



# Media Release

## MFS host free Road Awareness Program for the Mount Gambier community

13 February 2023

After enduring a road crash and 46 days clinging to life in a coma, Yudhi Mohan-Ram is quietly spoken, but his message of survival is powerful.

Yudhi will join Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) Firefighter Josh Byerlee in delivering the powerful Road Awareness Program (RAP) to the **Mount Gambier** community through a **free** 'Public RAP' on Monday 27 February.

Held at the Mount Gambier Community RSL, MFS Firefighter Josh Byerlee will share his first-hand experience of the trauma suffered by all parties involved in fatal and non-fatal road crashes, whilst Yudhi takes participants on an emotional journey about how one moment changed his life forever.

Yudhi said he hopes that sharing his story of survival will inspire the **Mount Gambier** Community to make safe decisions on our roads.

"As a Crash Survivor the broken bones heal – but the emotional and traumatic scarring never leaves and it's with you day and night making its presence felt.

"Through sharing my story, I'd like to help reduce road trauma and empower all road users to make smart, responsible choices. You can choose the risk, but you can't choose the consequence," said Yudhi.

Yudhi was given a less than 10 % chance of survival after a P-Plater ran a stop sign and t-boned his motorcycle. His long recovery included having his voice box rebuilt four times. He now uses his voice to inspire a reduction in the road toll amongst young people.

MFS Firefighter and RAP Presenter, Josh Byerlee has responded to many road crashes throughout his career. He says firefighters remain determined to reach all road users.

"For every fatality on South Australian roads, roughly nine people are seriously injured. That means losing limbs, serious brain injuries, burns to 60-70% of their body. We see horrific injuries.

"We want everyone to be aware of the risks involved with being a road user and to make informed choices. One life lost on the road is one too many," said MFS firefighter Josh Byerlee.

While RAP confronts participants with the realities of driving and being road users, it's also designed to inspire and equip them with a broader understanding of how their choices impact others, and how they can support each other to make better decisions.

**WHAT:** MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP) presentation to the general public  
**WHEN:** Monday, 27 February 2023  
**TIME:** 6.00pm  
**WHERE:** Mount Gambier Community RSL  
**COST:** Free  
**EXTRA INFO:** Recommend for 16 years and older.  
Spots are limited and booking out fast! For more information or to secure your spot (bookings are essential) please register via Eventbrite (link below)

[https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/public-road-awareness-program-rap-tickets-510258034517?fbclid=IwAR2\\_dcaB1scr228VEsOXfycGxsAbVqL7u8bi6cvXB8lJyv72kC8WwBvZ2Oo](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/public-road-awareness-program-rap-tickets-510258034517?fbclid=IwAR2_dcaB1scr228VEsOXfycGxsAbVqL7u8bi6cvXB8lJyv72kC8WwBvZ2Oo)

RAP is proudly supported by the South Australian Government, Think! Road Safety, SA Power Networks, RAA and the Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation

**For media enquiries please telephone the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770**