

**MEDIA RELEASE** 23 June, 2020

## GIVIT and TAUBMANS 'In It Together' fundraiser for regional communities reaches \$150,000

Isolating DIYers and professional painters have raised an incredible \$150,000 for the 'In It Together' campaign, by TAUBMANS® paint by PPG and national online charity GIVIT, supporting regional communities in need after recent bushfires, prolonged drought, floods and now COVID-19.

With many charitable fundraising activities cancelled due to COVID-19, 'In It Together' initially aimed to deliver at least \$120,000 for essential goods and rebuilding projects for communities in need.

GIVIT CEO, Sarah Tennant, said the funds will allow GIVIT to purchase many more essential items to best support people in need, from parched outback farms to bushfire-affected East Gippsland.

"Whether it's hardware items and water tanks for a drought-stricken farming community, or supermarket and clothing vouchers for rural families in need, we will put the donated funds to work to make an immediate and positive difference," said Ms Tennant.

"We also buy locally, wherever possible, to help stimulate the recovery of regional economies, ensuring the impact from every single generous donor is widespread."

Until 30 June 2020, every four-litre tin of Taubmans Endure, ALL WEATHER®, EASYCOAT® and SUNPROOF® paint purchased from Bunnings, BRISTOL®, Taubmans and participating\* independent hardware and paint specialist stores will raise vital funds for the 'In It Together' campaign.

"We are thrilled to have raised an incredible \$150,000 donation for GIVIT through the Taubmans 'In it Together' campaign, which will be immediately used to assist bushfire, drought and flood affected communities," said Anne Neeson - General Manager, PPG architectural coatings, AUS and NZ.

"Thank you to all the DIYers and professional painters who supported this donation by choosing to paint with Taubmans. And thank you to Bunnings, Bristol and our independent retail partners who came on board, despite the challenging economic climate. Your support for the program will make a difference to the lives of many in our regional and rural communities."

GIVIT works with more than 3,400 charity partners on the ground throughout Australia to match the donation of goods with the individual and specific needs of recipients.

The GIVIT website is as an online warehouse by removing the need for charities to physically collect, sort and store donations, significantly reducing the administrative and financial burden.

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The 'In It Together' campaign comes after catastrophic bushfires devastated regional communities across Australia, many of which were already struggling through drought. One year earlier, severe flooding brought destruction to farmers and communities in Far North Queensland.

For more information, please visit www.colourtogether.taubmans.com.au/in-it-together.

Ms Tennant encouraged all charities, schools, councils and community groups to register via <u>GIVIT.org.au</u> to access thousands of wonderful donations offered by generous individuals and corporates for the people and communities they're supporting.

GIVIT.org.au is free, private and easy to use for all donors and our more than 3,400 registered community services.

\*Applies to purchases of the select four-litre Taubmans paint products from participating stores until 30 June 2020. Look for the In It Together signage in stores.

## For more information or to arrange an interview please contact E: media@givit.org.au M: 0444 503 759

## **About GIVIT**

GIVIT is the smart way to give. Through <u>GIVIT.org.au</u>, 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.