



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **You can be a big wheel in Vinnies ability to help struggling Queenslanders**

They're the engine that keep Vinnies connected to the community, picking up donations of furniture and delivering them to people in need - and they need help.

Now's the chance for people to be big wheels at Vinnies, revving up their enthusiasm for helping their community, fuelling their passion for driving.

Vinnies are on the hunt for volunteer tip truck drivers and truck offsiders to keep the charity's operations humming along in and around Brisbane.

Tip truck drivers need to have their MR licence while offsiders just need to be physically fit.

Both roles are based out of Vinnies Lawnton storage facility and Vinnies can use as many people as possible.

Vinnies Brisbane region Executive Officer Ray O'Donnell said the two roles are vital to the charity's ability to help thousands of Brisbane residents each year.

"Our road teams are incredibly important to our ability to keep our shops full of quality stock, to pick up donated furniture and household items as well as delivering those items to struggling families and individuals," he said.

"Without them we just wouldn't reach as many people as we do and our shops wouldn't be able to make profits, which then are put back into local communities in the form of emergency assistance with food and clothing, No Interest Loans, mental health support, youth work and much more."

Volunteers need to wear steel cap boots but a high visibility shirt and gloves are provided by Vinnies, with the charity also providing training in workplace health and safety and safe manual handling techniques.

Volunteer are needed for at least one full day each week between 7am and 3pm Monday to Friday.

"All we ask is that people are fit, healthy, energetic and keen to make a difference in their community," Mr O'Donnell said.

"We were able to help more than 38,319 people last year, 12,225 of those were children under the age of 16, our trucks being on the road were a huge part of that."

Vinnies helped more than 369,000 Queenslanders in 2019 and provided more than \$5.3 million in financial assistance to people affected by natural disasters.

If you have a day to spare each week and would like to hit the road and help Vinnies contact Justin Emes at Vinnies Lawnton storage facility via email [justin.emes@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:justin.emes@svdpqld.org.au) or phone **07 3205 3207**.

**ENDS.**

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