



MEDIA RELEASE

Bushfire Support for Children with Autism

15 January 2020

Senator Hollie Hughes has spent the New Year sourcing hundreds of sensory items to send to autistic children in fire affected areas.

The emotional, physical and environmental impact of the bushfires affects everyone differently. For children with autism in fire affected areas, processing such a big and life changing event can be extra challenging.

Senator Hughes' son has autism so she has an understanding of how difficult it can be to comprehend an unexpected event, "Being evacuated can be traumatic for anyone but autistic people rely on routine and predictability so this situation can be even more challenging for them and their families."

"By offering access to some sensory objects hopefully we can provide some relief, and for those families who were forced to evacuate quickly having to leave special interest objects behind, be it Thomas the Tank Engine train sets to train timetables, I'd like to help source a replacement for them while these families get back on their feet." Senator Hughes said.

If you are a bushfire affected family with a child with autism or you know of a family that could benefit from this, please complete the form here www.holliehughes.com.au/bushfires/ and we will endeavour to get the sensory items to them as soon as possible.

Media Contacts:

Hughes: Aerin Gordon Heinrich 62773610 / 0419 555 560