



Royal Flying Doctor Service

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MEDIA RELEASE

30 June, 2016

RFDS Kalgoorlie welcomes visiting Governor-General

Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove will tour the Royal Flying Doctor Service Goldfields facility during his visit to Kalgoorlie on **July 4** to view first-hand the life-saving services provided by the Flying Doctor in Western Australia.

RFDS Executive General Manager Corporate Affairs Nick Harvey said staff at the Kalgoorlie facility welcomed the opportunity to meet His Excellency, showcase their facilities, and talk about the important work that they do.

Mr Harvey said the local team was excited to meet the Governor-General, who is also the national Patron of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

“The RFDS Kalgoorlie operating base has been an integral and essential part of the Goldfields community since it was established in 1937,” Mr Harvey said.

“Over the past 80 years we have grown and expanded our Goldfields operations as the region enjoyed the successes of the resource boom and grew in population from thousands to now tens of thousands of people who live or work in the region.

“We look forward to hosting our Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove and sharing with him the life saving work that we provide 365 days a year across our state.”

Mr Harvey said nearly 70,000 people in Western Australia received medical assistance, including aero medical retrievals, telehealth consultations and primary health care clinics, from the RFDS during the past 12 months.

Over the past year more than 1,300 people were transferred from the Goldfields region, including many local children younger than 15.

“Last year the RFDS provided aero medical assistance to 25 patients per day on average across our vast state, which is more than one person every hour of the day,” he said.

The RFDS responds to a range of medical conditions, the most common in the Goldfields in the past 12 months was as a result of injury and poisoning illnesses, with many patients also treated and transferred due to cardiovascular problems.

To donate to the RFDS, call 1800 669 569 or visit www.flyingdoctor.org.au.

ENDS

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Photo opportunity details over page

Media are invited to capture images and footage of the Governor-General Peter Cosgrove with RFDS Executive General Manager Corporate Affairs Nick Harvey during the visit. To attend please confirm your interest to details above.

Date: July 4
Time: 4.00pm
Location: RFDS Kalgoorlie base, Kalgoorlie Boulder airport, Hart Kerspien Drive, Kalgoorlie
Details: Assemble at base administration, please wear closed in foot wear.