plans from the draftsman for our rebuild so hopefully by this time next year we will have a home again. Thank you again for your kindness."

- GIVIT recipient now living in a POD

GIVIT is collaborating with Minderoo Foundation and NSW Government to furnish temporary accommodation PODs for people who lost their properties to fires across South East NSW. The PODs are 20ft converted containers which include a basic kitchen, bathroom and bunk beds, along with a generator and 2,300 litre water tank.

Through the wonderful support of IKEA, donated items including bedding, kitchen utensils and fairy light are already fitting out the first 100 pods and making them feel more like a home.

"Following the bushfire crisis, IKEA Australia wanted to play a part in helping communities and the people within them to rebuild and recover. As a furniture retailer, we know how important life at home is, and for many, theirs will never be the same again. Our partnership with GIVIT is enabling us to help families affected by the bushfire crisis, to begin rebuilding their homes."

- Bhumika Selot, IKEA Sustainability Business Partner.

Recovery is a long process, and GIVIT is continuing to work closely with our far-reaching charity network and generous donors, such as IKEA and Bunnings, to ensure every resident has what they need to recover and rebuild.

"To support many of those who sadly lost their properties earlier this year across the South East NSW bushfire affected areas, Bunnings donated heaters to help keep them warm and comfortable whilst living in the temporary accommodation pods through winter. Bunnings is proud to get behind this cause and we hope this contribution will make the recovery process a bit easier for those affected."

- Debbie Poole, Bunnings Chief Operating Officer.



Car seats donated after bushfire tears through Mogo

It was heart-breaking to witness the apocalyptic scenes from southern New South Wales of people escaping to the beach to await evacuation. While still coming to terms with what happened, the communities affected showed an immediate determination to rebuild their lives and homes.

Mogo, in Eurobodalla, was one of the towns badly impacted by the fires. Dozens of homes and many businesses burnt down, with the Mogo Aboriginal Preschool's bus also a casualty. When the bus is out of operation, 70% of students are unable to attend school. Getting new and safety compliant transport back on the road was imperative. GIVIT worked alongside the non-for-profit Campbell Page, which provide the free transport service to those needing financial assistance. GIVIT donated 17 car seats, ensuring the youngest students could get both back to school and 'back to normal'.

Solar donation powers recovery

"As you can see being totally off grid and being able to once again have refrigeration on site has made the world of difference and has enabled us to keep fresh food while we continue the long clean up ahead.

"Power is sustaining and so encouraging in these very difficult times where even social contact has been deprived. Words can hardly express gratitude; not just for your gift but for simply being remembered when the media has been diverted by other disasters and others move on with their lives; but try we will; thank you, thank you, THANKYOU!!!"

- Peter Skelton, Social Justice Advocates, NSW





We help take away the headache of donated goods

With years of experience in donation management, GIVIT understands the problems and drain on government and community resources that comes with trying to sort, store and distribute donations during an already stressful time.

GIVIT is a home grown, proven and smart solution to donation management. GIVIT manages the influx of donations during a disaster and the recovery, enabling organisations to focus on delivering their core community service. GIVIT is the smart way to direct public generosity to ensure vulnerable people get what they need, when they need it.

How we do it

- Utilise technology to provide a coordinated and transparent solution to donation management
- Support community led recovery by empowering communities to request and receive exactly what they require
- Build the capacity of local organisations so they can focus on recovery
- Ensure 100% of donated money received is used to purchase essential items
- Purchase items and services locally, wherever possible, to support the economic recovery of affected communities
- Work with corporates to encourage them to pledge now, but give later as required
- Build donor trust and confidence through our transparent donation platform
- Support long-term recovery
- Connect people requiring assistance to local support organisations

Twelve months on from the terrible summer of bushfires, GIVIT remains dedicated to making a difference in people's lives. As people and communities look to rebuild, the emotional recovery will take much longer.

We are committed to helping in any way we can. From a new uniform a child needs for school photos through to replacing a burnt out kitchen, the impact GIVIT is having is life changing.



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