



**Date: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

**Time: 10:30am**

**Location: Snowy Hydro SouthCare Helicopter Base (David Warren Road, Symonston)**

*Available for interview: Owen Finegan (SHSC CEO), Georgina Byron (The Snow Foundation CEO), Snowy Hydro SouthCare crew member.*

---

## **The Snow Foundation grants Snowy Hydro SouthCare lifesaving ventilator**

The Snow Foundation has granted Snowy Hydro SouthCare a significant contribution of \$25,000 towards a new ventilator system. The funds have been used to purchase an essential piece of equipment that has helped the region's local rescue helicopter to further enhance the provision of health services in the ACT and Southern NSW.

The ventilator is an upgrade on the previous one used and enables enhanced treatment of paediatric and bariatric patients. The numbers of these patients is increasing as per the ACT & SE NSW Aero-Medical Service Ltd Board review and is likely to increase further based on service projections and population planning studies.

Snowy Hydro SouthCare CEO, Mr Owen Finegan says: "The replacement ventilator provides optimal ventilation therapy for our patients during transport anytime, anywhere. It is also more useable for all patients on board the Snowy Hydro SouthCare Helicopter in particular it allows the crew to more safely ventilate children under 20 kilograms and larger patients".

The Snow Foundation was established by brothers Terry and George Snow in 1991 to provide a helping hand to those who are struggling or disadvantaged in Canberra and the surrounding regions. The Snow Foundation CEO, Ms Georgina Byron says: "I am delighted that the Snow Foundation is supporting Snowy Hydro SouthCare with an upgrade to the current ventilation system. It was a straightforward decision for us. It is wonderful to play a small part in this incredibly valuable and essential service in our community."

The Foundation focuses primarily on three key areas of need: Health, Social Welfare, and Education/Employment. Since 1991, The Snow Foundation has donated \$5.5 million to the community, supporting more than 200 charities and individuals in greater Canberra. "Health is one of our three key focus areas and providing critical medical equipment is a vital element in our strategy. This improvement to the Transport Ventilator can mean the difference between a successful rescue versus a potential setback. Patients are most vulnerable during transportation, and maintaining the highest possible standard of ventilation is critical" says Ms Byron.

Snowy Hydro SouthCare began on 1 October 1998, as the primary provider of aero-medical and rescue helicopter services to people in the ACT and South-Eastern NSW. Since that time, the Service has completed over 5,000 missions.



Contact: Kate van Haalen  
Email: [kvanhaalen@snowyhydrosouthcare.com.au](mailto:kvanhaalen@snowyhydrosouthcare.com.au)  
Phone: (02) 6205 1582 Mob: 0404 678 300  
Fax: (02) 6207 9927  
**MEDIA LINE: (02) 6207 8525**

**NB: Please note that our full registered business name is Snowy Hydro SouthCare, please ensure you use the correct terminology when reporting. Many thanks.**

*Call (02) 6205 1582 or visit [www.snowyhydrosouthcare.com.au](http://www.snowyhydrosouthcare.com.au) for more information.*