



# Royal Flying Doctor Service

*The furthest corner. The finest care.*

## MEDIA RELEASE

### RFDS reflects on commitment during NAIDOC week

6<sup>th</sup> July 2016

The Royal Flying Doctor Service is committed to its Reconciliation Action Plan which was launched earlier this year, with the purpose of improving health outcomes and access to health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

During NAIDOC week the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Western Australia is reflecting on its commitment to provide improved health outcomes and access to all members of our community.

Executive General Manager Corporate Affairs for the RFDS in WA Nick Harvey said NAIDOC week is a chance to reflect on the rich and diverse history of our country, and on the commitment the RFDS has to its communities.

“The RFDS has been providing aero medical retrievals and primary health care to Western Australians for over 80 years,” Mr Harvey said. “We service a vast state, which includes a large number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.”

Over the 2014/15 period, the RFDS in Western Australia aero medically retrieved 2,727 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descendants, and provided 8,737 more with medical assistance and advice through its Primary Health Care Clinic program.

“Due to an increase in demand for our life saving services in the north of our state, we recently opened our first new operating facility in 50 years, in Broome,” Mr Harvey said. “This is an example of our unflinching commitment to providing the best health outcomes to the people of Western Australia, including remote and isolated communities.”

The RFDS provides emergency care, life-saving outcomes, and health treatment and advice to almost 70,000 people in Western Australia every year and has done now in WA for over 80 years. To donate to the RFDS call 1800 669 569 visit [www.flyingdoctor.org.au](http://www.flyingdoctor.org.au).

**ENDS**

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