To: [\_NAME-]

Activities Officer

Bunnings [LOCATION]

[\_ADDRESS\_1\_]

[\_ADDRESS\_2\_]

Hi [\_FIRST\_NAME\_]

There are nearly 3/4 MILLION children living in poverty in Australia today and, when you are struggling to put food on the table, children's books are a luxury.

123Read2Me Limited provides FREE children's books (new and recycled) to at-risk children in a non-threatening, no expectations, open manner to ensure that even the 'service-avoiders’ can participate. Their total to date is almost a quarter of a million books given away.

The Lions Club of [\_\_\_CLUB\_NAME\_\_\_\_] has partnered with 123Read2Me to provide books to more disadvantaged Australian children and to establish more children’s book donation points in our community

Each of our book donation points consist of a pop up banner (2000 x 830) to attract attention to a branded 100 litre wheelie bin.

The purpose of this letter is two-fold: to request Bunnings [LOCATION]’s donation of [NUMBER] of these 100 litre wheelie bins to facilitate our community service work AND to allow us to conduct Free Children’s Book Days, once a month in store, with a permanent Book Collection Point set up in your foyer. There are a growing number of Bunnings stores across the country now supporting this great initiative and we would welcome your participation as well.

123Read2Me works closely with educators, health workers and carers to have FREE age appropriate and relevant books available at appropriate venues, including Maternal & Child Health Centres, Child Care Centres, Kindergartens and Primary school for kids to take home and enjoy, as well as some Centrelink offices and local fish & chip shops.

The evidence is clear. Having more books in more homes of at-risk children means more children will be read to.

Nobel Prize winning international research, confirmed by Melbourne University, has proven the direct causal link: Those children who have been consistently read aloud to (only 10-15 minutes a day) between birth and 5 years of age have more success at school and in life.

The entire community benefits. With basic literacy foundations in place before school, children will perform better, easing the strain on teachers and reducing the need for expensive remedial literacy programs. Higher literacy rates by the end of primary school reduces the incidence of anti-social behaviour, alcohol and substance abuse, child abuse, marriage and relationship breakdowns, unemployment, social disadvantage, and the cycle of poverty.

Thank you, in anticipation

Yours sincerely

[\_YOUR\_NAME\_]

Lions Club of [\_\_\_CLUB\_NAME\_\_\_\_]

***123Read2Me Limited*** is *an Australian Public Benevolent Institution and Registered Charity with DGR, item 1 / TCC status.*

*-...because even disadvantaged children need books.*

***The 123Read2Me - The Free Children’s Book Project is*** *a Lions Clubs Reading Action Project, with the support of the Lions Club Of Mordialloc Mentone Inc*