

# 2018 Banyule Children's Gift Appeal

## Can you help disadvantaged families in the Banyule community this Christmas?



The Banyule Children's Gift Appeal is an annual initiative that provides quality new gifts, toys and vouchers to local families experiencing financial hardship. Over many years the community has supported 1000's of families and their children. In 2017, close to 400 children who live in Banyule received gifts, all thanks to community donations.

Disadvantage and financial hardship affects families in our Banyule community through things like being a single parent family, having a disability or having a change in circumstance, like a significant health issue or death in the family. The Christmas and the summer holiday period is stressful for families who cannot adequately provide for their children.

This year we are seeking toys suitable for children under 3, boys and girls aged between 7 and 12 and donations of money to be used to purchase gift cards for children over 12. Some popular toy ideas include Lego, bike accessories, craft, jewellery, tea sets and dress-ups, colouring items, toy cars, dolls, puzzles, building blocks and sports equipment. Please note, we cannot accept soft toys.

From 1 November to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018 residents can place new toys and gifts in public donation bins located at:

- Watermarc, 1 Flintoff Street Greensborough
- Banyule Community Health, 21 Alamein Rd, West Heidelberg
- Ivanhoe Library, 255 Upper Heidelberg Rd, Ivanhoe
- Rosanna Library, 72 Turnham Ave, Rosanna
- Watsonia Library, 4/6 Ibbottson St, Watsonia
- Council's Ivanhoe Customer Service Centre, 275 Upper Heidelberg Road Ivanhoe
- Ivanhoe Aquatic, 70 Waterdale Rd, Ivanhoe

## Can I donate money?

Donations of money by residents will be used to purchase gifts for children. To make a donation visit Council's customer services centres in Greensborough, Level 3, 1 Flintoff Street and Ivanhoe, 255 Upper Heidelberg Road. Donations over the phone can be taken by credit card by phoning Libby Mein on 9457 9961.

## We are a community group and would like to provide assistance

If you are business, school or local service that would like to get involved by organising a gift drive or fundraising event we will register your service's interest and send out resources to assist with promoting your involvement. All groups and services who register and participate receive a certificate of appreciation

To register your support and or for further information, contact Early Years and Community Support Officer, Libby Mein on 9457 9961 or email [Libby.Mein@banyule.vic.gov.au](mailto:Libby.Mein@banyule.vic.gov.au).

## Can I volunteer?

Volunteers are the backbone of the Banyule Children's Gift Appeal! We need volunteers to assist with administrative tasks, packing gift parcels, collecting toy donations and delivering gift parcels. If you would like to give us a helping hand contact Kerri Wellington and Diamond Valley Community Support on 9435 8282 or email [volunteers@dvsupport.org.au](mailto:volunteers@dvsupport.org.au).

## Do you know a local family having trouble meeting the cost of day to day living?

The Banyule Children's Gift Appeal does not take direct requests from families seeking to receive toy donations. Council works in partnership with the following services to deliver the Gift Appeal and identify families eligible for support:

- [Banyule Support and Information Services Inc \(BANSIC\)](#).
- [Diamond Valley Community Support \(DVCS\)](#)
- [Banyule Community Health Service](#)
- [3081 Angels](#)

These services are available to assist families with a range of supports and can link them into the Banyule Children's Gift Appeal.

## Further Information

For general information, to donate money or to register your group to participate contact Libby Mein on 9457 9961 or email [Libby.Mein@banyule.vic.gov.au](mailto:Libby.Mein@banyule.vic.gov.au).

For volunteer enquiries contact Kerri Wellington 9435 8282 or email [volunteers@dvsupport.org.au](mailto:volunteers@dvsupport.org.au)

To find out more about disadvantage in Banyule visit <http://profile.id.com.au/banyule>.

The Banyule Children's Gift Appeal is supported by Diamond Valley Community Support, BANSIC, Banyule Community Health and the 3081 Angels

DIAMOND VALLEY  
community support

