



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*November 13, 2018*

### **Vinnies teams up with Return-It for “Containers for Change”**

Townsville residents can now claim 10c for recyclable bottles and cans at Vinnies West End shop and then opt to donate to the charity to support its good works.

Vinnies has partnered with recycling specialist Return-It as part of the Queensland Government’s Containers for Change scheme which encourages the community to efficiently recycle eligible containers to process their 10c refund from kiosks inside Vinnies shops.

The refunds which are transferred to the customer’s bank account can be kept or donated to charity.

Containers for Change is an initiative of the Queensland Government under which Return-It will establish Express Drop Off units across charity shopfronts, including 18 Vinnies shops. The units allow customers to easily deliver recyclable materials, such as bottles, containers and other plastic items.

“Using these Express Drop Offs, customers can ensure their recyclable containers get recycled and not end up in our waterways or in landfill,” Vinnies Queensland Townsville Diocese Executive Officer Buffy Charles said.

“For every eligible container dropped off, the customer will receive 10 cents, which can be transferred to their own account, or donated to us to aide us in our mission to provide a hand up to Queenslanders in need.

“Even when the customer keeps the 10c for themselves, returning the containers via our shops helps us help people in need.

“This great initiative helps confirm our position as an environmentally friendly not-for-profit organisation, while allowing us the opportunity to raise much needed funds to support our many programs and services.”

Return-It Managing Director, David Singh said he was proud one of the first partnerships made in Queensland was with Vinnies.

“Vinnies is an iconic non-profit organisation in Queensland and integral in helping so many in our community. I think many people will opt to donate their refunds to this worthy organisation,” Mr Singh said.

“The great part about our model though, is that the charity benefits from every single container returned through their shop, whether or not people also chose to donate the 10c.”

“It is our intention to encourage thoughtfulness in the community, which really plays to scheme’s name ‘Containers for Change’. Return-It benefits the customer, the community and the environment and we can’t wait to see how the partnership grows,” said Mr Singh.

The Return-It Express units will be available at 18 Vinnies shops across Queensland which include: Acacia Ridge, West Ipswich, Rosewood, Gordonvale, Atherton, Tully, Innisfail, Cairns (Manunda), Boonah, Mareeba, Gatton, Oxley, Cairns (Earlville), Meadowbrook, South Toowoomba, Townsville (West End), Cairns (Woree) and Cannonvale.

For more information on Return-It, visit <https://returnit.com.au> or follow the recycling journey at <https://www.facebook.com/returnit> or <https://www.instagram.com/returnit>

For more information on Vinnies Queensland visit - <http://qld.vinnies.org.au>

***ABOUT:*** Return-It is part of Re.Group, an Australian company focused on providing high quality services for recycling and the recovery of resources from materials that society discards. With its highly credentialed team, Re.Group is supporting Australian communities to move towards a waste-free society.

<https://www.returnit.com.au>

<http://www.re-group.com>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO ORGANISE AN INTERVIEW OR TO REQUEST PHOTOGRAPHY, PLEASE CONTACT:**



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