

# Media Release

**coles** | Value the Australian way

12 January 2021

## COLES GROUP SHOPPERS BREAK FUNDRAISING RECORDS

***More than \$3.2 million donated to help feed vulnerable Australians and support families affected by childhood cancer***

Demonstrating the immense generosity of Australians in times of crisis, Coles Group raised a record \$3.2 million in the lead up to Christmas to help feed vulnerable Australians and support families affected by childhood cancer – more than 2.6 times the amount raised in its 2019 Christmas fundraising campaign<sup>1</sup>.

More than half the funds raised were from Coles supermarket customers who purchased a \$2 donation card at the check-out to support food rescue organisation, SecondBite and national children's cancer charity, Redkite. The sales of donation cards at Coles supermarkets increased to more than \$1.6 million, up from around \$778,000 in the previous year.<sup>2</sup>

Some of the most generous supermarket customers in each state shop at Broadway (NSW), Donvale (VIC), Firlie (SA), Palmerston (NT), Mowbray (TAS), Carindale (QLD), Midland (WA) and Gungahlin (ACT) which topped the list for the most donations in the country.

Coles Liquor also achieved record fundraising efforts at its Liquorland, Vintage Cellars and First Choice Liquor stores, raising a total of over \$720,000 for SecondBite, up almost 25% on Christmas 2019. First Choice Liquor in Falcon (WA), Maroochydore (QLD) and Morayfield (QLD) and Liquorland in Yarraville (VIC) were the highest fundraising liquor stores in the nation.

Coles Express customers donated more than \$425,000 for Redkite, six times the amount raised in the previous year's campaign, with customers rounding up their purchase to the nearest dollar or buying select Coles Express products for which Coles donated a portion of the sale proceeds.

In addition to donations by customers and team members, for the first time Coles Group donated \$200,000 worth of gift cards to nearly 2,000 families affected by childhood cancer to help make their festive season brighter.

The record fundraising efforts will provide much-needed support for SecondBite and Redkite, both of which faced increased demand for their services during the holiday season due to the impact of COVID-19.

Research released by SecondBite in November showed more than three-quarters of its food charities<sup>3</sup> expected Christmas would be more difficult for people they support in the community, with 72 per cent of agencies also reporting an increase in demand for food relief since COVID-19 began.

Redkite revealed in December 2020 that nearly a quarter of families they surveyed who have a child diagnosed with cancer, feared they couldn't afford basics like food, with nearly a third of respondents also saying they didn't think they could continue to provide for their families<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Total of \$1,223,110.35 donated in Christmas Appeal 2019

<sup>2</sup> \$2 donation cards were sold between 27 November and 24 December at Coles supermarkets in 2019 and between 25 November and 24 December in 2020.

<sup>3</sup> The SecondBite survey was undertaken from October to November 2020 and involved 214 community agencies which provide food relief to vulnerable people such as those who are experiencing homelessness unemployed, elderly and single parent families.

<sup>4</sup> Redkite COVID-19 Social Impact Assessment Survey was conducted between May and August 2020 involving 369 Redkite families. The findings released in December specifically relate to responses from 83 Redkite families in August.

SecondBite CEO Jim Mullan said that the \$1.57 million raised for SecondBite by Coles in the lead up to Christmas will help provide the equivalent of 7.8 million meals to people in need.

"2020 was an incredibly difficult year for families across the country and SecondBite could not have responded in the way we have without the support of the entire Coles team. 2021 will come with a range of legacy challenges from COVID and bushfires and their collective impact on both the economy and communities across the country," he said.

"The funds raised by the Coles team will allow us to deliver greater positive impact through the increased distribution of fresh and nutritious food to individuals, families and communities in need throughout Australia."

Redkite CEO Monique Keighery said the funds of almost \$1.5 million raised for Redkite, in addition to \$200,000 in gift cards donated by Coles Group, will go a long way to easing the pressure on families impacted by childhood cancer.

"Across Australia, demand for our counselling and support services went up by a massive 30 per cent as families grappled with the daunting task of keeping their immunocompromised child safe during the pandemic, along with the daily struggle of paying for groceries, household bills and hospital trips," she said.

"For families who have a child with cancer, 2020 was a devastating year but thanks to the incredibly generous support of Coles customers, Redkite will be able to stay on the frontlines to deliver the practical, emotional and financial support these families so desperately need."

Coles Group Chief Executive Officer Steven Cain said the Christmas Appeal shows just how important it is to support the community at such a challenging time for so many doing it tough.

"I would like to thank our customers who have generously donated during what was a very tough year with bushfires, floods, drought and COVID-19. I'm always amazed by the spirit of the community and our customers can be assured they are making a genuine difference to those who need it most," he said.

"I am thrilled with the way our team members came together for this Christmas Appeal, whether that be in supermarkets, liquor stores or Coles Express convenience stores. Their commitment to winning together with our community has truly inspired customers to support the important work of SecondBite to feed Australians in need and Redkite's invaluable help for families dealing with childhood cancer."

