

School media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



MFS take powerful RAP message to Year 11's

Fire-fighters from the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) will be taking a powerful road safety message to Year 11 students on **Tuesday August 2nd 2016 at 1:00pm – Jamestown Community School.**

The fire-fighters will be delivering the MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP).

The MFS RAP, supported by RAA, Adelaide BMW and the Australian Professional Fire-fighters Foundation, is a successful program presented by MFS fire-fighters in Secondary Schools throughout metropolitan Adelaide and regional South Australia. The program has been running for nine years, delivering in excess of 850 presentations to over 95,000 recipients. Statistics show that road crashes are one of the biggest killers for 16-19 year olds throughout Australia.

The MFS fire-fighters present a hard hitting and emotional RAP where they give the students the opportunity to see the consequences of bad decision making. Their message is through "Concentration and Common-sense" almost all road crashes are avoidable. The MFS believes that if we start with new drivers at 16 years old we can create a positive generational change in driving attitudes, decision making and behaviours giving our students the opportunity to significantly reduce the carnage on our roads.

MFS fire-fighters believe the road safety message is getting through to young people and there are positive signs of generational change underway.

Statistics show the following deaths occurred on South Australian roads for 16-19 year olds; there has also been a reduction in serious injuries:

YEAR	FATALITIES
2010	19
2011	6
2012	7
2013	2

The reduction in fatalities and serious injuries has coincided with RAP doubling its reach from 2011 – 2013 with the addition of a second RAP presenter.

The program is a classroom presentation which takes students through the realities of road crashes. A feature of the presentation is a road crash survivor relating his or her experience and making an impassioned plea for the students to learn from their mistakes.

As road users we get to choose the risk – but we don't get to choose the consequence. Our young drivers will learn to be road users with good attitudes, make smart decisions and understand that safe behaviour on the road is their responsibility.

Fire-fighters will deliver the RAP Presentation at **Jamestown Community School.**

Date: Tuesday August 2nd

Time: 1:00pm

For more information, please contact Rod Campbell (MFS RAP Program Co-ordinator) 8204 3703 or Chas Thomas (MFS RAP Program Co-ordinator) 8204 3618