



Military and Emergency  
Services Health Australia



## **Now Recruiting for an Australian-first research study: Support After First Responder Suicide Study (SAFeRS)**

Military and Emergency Services Health Australia (MESA - a charity of The Hospital Research Foundation) is undertaking a study exploring the supports available to anyone impacted by the suicide death of an emergency services first responder.

We hope to hear from the family members and co-workers who have been impacted by the suicide death of an Emergency Services worker, and the healthcare professionals and other service providers who support and care for them. Your voice can offer insight into your experiences accessing support after the suicide death of a police officer, firefighter, paramedic, correctional officer, or other first responder, whether they were employed full-time, part-time, or a volunteer.

By participating in this study, you will be providing important information about your perceptions and experiences to the services available to the families and coworkers impacted by the suicide of an emergency services member(s). Your perspective will contribute to the growing body of knowledge around the resources available to the community following the suicide of an emergency services member.

### **Who can Participate?**

Family members and/or co-workers, as well as healthcare professionals and service providers who have been directly or indirectly impacted by the loss of an Emergency Services worker to suicide can participate in this study.

### **What is Involved?**

Participation involves completing an online survey of open-ended questions about your perceptions and experiences to accessing or providing support after the suicide death of a first responder. If you choose to, you can also take part in an interview to further describe your experiences. All information provided in the survey and interview is strictly confidential.

### **Can I Participate Now?**

To receive the study information sheet and complete the online survey, scan the QR code or follow the URL here: <https://mesha.limesurvey.net/638473>. Rolling recruitment will continue until March 2025, to allow plenty of time to interview everyone who wants to be heard.



### **Further information**

This study has been approved by the Flinders University Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC No: HEL6564-1). For further information please contact the Chief Investigator, Dr Henry Bowen by emailing [research@mesha.org.au](mailto:research@mesha.org.au) or calling (08) 7002 0880.

*If you or a loved one are experiencing a personal crisis, contact **Lifeline Australia at 13 11 14** or **StandBy Support After Suicide at 1300 727 247** or visit [standbysupport.com.au](http://standbysupport.com.au).*