



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**24 April 2019**

## **CFA DISTRICT 14 ON THE HOP OVER EASTER WEEKEND – RAISE \$158,000**

CFA brigades from District 14 spent Good Friday shaking tins for the Royal Childrens' Hospital Good Friday Appeal, but they were kept on the hop thanks to more than 140 emergency responses calls that interrupted their efforts.

CFA District 14 covers an area ranging from Werribee and Truganina in the west to Eltham and North Warrandyte in the northwest, and is one of the busiest CFA districts in Victoria.

Over the weekend CFA brigades in the district had a total of 142 responses, mobilising around 500 CFA volunteer firefighters. This included brigades supporting their neighbouring brigades at incidents outside their primary area.

For example, Epping and Diamond Creek CFAs were among the volunteer brigades that responded to support South Morang CFA on Good Friday. CFA, supported by Metropolitan Fire Brigade, fought a fire at a cabinet-making business with around 70 firefighters and 17 appliances, including Epping's Pumper and Rescue appliances, involved in the firefighting effort. The fire began about midday and was brought under control around 2pm.

Despite interruptions, District 14 brigades raised more than **\$158,000** for the Appeal.

Mark Gravell, CFA District 14 President for Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria, said the busy brigades in the outer area of Melbourne provided operational support for nearby brigades as well as in their own primary response area.

Mr Gravell said CFA's respected surge capacity in urban and rural areas happened every day, not just during large fires.

"CFA's highly active volunteer presence in outer Melbourne means dozens of trained firefighters can turn out to incidents in other locations and still maintain service levels in their primary response area," Mr Gravell said.

Mr Gravell said being a CFA volunteer is a great opportunity for people who enjoy teamwork, a physical and mental challenge, and who want to provide a meaningful contribution in their community. "Whether you want to attend incidents as a firefighter or work in support, logistics and communications roles, you are welcome to apply."

People interested in being a CFA volunteer can contact their local brigades via Facebook or their brigade websites.

Breakdown of funds raised by brigades in District 14:

- Werribee and Wyndam Vale - \$69,451.00
- Epping and Doreen - \$11,548.40
- Truganina - \$15,128.30
- Hoppers Crossing - \$6,406.25
- Point Cook - \$31,942.30
- Kangaroo Ground - \$5,500.00
- Diamond Creek - \$5,993.30
- Research - \$5,982.60
- Yarrambat and Plenty - \$6,281.75

**Total - \$158,233.90**

**Media enquiries:**

Megan Lane – 0431 671 999