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**New partnership keeps home movers in Vinnies good graces**

The St Vincent de Paul Society and Grace Removals Group have joined forces to make donating quality, unwanted goods to charity even easier for the 43% of Aussies who have moved house recently.

The partnership, which is being piloted in New South Wales and Victoria, will see joint branded cardboard cartons supplied by Grace Removals to home movers, as part of their regular removal and storage service. It aims to take advantage of the approximate 15 – 50kg of unwanted good quality goods thrown out when people move house by facilitating donation of the goods to local Vinnies shops.

St Vincent de Paul Society NSW State Retail Centres Coordinator Jacqui Dropulic said the Society is always looking for ways to help generous Australians make donating their good quality unwanted items easier, and moving house is a natural time to assess what is no longer needed.

“We want to make it easy for people to donate to Vinnies, and in doing so helping to make a real difference in the lives of people experiencing disadvantage in their local communities. This initiative with Grace Removals is very exciting and we are thrilled to be working with them,” Ms Dropulic said.

Grace Removals Group Marketing Manager Diana Vizard said the company noticed a lot of good quality items being discarded as part of the relocation progress.

“People naturally want to declutter and sort out their belongings when they move. Our service charter is all about assisting our customers with any and all parts of the moving process. It was therefore a natural progression for Grace to offer a service assisting with the disposal of these items and to team up with Vinnies to ensure these items could be put to good use,” said Ms Vizard.

In the last year funds from Vinnies shops in NSW accounted for 48% of the Society’s total income. This funded Society programs throughout NSW including the operation of homelessness services, refuges, soup vans, provision of employment and financial support services, friendship programs for people living with mental illness, youth services, refugee assistance and resettling programs.

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