

POCKET

FROM THE



24 FEBRUARY 2025



GIVIT's coordinated approach means disaster affected communities get exactly what they need. Check if your local community organisation is eligible to receive support from GIVIT when disaster strikes.

\$75,000 disaster relief donation for North Queensland

Through our partnership with GIVIT, Hand Heart Pocket has been able to respond quickly, on behalf of the Freemasons of Queensland, when a natural disaster strikes.

With devastating floods isolating towns and cutting power across the communities of Cardwell, Ingham and Townsville in late January, many were asked to go to evacuation centres or stay with friends and family until the record breaking rain eased.

Our \$75,000 donation to GIVIT means help will reach affected residents sooner.

100% of our donations to GIVIT directly support communities across affected regions, through experienced local community organisations and charities.

GIVIT delivers a two-phase response when these events occur:

1) During the emergency response period – to help people with their immediate needs such as vouchers for food, clothing, medication and fuel vouchers to run generators, and

2) During the recovery period – to help people with longer term needs such as replacing essential household furniture and whitegoods and clothing.

GIVIT's co-ordinated approach means communities get exactly what they need. What's more, vouchers and goods are purchased as locally as possible to support local businesses in their recovery.

You can find out which local organisations are registered with GIVIT for disaster relief in your area, by visiting the GIVIT website (see <https://www.givit.org.au/need-help>).



Scan the QR code to donate to the Hand Heart Pocket Disaster Relief Appeal



How you can help

Three ways to donate:

Credit Card or PayPal: Scan the QR code on this page or visit the Hand Heart Pocket Disaster Relief Appeal page on the GIVIT website and enter your details. Please include the reference HHP QLD261 in the comment box.

Cheque: Make cheques payable to GIVIT Listed Ltd, write HHP QLD261 on the back, and mail to:

GIVIT Listed Ltd

PO Box 1080

Milton QLD 4064

Direct Deposit: Email info@givit.org.au for account details and include HHP QLD261 in your reference.

For direct deposit or cheque donations, please email GIVIT at info@givit.org.au to request a tax receipt.

From the Chairman



Welcome to our first edition of *From the Pocket* for 2025.

Our thoughts are with our Members and their communities in flood-affected parts of the state. While the impacts of this disaster continue to unfold, it has been heartening to see our Freemason community carrying on our traditions of benevolence and community service. Members have been tireless in rallying around those affected, and playing important roles in the community recovery efforts.

All funds raised through our Hand Heart Pocket GIVIT Disaster Relief Appeal are donated on behalf of the Freemasons of Queensland – please use the details on page 1 to ensure your donation is included in our appeal.

Our financial position

Our financial position remains strong. As at 31 December Hand Heart Pocket's net assets were \$224.45 million. Our total charitable giving for the financial year so far is \$2.15 million as we continue to deliver against our strategy, to partner for change for people in need.

Presentation to Members across Queensland communities

Members in Tully, in the Carpentaria District, Tamborine Mountain and Eight Mile Plains are warmly invited to join me and Sara Parrott, Hand Heart Pocket CEO for upcoming presentations about our programs and how we can work together.

Please see page 4 for exact dates and times, so that you can make the time to attend.

Come along to find out about how Hand Heart Pocket can back your community priorities, through our Local Community Partnerships and Matched Giving programs.

As always, we welcome your feedback, suggestions and engagement, and look forward to working together throughout 2025.

We're very happy to come to your Lodge too, to talk with you about how we can work together this financial year to support your community.

Young Observer invited to join the Board

Expressions of interest are invited from Members under 40 years of age, to become a Board Observer with Hand Heart Pocket for 12 months.

The opportunity to be a Board Observer allows Members with no former Board experience the chance to develop leadership skills, gain insights into governance, and be part of shaping our impact.

To apply, please send a brief letter outlining your interest, along with your resume, to boardsec@handheartpocket.org.au.

Alasdair Begley

Chairman

Good Governance series: whistleblowing

At Hand Heart Pocket, we uphold the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct.

Our Whistleblower Policy empowers employees and associates to report any suspected misconduct confidentially and without fear of retaliation.

This includes actions that are potentially dishonest, illegal, or unethical, such as fraud, harassment, or breaches of company policies.

