

MEDIA RELEASE

RFDS opens its Kalgoorlie facilities for Emergency Services Open Day

11th May, 2016

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) will open the doors to its Kalgoorlie facilities this Saturday for the 12th annual RFDS Open Day.

The RFDS Visitor Centre will be open for tours of the facility, including an up close look at one of the 14 Pilatus PC-12 aircraft the service operates here in WA. Local emergency service groups including St John Ambulance, Kalgoorlie Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service, and the State Emergency Service will also be on display, providing insight into the wonderful work they do in the community.

"This is a free event, and we welcome families to visit our facilities and learn more about how the emergency service providers work within our local community," said event organiser and Kalgoorlie RFDS Local Area Marketing Coordinator Cathy Parker.

"The demand for our services remains strong in the Goldfields, and during the past 12 months the RFDS transferred almost 1,300 patients from the Goldfields region alone – many of these were children under the age of 15.

"This is a great chance for families to get a feel for the services we provide, and meet some real heroes within our community," Mrs Parker said. "There will be plenty of entertainment for the kids including a bouncy castle and face painting, as well as food, drink and craft stalls."

An RFDS nurse, pilot and doctor will be present on the day to demonstrate firsthand how the RFDS is able to provide life saving services to anyone who lives, works or travels across our vast state.

The Open Day is being held at the Kalgoorlie RFDS Facilities which is adjacent to the Kalgoorlie Airport, and will be this Saturday 14th May from 10.00am to 1.30pm.

Along with all the activities and entertainment, there will be raffles including a signed West Coast Eagles Football, with all proceeds going to support the RFDS.

For more information please contact Cathy Parker on (08) 9093 7590 or email <u>Cathy.Parker@rfdswa.com.au</u>.

The RFDS provides emergency care, lifesaving outcomes, and health treatment and advice to almost 70,000 people in Western Australia every year and has done now in WA for more than 80 years. To donate to the RFDS call 1300 669 569 or visit <u>www.flyingdoctor.org.au</u>.

ENDS

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