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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2025: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

National Volunteer Week 2025 (19 – 25 May) is a time to celebrate and acknowledge the extraordinary contributions of volunteers across Australia. With nearly six million Australians giving their time to help others, this week highlights their impact, dedication, and the vital role they play in building stronger, more resilient communities.

This year's theme, **Connecting Communities**, is a powerful reminder that behind every emergency response, community initiative, and act of kindness is a volunteer making a difference. Volunteers help weave the social fabric that binds us, fostering trust, unity, and strength across Western Australia.

At DFES we are proud to recognise the efforts of more than 26,000 fire and emergency services volunteers. Their dedication, expertise, and selflessness are integral to our emergency response capability across the State.

Over the past year, volunteers from all services have answered the call – fighting fires, responding to floods, conducting searches and rescues, engaging in community education and most of all saving lives. They are often the first to respond and the last to leave, supporting our communities in some of the most challenging circumstances.

National Volunteer Week offers us all a chance to pause and express our gratitude. While many volunteers expect no recognition, it is important that we celebrate their service and the deep connections they foster in our communities. We encourage all DFES staff and regions to actively recognise and showcase the contributions of volunteers throughout the week.

As a tribute, fire and emergency services volunteers will be featured on the Yagan Square digital tower, a public celebration of their service that will appear at various times during the week. Keep an eye out and join us in honouring those who give so much to keep our communities safe.

For more information, please contact Strategic Volunteer and Youth Programs at volunteering@dfes.wa.gov.au.

MELISSA PEXTON
ACTING COMMISSIONER