

# HATZOLAH SYDNEY BECOMES AN ACCREDITED CFR UNIT

Hatzolah Sydney, which has been serving the city's Jewish community since 2006, has now become an accredited NSW Ambulance Community First Responder (CFR) unit, enabling it to respond as a back-up to paramedics during medical emergencies.

The service, which caters to a population of 20,000 Jewish residents living in Sydney's east, is staffed by 13 volunteers who are all trained to the level of Certificate 2 Emergency Medical Service First Responder and graduated from the NSW Ambulance CFR program on 29 April.

Volunteer and CFR Operational Support Manager Sue Webster said our ability to respond Hatzolah CFRs enhanced the education of the Jewish community in the need for early intervention during medical crises, with particular reference to emergencies

during the Jewish religious observations such as Shabbos and Yom Tov.

Founder and President of Hatzolah Sydney Rabbi Mendy Litzman said, "Our cultural considerations include modesty, Sabbath observance and death and dying. In Jewish law, it's more respectful to leave a deceased

Jewish person on the floor rather than put them back in the bed". Rabbi Litzman added, "We've been called in the past to assist patients in cardiac arrest; we assist the paramedics and if the patient dies, we pray for them and light a candle."

We welcome the Hatzolah Sydney CFR Unit to the family!