We're committed to fostering a culture of openness and accountability, and ensuring that our operations align with our core values and legal obligations.

Reports can be directed to our Compliance Officers:

- Alasdair Begley – Board Chairman: whistleblower1@handheartpocket.org.au
- Jane Crombie – Chair Finance Risk Audit Committee: whistleblower2@handheartpocket.org.au
- Rob Qualtrough – Company Secretary: 07 3493 6005 or BoardSec@handheartpocket.org.au

2024-25: Our Giving (as at December 2024)

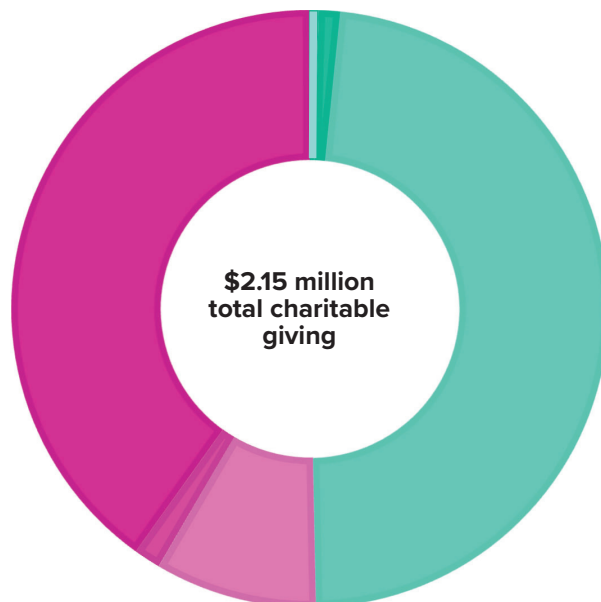
Giving distributed \$1,083,820

- 40.1% Strategic Youth Partnerships
- 3.3% Member-led local giving
- 1.4% Hardship Assistance

Giving committed \$1,070,000

- 48.1% Strategic Youth Partnerships committed
- 1.2% Hardship Assistance committed
- 0.5% Member-led local giving committed

Note: A copy of our audited financials are published each year in our Annual Report and on our website.



Good together: Dollars 4 Dollars and Dollars 4 Doers



Endeavour and Bentley Park Lodges donated a whopping \$40,000 to the COUCH Wellness Centre in Cairns.

Endeavour and Bentley Park Lodges have donated a total of \$40,000 to the Couch Wellness Centre throughout the year, thanks to Lodge and individual donations and double matching from Hand Heart Pocket. The Centre provides holistic cancer care for people in Far North Queensland, allowing them to remain close to their loved ones while receiving care.



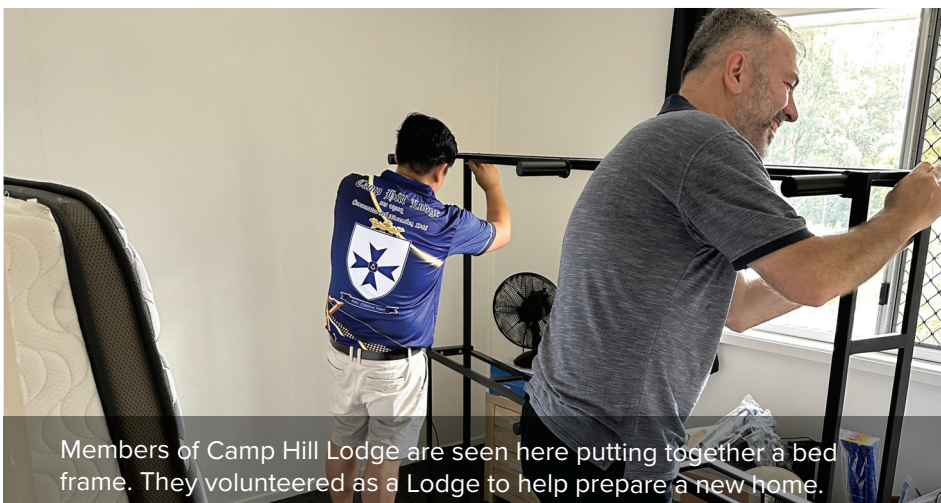
Members of Celtic of Ithaca Lodge donated \$4,000 to the Eccumenical Coffee Brigade to go towards coffee and sandwiches for the needy.

