

2019-2020

# Bushfire EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND



The special Girl Guides Australia badge, Hearts and Hands, was designed and sold all over Australia and the world to support those impacted by the bushfires in Australia during 2019 and 2020. The badge represented the many willing hands and hearts that were opened to support those impacted by the devastation. Money raised from selling the badge is now available to Guides and communities to help with rebuilding.

## GUIDES FROM ALL AROUND AUSTRALIA CAN APPLY FOR MONEY FROM THE FUND TO:

- Support Guides affected by the 2019-2020 bushfires
- Fund Girl Guide programs supporting communities to rebuild after the 2019-2020 bushfires

## A STORY OF MARNIA ...

Marnia is one of our Guides who lives in a small rural town with her two brothers, Mum, Dad and their three dogs. The family strongly supports the community and is active in sports, Guides and music. Sadly, the family went through some devastating fires in early 2020 which saw the loss of neighbours' houses, schools and some of the town's recreation areas. Some of Marnia's friends weren't so lucky and have had to find somewhere else to live since losing their homes and are trying to find new jobs to support the family. This has been very stressful on the all families and the community they live in, to rebuild their lives, find jobs and build new parks and areas they can all enjoy, all while looking after their children and families.

*We are encouraging Guides to engage with the rebuilding process and supporting communities across Australia.*

How could you help families or a community like Marnia's to rebuild their homes, local parks, forestry, wildlife, community services or return to Guides?

**APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS CAN RANGE FROM \$250 - \$1000 SO GET YOUR THINKING CAPS ON!**

### STARTER IDEAS:

- Have Guides, a playgroup or similar, lost all of their reading books? Perhaps see how you can assist?
- Could you run a fun activity morning or day for the kids in a town or local area?
- Could your Unit lead a community education initiative about the importance of water in bushland and Australia?
- Is there a charity you could assist in a practical way to help a community rebuild?
- Does a Guide Unit need new equipment to start up Guide meetings or continue virtually?
- Can you adopt a town or Guide Unit to assist them in a positive and practical way?
- With the local Emergency services, could Guides learn some safety and survival skills to share with a local group?
- Could Guides assist and support the clearing, removal and replanting of an area of land that has been affected?
- Maybe you know of bushland areas where our native animals lost homes? Perhaps you could contact a wildlife group to find out how you could help? Maybe your Unit could build wildlife nest or bat boxes for an organisation that will place them.

# REMEMBER TO PLAN WHAT YOU CAN DO TO ASSIST THOSE AFFECTED BY THE 2019-2020 BUSHFIRES



## HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DO THIS?

**DISCOVER** COME UP WITH ALL OF YOUR IDEAS

**DECIDE** WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

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**PLAN** WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

Who do we need help from?

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What equipment do we need?

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Who do we have to tell?

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Are there forms we need to fill in?

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What will we learn?

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How long will this take?

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**DO** UNDERTAKE YOUR PLAN

**EVALUATE** WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR CHALLENGE?

Was it a challenge to you?

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What would you do differently next time?

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Did you do a great job?

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What did you learn?

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Now you are ready to apply, check out:

[www.girlguides.org.au/australianbushfirerelieffund/](http://www.girlguides.org.au/australianbushfirerelieffund/)

