

## Media Release

For immediate release  
15<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Save a life this cyclone season! Become a St John Volunteer

It's part of Territory life and the official start to the cyclone season commences on 1 November. At St John Ambulance NT are already preparing for the deluge.

St John NT provides first aid volunteers in up to 16 cyclone shelters around the Darwin area each cyclone season and is calling on Top Enders to be prepared and lend a hand in their local community, by becoming a cyclone shelter volunteer.

In the event of an impending cyclone, these shelters are opened and become home to hundreds of people. It's there that St John NT's first aid volunteers are on standby to treat anything from cuts, bruises and broken bones to potentially saving a life.

'Being a cyclone shelter volunteer is perfect for people who are unable to commit to regular volunteering but are able to assist a couple of times over the wet season should their local shelter open. By becoming a volunteer, you can make a real difference when it matters and we want people to know that we offer flexible volunteering options. If you are interested in becoming a cyclone shelter volunteer, St John will provide the necessary training, uniforms and equipment, our only request from you is your time.' said Mark Ferguson, Director Volunteer First Aid Services.

'Cyclone shelter volunteers will be trained over a 5 week induction course of 2 hours per week, with the course commencing on 3 October. They will attain a St John Ambulance accredited First Aid Certificate as well as learning about other important topics such as patient rights, records and infection control to name a few.

Once induction course training is completed, people will be ready to volunteer in cyclone shelters where they will assist alongside experienced volunteers, trained paramedics and emergency services personnel.

For more information please contact the Volunteer Office on 89226205 or visit our website at [www.stjohnnt.org.au](http://www.stjohnnt.org.au)

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