



Royal Flying Doctor Service

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Local gold exploration company grateful for flying doctor

May 27, 2015

A Goldfields exploration company is grateful to the Royal Flying Doctor after two of its team in two consecutive days were provided with aero medical evacuations from its site east of Laverton.

Gold Road Resources General Manager Sharon Goddard said one person was flown from site to Kalgoorlie with suspected appendicitis and has now fully recovered, with a second person also taken to Kalgoorlie the next day with suspected heart complications.

“Our team is enormously grateful to the RFDS for taking care of two of our people and we admire the work the flying doctor does every day,” Ms Goddard said.

“We have recently also updated our airstrip at site to ensure that is RFDS approved.

“Some of our team were already aware of the RFDS but now all of our people have the flying doctor as their charity of choice. The tin went around site and everyone was putting money in after two of our team members were retrieved.”

RFDS Chief Executive Officer Grahame Marshall said the Royal Flying Doctor Service has a proud history and this year celebrates 80 years of delivering its life saving services to every corner of WA.

“The RFDS uses the latest in aviation, medical and communications technology and delivers extensive primary health care and 24-hour aero medical emergency service to those who live, work and travel right around WA,” Mr Marshall said.

“We must continue to look into the future and ensure that we are prepared to meet the needs of West Australians, at any time they may call upon us.

“Recently we launched the RFDS Aero Medical Fund which will provide a platform to promote four core investment pillars of the RFDS – Aero Medical Excellence, Community Health, Innovation, and Leadership and highlight the need for individuals and corporate partners to support the future of the RFDS.”

In 2014 alone, the RFDS transported almost 9,000 sick and injured patients by air across WA for treatment, and received almost 34, 706 patient contacts for medical assistance and advice. Its pilots flew almost eight million kilometres and made over 16,000 landings – at times on dirt air strips or closed highways.

By 2020 it is expected that the RFDS will operate and deliver;

- 80,000 patient contacts per year
- 11,855 patient transports per year
- An aircraft fleet of 20 including 3 Pilatus PC24 Jets.

For more information about the RFDS or to donate check out www.flyingdoctor.org.au or call 1300 669 569.

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