Call goes out for cots

Sally Heppleston

A campaign to make a real difference to new families in need is on again this year.

St Kilda Mums Cots for Tots wants people to donate nursery equipment and children’s clothing for disadvantaged families.

Last year, with the help of Leader Newspapers, Cots for Tots collected 200 donated cots in six weeks.

This year, St Kilda Mums hopes to collect 400 cots.

Chief executive Jessica Macpherson said the target was ambitious but achievable. "Through circumstances often beyond their control, some families need a helping hand," Ms Macpherson said. "I know if we put out this call to action, hundreds of families will see what a difference they can make by donating their preloved cot to another family, or donating funds for a new cot."

Mont Albert mother of two Sally Hoguet is always looking for used baby items that can be passed on to families in need. Ms Hoguet also volunteers at the warehouse sorting and bundling clothes, to get them ready to be distributed, and keeps an eye out for what people put on their nature strips for hard rubbish collection, because often the items are good enough to be rehomed.

"I got a call recently about a pram out the front of an op-shop. It was in beautiful condition, and op-shops can’t rehome prams, but St Kilda Mums can," Ms Hoguet said. Cots are always the most sought-after item.

St Kilda Mums cleans and repairs donated items to make sure they meet safety requirements.

Details: stkildamums.org