



Project - May 2019 - Oh Baby!

Go date: 05 May 2019

Starting 05 May through to 15 June, Sewing for Charity Australia's main project will be sewing, knitting, crocheting and collecting baby items from NB to 2T.

Who are we supporting this project?

The charity and community partners we're focusing on this project are:

[A Brave Life](#)

A Brave Life is a registered Not-for-Profit organisation that helps to alleviate the risks of ongoing poverty, misfortune and helplessness experienced by many young and teenage mothers by assisting them to complete their education, pursue their dreams and to be positive role models.

We provide practical necessities (such as nappies, baby wipes, feeding equipment and baby clothes) to young and teenage mothers through our baby bundle program as we know the financial difficulties young and teenage mothers face whilst trying to complete high school and purchase essential baby items.

We believe that education is an important responsibility for a teen mother. Finishing high school and pursuing further education and employment will allow her to be able to financially support her child and become more independent. One way that we help support teen mothers to

complete their education is through peer and mentoring support, to help navigate the challenges of being a teenage parent and completing their high school education.

[Giving Grannies](#)

Giving Grannies Inc is a not for profit group formed to help families in need, particularly when a new baby is on the way. We collect and distribute pre-loved baby and children's goods. This includes clothes and shoes; toys and books plus prams, cots and other baby furniture.

We also provide Baby Welcome Kits to mums who need a helping hand when a new baby is on the way.

[Baby Give Back](#)

Baby Give back is a registered charity on the Gold Coast with a mission to give back by collecting and re-homing essential baby items for those in need. Baby Give Back was started by five Gold Coast Mums who all have young children and work part-time.

We are responding in a practical way to the terrible fact that at least 15 percent of children in our community live in poverty. Everything we do is driven by our belief that every baby deserves an equal start.

We have developed partnerships with local support agencies to ensure that our donations get to the neediest families in our community.

We work with those agencies as well as maternal social workers to provide families in need with material support and to show that we care about them.

[Backpacks 4 VIC Kids](#)

B4VK provide quality backpacks and nappy bags to children aged 0-17 years, entering foster care, out-of-home care and emergency accommodation in Victoria. Backpacks or nappy bags will contain age and gender appropriate contents including essential items, clothing, blanket and a toy or activity which will belong to the child.

[Little Things for Tiny Tots](#)

Little Things for Tiny Tots is a volunteer-run charity that provides new and pre-loved essential baby items to Perth families in need. We provide a box of "little things" that will assist a family to care for their baby in the first few weeks of life such as clothing, blankets, nappies, wipes, toys and books. We distribute boxes and other items via our partners, existing support services and government agencies and do not give boxes directly to families or individuals.

In addition to the organisations listed, we receive frequent requests for handmade baby items, so we will be gratefully accepting anything baby related.

Our most requested items are:

- Burp cloths
- Bibs
- Boy's clothing
- Wraps (size 1-1.2m square)

Other suggested items:

- Reusable breast pads
- Clothing in all sizes 00000-2T
- Knitted/ crochet blankets (approx 1mx1m)
- Summer hats in all sizes up to 2T
- Bunny teethers (very popular!)
- Taggie blanket/ toys
- Soft toys - balls, rattles, crunchy toys
- Mittens
- Washers and soft towels

Please note: This is not an exhaustive list - we welcome anything baby related!

Current specific requests:

Organisation	Items Needed	Pattern/ Tutorial
Baby Give Back	Pram Liners Boys Clothing 6-12 months	Generic pattern is fine - feel free to suggest one! Various - none specific
A Brave Life	Burp Cloths	None specific
Backpacks 4 VIC Kids	Nappy Bags	B4VK Nappy Bag Pattern
Giving Grannies (QLD)	Bunny rugs/ wraps	1mx1m-1.2mx1.2m
	Burp Cloths	None specific
	Bibs	None specific
Little Things for Tiny Tots	Clothing 00000 & 0000 Washable breast pads	None specific None specific

What exactly are we creating?

All things baby!

- Clothing sizes NB to 2T (Where possible please create sets eg top and shorts, peasant dress and nappy cover)
- Bedding, including bassinet and cot sheets and blankets/ quilts
- Accessories eg hats (summer and winter), hair accessories, bibs, burp cloths
- Soft toys (filling must be new)
- Nappy wallets

We are also collecting:

- Nappy bags (second hand in great condition is welcome)
- Nappies
- Wipes
- Accessories such as dummies, bottles, bottle brushes (must be new)

This list is not exhaustive - if you aren't sure then get in touch with Admin.

How many?

All items are "as received" - one or a hundred will be appreciated!

How else can I help?

Unable to sew or knit for this project but still want to contribute? Here are a few other ways you can help:

A. Are you local to The Lair?

- We need many hands to sort and pack the made items throughout the project. Come to a regular Friday Community Collaboration Day, or, let us know when you're free to help.

B. Do you have a good eye for a bargain (or, just enjoy shopping!)?

- For this project we currently need
 - packaging supplies - clear self sealing cello bags A4 and A5
 - Baby items as listed above

Important dates

Items need to be dropped off or posted to the lair no later than **15 June 2019**

Where do I send things?

Send any finished items or donated materials to “The Sewing Lair”:

Cass Gell

38 Bladensburg Dr

Waterford QLD 4133

FAQs

II. What items do we need the most?

- A. All of them! Pick an item you're comfortable with and get started. All items donated will find a grateful home.

III. Do I need to pre-wash my fabric?

- A. Yes please - both for cleanliness and shrinkage

IV. I need fabric for this project. Can this be sent to me?

- A. Yes! We can send you fabric from donations at the lair. If possible, please consider covering postage. Contact Admin to arrange.

V. Where do I send completed items?

- A. Completed items should be sent to The Lair, 38 Bladensburg Dr Waterford QLD 4133

VI. What courier service should I use to send in items?

- A. Use whichever courier or postal service you would like. As a guide, our volunteers have found the below services to be of good value:
 - For a small number of items (up to 5kg) - Australia post satchel

- For larger, heavier items (>5kg) - Sendle courier service

VII. I made a mistake! Should I bother finishing / sending the item in?

- A. Yes! Even if the specific charities this month are unable to use it, be assured every item can find a grateful home.

Still have questions?

Talk to us! We'd love to say hi :)

- Email: volunteer@sewingforcharity.com
- Post on our Facebook page or send a private message (PM). Search "Sewing for Charity Australia"
- Visit our Facebook group "Sewing for Charity Australia Volunteers"
- Call Cass on 0498 213 410