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Caroline Chisholm Society seeking donations to help underprivileged mums and their children

Natalie Filmer, Melton Leader

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THE Caroline Chisholm Society support agency is in desperate need of preloved prams and baby carriers to give to struggling mums.

Caroline Chisholm Society chief executive Helen Cooney said the agency had been handing out baby slings and carriers in place of prams and had now run out of them, too.

“We are calling on people who may have a pram set aside in their garage,” Ms Cooney said.

“We’re asking them to give their hand-me-down to someone who doesn’t have that family support. We find that prams can help reduce isolation because they allow a mum to get out of the house and take baby down the street. It’s better that a pram be used by someone than left sitting in a garage. ”

Prams must be less than 12 years old and meet current safety standards and baby carriers or slings cleaned and ready for use.

“We treat the donated goods as gifts from the community,” Ms Cooney said.

“We ask that people be as particular with their donations for others’ children as they would be for their own child.”

The society’s material aid program also “gratefully receives” other preloved baby equipment and clothing.

“We are very grateful for gifts received with price tags still on,” Ms Cooney said.

“It’s better that a child wears it than it be pushed to the back of a wardrobe.

“We’ll accept anything near-new for children under school age. And, perhaps, when people next go into the supermarket they could pick up a bag of nappies to donate.”

***Drop-offs to the Society’s Caroline Springs and Moonee Ponds locations can be arranged by calling 9361 7000.**