The Cots for Tots campaign, run by the not-for-profit group St Kilda Mums, aims to collect 400 cots by May 31.

Run by five mothers, and with a team of 400 volunteers including Moonee Ponds’ Aisha Radebe, St Kilda Mums collects and rehomes nursery items for families in need, with cots being the most sought after item.

Chief executive Jessica Macpherson said up to 50 cots were needed each month, which were then cleaned and repaired to ensure they met national safety requirements before state welfare agencies gifted them to families.

Ms Radebe, a mother of three, said she loved that the charity took so much time to ensure donated items were “packaged beautifully”.

“It breaks my heart that in this country there are people whose babies don't have a safe place to sleep.”