



Public Libraries Support in Disaster Response and Recover

1. Let our community know they can use the library as a place gather, to gain free access to the internet and get some time out
 - a. Consider longer opening hours
2. Set up a meeting room so that kids can watch movies and play together
3. Act as a collection or information point for donations (financial and/ or in-kind)
 - a. Provide a 'Book Valet' service (personalised reading recommendations) for those who donate to recovery efforts
4. Support programs and seminars that give people a reason to visit the library and learn skills that will support their recovery
5. Encourage community to work together and support charitable activities (eg sewing groups)
 - a. Provide patterns / classes / and workshops for the recovery needs of injured wildlife
6. Allow staff to take leave so they can volunteer in their community and or support libraries in disaster affected communities
7. Support affected community members who are trying to navigate E Gov
8. Automatically renew all items on loan (with the exception of holds 😊)
9. Forgive the fines of people who have been directly impacted by the disaster
10. Curate a list of books and other resources about bushfires for children, youth and adults to facilitate discussion and help with recovery (bibliotherapy).
 - a. Blog posts of how to talk with children about bushfires, resilience, and trauma
11. Support and train staff to enable them to support their community

Beyond support from libraries the link below contains useful information and links for those wishing to donate money to verified bushfire related causes and also provides advise on how to avoid scammers.

https://help.givenow.com.au/hc/en-us/articles/360001315355-How-can-I-donate-to-help-with-the-bushfires?utm_source=ourcommunity.com.au&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2020_bushfires