Celtic of Ithaca Lodge donated \$4,000 to the Eccumenical Coffee Brigade with matching from Hand Heart Pocket. The funds are for supplies of coffee and sandwiches that are distributed to community members experiencing hardship. They have 300 volunteers who take turns to make the sandwiches and operate the van every morning. Since 1970 they have distributed over 3 million cups of coffee.



Members of Camp Hill Lodge teamed up to help Friends with Dignity, a charity supporting women and children fleeing domestic violence.

Camp Hill Lodge gave their dollars and time to Friends with Dignity, a charity supporting women and children fleeing domestic violence to find secure housing. The Lodge gave a total of \$9,410, including matching from Hand Heart Pocket. Lodge Members also helped to get a house ready for new residents. Every effort is made to personalise the space depending on the family moving in.



Members of Camp Hill Lodge are seen here putting together a bed frame. They volunteered as a Lodge to help prepare a new home.

Send in your stories and photos to info@handheartpocket.org.au to be featured in our newsletter, website and Facebook page.

Photos must be at least 1MB in size. Please choose the large file option when sending in photos. Include a description of the donation and specify why the Lodge or individual Member wanted to make this contribution to your chosen charity.



Set up a new Local Community Partnership and get an extra \$10,000 for your charity!

Since Hand Heart Pocket Chairman Alasdair Begley announced the Chairman's Rewards promotion in December, it has been fantastic to see more Lodges reaching out to explore Local Community Partnerships in their areas.

Hand Heart Pocket's two-year Local Community Partnerships give Lodges a meaningful way to get involved locally — whether it's helping charities launch priority projects or expanding essential services for community members experiencing tough times.

Through the Chairman's Rewards promotion, Hand Heart Pocket will provide an extra \$5,000 per year to all Local Community Partnerships established by 30 June 2025.

This is in addition to the matching we provide for Lodges' volunteering, fundraising and giving efforts under the partnerships.

There's never been a better time to get active for your community.

We encourage all Lodge Secretaries to discuss this opportunity with Members when Lodge meetings resume in February 2025 and reach out to Hand Heart Pocket for more information.

Please contact our friendly team on (07) 3493 6000 or info@handheartpocket.org.au.



About Local Community Partnerships and the Chairman's Rewards promotion:

- Local Community Partnerships approved between 1 June 2023 and 30 June 2025 will be eligible to participate.

- All partnerships must be approved by Hand Heart Pocket prior to commencement.

- The additional \$10,000 donation will be provided to approved charities in \$5,000 instalments across the two years of the partnership.

- The participating Lodges will need to have undertaken at least 80% of the agreed volunteering, donating and/or fundraising activities for that year, unless otherwise agreed.

- Matched Giving under Local Community Partnerships in 2024-25 and beyond is capped at \$15,000 per annum, unless otherwise agreed.

- Lodges are encouraged to collaborate with other local Lodges under a partnership where feasible.

This offer will be available until the promotional budget allocation is exhausted.



Dates for your diary



Upcoming Hand Heart Pocket Presentations

5 March 2025

Tully Masonic Centre
11:00am-12:30pm

22 March 2025

Freshwaster Masonic Centre,
Cairns
1:30pm-3:00pm

3 April 2025

Tamborine Masonic Centre,
Mount Tamborine
7:30pm-9:00pm

23 April 2025

South Brisbane Masonic Hall,
Eight Mile Plains
7:30pm-9:00pm

Enquire now if you would like Hand Heart Pocket to present to your Lodge:

info@handheartpocket.org.au
(07) 3493 6000

Update your details

**Have you moved?
Prefer to receive this newsletter
by email?**

Update your contact
details by email or phone:

info@handheartpocket.org.au
(07) 3493 6000

Contact us:

Hand Heart Pocket, Level 1, 826 Ann St, Fortitude Valley Q 4006

PO Box 1202, Fortitude Valley Q 4006

Tel: 07 3493 6000 Email: info@handheartpocket.org.au Web: www.handheartpocket.org.au

The Board of Benevolence and of Aged Masons, Widows and Orphans' Fund trading as Hand Heart Pocket the Charity of Freemasons Queensland

ABN: 54 216 065 828 Charity No: CH2627

Find Hand Heart Pocket on:

