



Project - Winter Warmers

Go date: 01 March 2020

Starting 01 March through to 30 April 2020, Sewing for Charity Australia's main project will be sewing and knitting/ crocheting beanies, scarves, fingerless gloves, PJ's and tracksuits. Additionally, we are collecting toiletries, warm socks (kids and adults), underwear (adults) and hygiene items.

Who are we supporting this project?

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

Wayside Chapel

Wayside Chapel has provided unconditional love, care and support for people on and around the streets of Kings Cross since 1964. Each year, thousands of people visit Wayside's two centres in Kings Cross and Bondi for assistance in gaining equitable access to essential health, welfare and related services. Wayside Chapel is well known for its Community Services Centres, dedicated Aboriginal Space and Day to Day Living Programs.

For more information please visit:

- [Wayside Chapel Facebook page](#)
- [Wayside Chapel Website](#)

Strike It Out Inc

Strike It Out Inc (formerly Launceston feeding the homeless) is set up to provide a meal every night and lunches for the next day and provide food parcels for people in need.

- [Strike It Out Inc](#)
- [Strike It Out Website](#)

Nightlight

Nightlight Outreach Inc aims to provide a vital ministry of compassion and caring in the area of homelessness, which is solidly based on a Christian foundation, to the whole community but especially to those who are less fortunate regardless of reason, age, gender, ethnicity or religion.

- [Nightlight Facebook page](#)
- [Nightlight Website](#)

Operation Sunshine WA

Operation Sunshine WA Incorporated is a not for profit, volunteer run organisation providing goods and services to children and youth under the care of the Western Australian government. These children may reside in Group Homes, Residential Care, or Foster Care.

We believe every child has the right to be happy, to have a sense of belonging, and to be able to enjoy the significant celebrations that are celebrated throughout their lives.

Children who are placed in state care have often been victims of abuse, or witness to parental abuse. These children have the emotional stress of being disjointed from their families and can often feel isolated. Financial limitations are also a negative impact on these children as they are often restricted in their access to goods and services that other, non government care children would have.

Through the generosity of our supporters we raise funds and collect goods to provide these children and youth access to a happier childhood and an increased sense of belonging.

- [Operation Sunshine WA Facebook page](#)
- [Operation Sunshine WA Website](#)

Soul Cafe Newcastle

Soul Cafe is a non-government funded organisation that provides healthy daily meals to the homeless, financially disadvantaged and socially isolated, while also providing access to free medical, Legal, Centrelink, Housing, Counselling, Podiatry, Alcoholics Anonymous, Mental Health, Smart Recovery Program. At Soul Cafe, it's more than a meal - the meal is the medium which helps us discover the underlying needs that guests face.

- [Soul Cafe Facebook page](#)

What exactly are we sewing and knitting/ crocheting?

Beanies

Scarves

Fingerless Gloves

Gloves

PJ's (Sets are fabulous, but Just the pants are also fine - long sleeve tees are available cheaply at kmart/big w etc)

Tracksuit pants and tops

Details

Where a link to a tutorial or further information is provided, please read all linked information before proceeding - the table provides a summary only for those items.

Organisation	Item	Fabric & Notions	Size	Link to details / pattern / tutorial
Wayside Chapel Soul Cafe Nightlight	Beanies	Soft stretch fabrics/ Fleece Knitted/ Crochet DARK COLOURS preferred	Adult men and women	You can use any pattern, there are many free patterns available online
Wayside Chapel Soul Cafe Nightlight	Scarves	Soft stretch fabrics/ fleece Knitted/ crochet DARK COLOURS preferred	Approx 6" wide and 70-80" long	Can be overlapped in co-ordinating thread or hemmed
Wayside Chapel Strike It Out Inc Nightlight Soul Cafe	Fingerless Gloves/ Handwarmers	Fleece or similar DARK COLOURS ONLY (Black/ Navy preferred)	Adult men and women	There are many patterns available online
Operation Sunshine WA	PJ's	Any suitable PJ fabric is fine	All children's sizes accepted however size 8+ is most needed	There are many patterns available online. You can make an entire set or make pants and purchase top - all is appreciated

Operation Sunshine WA	Tracksuits	Fleece	All children's sizes needed from sizes 2+	There are many patterns available, any is fine
All	Drawstring Bags	Various non stretch fabrics	Finished size approx 10"x12" DOUBLE drawstring or Single drawstring with a cord lock	Any construction method is fine, as long as they are fit for purpose (toiletry bags). Search our group for suggestions if you are stuck :)

What other items are we collecting?

- Gently used/ pre loved children's pj's
- Gently used/ pre loved adult tracksuit pants and tops
- Kids socks (NEW)
- Adult warm socks (NEW)
- Adult Underwear (NEW)
- Toiletries (see a suggested list below)

How many?

- Unlimited - as many as we can make!

How else can I help?

Unable to sew 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!)?

- Toiletry items for emergency care packs are appreciated
 - Deodorant (roll on only)
 - Toothpaste (both adult and kids)
 - Toothbrushes (both adult and kids)
 - Facewashers
 - Soap
 - Mini/ travel size shampoo/ conditioner
 - Razors
 - Hair brushes/ combs
 - Hair ties (can be handmade also)

Important dates

Items need to arrive at the lair no later than **5 May 2020**. This will allow them to be sorted, packaged and sent out to our charity partners by early May 2020.

Where do I send things?

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

38 Bladensburg Dr

Waterford QLD 4133

FAQs

II. What items do we need the most?

A. All! There is a huge need in communities for basic necessities and warm items

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

A. Yes please! Fabric should be pre-washed hot OR washed cold and dried in a clothes dryer on hot. This serves several purposes - removal of residual dye that may run / bleed; removal of factory chemicals / residues from the fabric manufacturing process; shrinking of fabric (if it is inclined to do so). This process needs to occur BEFORE cutting.

If you are in a drought area and your fabric needs washing pop a note in and we will wash before distributing.

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

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

V. 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

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

A. Yes! Many charity groups use items of all sizes throughout the year. Even if the specific charities this month are unable to use it, be assured every item can find a grateful home.

VII. I need some hands on guidance - can someone show me how to make one?

- A. Probably! Have a chat and we may be able to find another sewing volunteer locally you can collaborate with. Youtube also has some great tutorials - and we love questions, so don't hesitate to ask!

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).
- Call Cass on 0498 213 410