In addition to raising funds for SecondBite through the Christmas appeal, more than 765 Coles supermarkets donate surplus fresh food to SecondBite to distribute to around 1,100 community food programs across Australia.

Since 2011, Coles has helped donate enough surplus fresh food to SecondBite to provide the equivalent of 128 million meals to disadvantaged Australians. During COVID-19, Coles has also donated grocery essentials to the retail value of \$7.9 million to SecondBite and Foodbank to distribute to vulnerable Australians.

Coles' partnership with Redkite has spanned eight years, with nearly \$40 million raised to provide essential support to children and young people with cancer. Funds raised this Christmas will help families pay for rising household bills, medical and travel expenses.

**-ends-**

**For further information, please contact**

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## SUPERMARKETS

### STATE BY STATE FUNDRAISING AMOUNTS

State	\$
ACT	\$57,337
NSW	\$471,713
NT	\$89,130
QLD	\$253,776
SA	\$194,137
TAS	\$51,737
VIC	\$604,887
WA	\$130,362

### TOP 10 FUNDRAISING STORES IN AUSTRALIA

Store	\$
Broadway (NSW)	\$52,355
Donvale (VIC)	\$28,855
Palmerston (NT)*	\$25,817
Firle (SA)	\$20,894
Alice Springs (NT)	\$20,732
Carindale (QLD)	\$17,352
Point Cook (VIC)	\$16,882
Winmalee (NSW)	\$15,152
Burwood East (VIC)	\$13,850
Gungahlin (ACT)	\$12,116

\*Funds only raised for Redkite without any card sales

### HIGHEST FUNDRAISING STORES BY STATE

NSW	\$
Broadway	\$52,355
Winmalee	\$15,152
West Gosford	\$11,434
Casula	\$11,364
Goulburn	\$10,085
Winston Hills	\$9,355
North Rocks	\$8,021
Macquarie	\$7,324
Tumut	\$7,181
Bateau Bay	\$6,400

VIC	\$
Donvale	\$28,855
Point Cook	\$16,882
Burwood East	\$13,850
Elsternwick	\$11,129
Avondale Heights	\$8,360
The Pines	\$8,204
Braybrook Ballarat Rd	\$7,982
Ballarat	\$7,849
Camberwell	\$7,815
Ivanhoe	\$7,760

QLD	\$
Carindale	\$17,352
Browns Plains	\$7,595
The Pines	\$7,139
Newfarm	\$5,617
Noosa	\$5,335
Logan Central	\$5,187
Sippy Downs	\$4,925
Fairfield Central	\$4,785
Morayfield	\$4,710
Nambour	\$4,415

ACT	\$
Gungahlin	\$12,116
Canberra Civic	\$10,431
Jamison	\$8,307
Belconnen	\$6,160
Woden Plaza	\$5,769

NT	\$
Palmerston*	\$25,817
Alice Springs	\$20,732
Coolalinga	\$11,132
Oasis	\$9,940
Casuarina	\$7,411

SA	\$
Firle	\$20,894
Port Augusta	\$10,198
Mount Barker	\$9,616
Salisbury Downs	\$8,629
Churchill Centre	\$7,705
Burnside	\$7,475
Munno Para	\$7,173
Gawler	\$6,784
Victor Harbor	\$5,743
St Agnes	\$5,733

WA	\$
Midland	\$9,275
Ocean Keys	\$7,757
Meadow Springs	\$6,160
Warwick Grove	\$4,038
Whitford	\$3,930
Maddington	\$3,904
Chinatown	\$2,857
Byford	\$2,615
Victoria Park East	\$2,468
Beldon	\$2,458

TAS	\$
Mowbray	\$7,360
Devonport	\$7,264
Meadow Mews	\$5,556
Newstead	\$5,200
Racecourse	\$4,602

## COLES EXPRESS

### STATE BY STATE FUNDRAISING AMOUNTS

State	\$
ACT	\$5,529
NSW	\$111,638
NT	\$13,220
QLD	\$87,883
SA	\$52,176
TAS	\$4,986
VIC	\$91,557
WA	\$58,556

### TOP 10 FUNDRAISING STORES IN AUSTRALIA

Store	\$
GOULBURN BIG MERINO	\$4,988
YALLAH	\$4,862
WHYALLA	\$3,759
DONCASTER	\$3,681
WALLSEND EAST	\$3,631
COORPAROO	\$3,146
ANGLESEA	\$3,118
HUNTERS HILL	\$3,112
RESERVOIR (QLD)	\$2,867
ALICE SPRINGS MT GILLEN	\$2,757

## LIQUOR

### FUNDRAISING AMOUNTS BY BRAND

State	\$
Liquorland	\$502,536
First Choice	\$173,986
Vintage Cellars	\$43,571

### TOP 10 FUNDRAISING STORES IN AUSTRALIA

Store	\$
Falcon	\$8,922
Maroochydore	\$7,773
Morayfield	\$7,568
Yarraville	\$6,393
Runaway Bay	\$6,274
San Remo	\$6,011
Berwick North	\$5,451
Duncraig	\$5,348
Cleveland	\$5,3445
Rosebud	\$5,232