

Media Release

30 October 2019

Jandakot Open Day a flying success

The Flying Doctor was extremely proud to welcome thousands of Western Australians, from city to country, to its Jandakot base for an Open Day on Saturday, 26 October.

More than 6000 members of the community came through the iconic 90-year-old organisation's hangar doors where its fleet of two Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24 jet aircraft and 16 PC-12 turboprop aircraft are serviced.

Visitors also scored the opportunity of a lifetime as they toured the active aeromedical base, witnessing the Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24 jet aircraft take off at Jandakot Airport for a retrieval in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

The Flying Doctor team of pilots, engineers, nurses, doctors and operations crew were on hand to share with visitors their passion for the service, their expertise and insights delivering life-saving care across the state.

There was plenty to learn and engage with, our medical crews sharing some important grassroots advice on how to treat a snake bite, the Coordination Centre team showcasing the evolution of communications over the decades and our tours of the PC-12 turboprop aircraft.

For some, the Open Day offered an opportunity to reunite with the in-flight crew who assisted them or a loved one in their time of need.

On behalf of our people and patients, we thank the Western Australian community for attending to learn more about our essential service and for their ongoing support.

For more photos from the day, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1391142474384599/>

Ends

Media Enquiries

Ivy James, RFDS Media and Communications Manager | M: 0438 941 058 | E: Ivy.James@RFDSWA.com.au

Editor's Notes

- **Bases:** Jandakot, Kalgoorlie, Meekatharra, Port Hedland and Broome;
- **Fleet:** 16 PC-12 turboprop aircraft and two Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24 jet aircraft;
- **Services:** 24-hour emergency aero medical retrievals, rural and remote GP clinics and dental services, telehealth and medical chests;
- **Statistics:** During FY18-19, the Flying Doctor reached and provided in-flight medical care to 8,682 patients across Western Australia. That's approximately 24 men, women and children flown to safety each day.
- During FY18-19, RFDS Western Operations flew nearly 8 million kilometres to reach its patients across the state. That's approximately 200 times around the world!
- Each Flying Doctor aircraft is equipped with state-of-the-art aero medical equipment to support in-flight medical emergencies and serve as Intensive Care Units in the sky;
- All RFDS flight nurses are qualified midwives; and
- Western Australia spans more than 2.5 million square kilometres and is the most remote health jurisdiction in the world; and
- In 2019, the Flying Doctor of Western Australia was announced as the winner of the Dr Mal Bryce Tech Company of the Year at the INCITE Awards, based on the fit-out and performance of the Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24 jets.