



## **Ambulance Service of New South Wales**

**media release**

**16 February 2007**

### **BEHIND EVERY GREAT ORGANISATION IS A GREAT TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS**

16 February 2007 is NSW Health Volunteers Appreciation Day and the Ambulance Service of New South Wales (Ambulance) would like to thank its great team of volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to help others.

Ambulance is a dynamic part of the NSW health system and an integral link in the NSW community network. Mr Greg Rochford, Chief Executive for Ambulance said "We have a wide range of volunteers who play an important part in the delivery of pre-hospital care and patient welfare. These volunteers include Honorary Ambulance Officers, Peer Support Officers, Chaplains and Consumer Representatives".

Their range of duties includes:

- First response to incidents in remote areas of NSW.
- Providing a 24 hour early intervention service to colleagues who experience stress as a result of exposure to traumatic workplace incidents.
- Providing pastoral care and spiritual support to employees, patients and their families.
- Ensuring community views are considered by Ambulance, through valuable feedback on proposed initiatives.

"Volunteers are our quiet achievers who go about their business providing support to their community and their colleagues. On behalf of the staff and the community of New South Wales, I thank our volunteers for their ongoing commitment." Mr Rochford concluded.

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For further information or local media opportunities please contact Ambulance Media on (02) 9320 7796.