



## **The Hon Greg Hunt MP**

**Minister for Sport  
Member for Flinders**

## **The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP**

**Minister for Aged Care  
Minister for Indigenous Health  
Member for Hasluck**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

26 July 2017

#### **FFA teams up with DonateLife in winning bid to save lives**

Lifesaving organ and tissue donation is set for a boost with the Football Federation Australia (FFA) and DonateLife teaming up to encourage more people to register their intentions online.

Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health Ken Wyatt AM said the partnership would begin with tonight's Westfield FFA Cup Round 32 between South Melbourne and the Edgeworth Eagles.

"This is a winning combination and we are proud to have FFA on the DonateLife team," said Minister Wyatt. "I am confident this partnership will boost the number of people choosing to register for lifesaving and life-changing organ and tissue donation.

"The FFA will promote online donor registration through digital, at-match and social media promotions during the Westfield FFA Cup and including all levels of the game, from grassroots through to the professional ranks of the Hyundai A-League.

"The extraordinary gift of organ donation was brought close to the FFA family recently, when former Hyundai A-league goalkeeper Danny Vukovic's son Harley received a liver transplant."

Minister for Sport Greg Hunt said the partnership would capitalise on fans' engagement with one of the most popular participation sports in Australia.

"Archie Thompson, former Socceroo and former A-League top goal scorer, has been appointed FFA DonateLife Ambassador," Minister Hunt said.

"The partnership provides a vital opportunity to get the organ and tissue donation message through to Australians of diverse national and cultural backgrounds."

Last year, a record 1,713 Australians received a transplant, thanks to the generosity of 503 deceased and 267 living organ donors and their families. At present, approximately 1,400 Australians are on the organ donor waiting list.

"The FFA partnership is supported by the new online donor registration process, with almost instant registration available on your mobile phone, tablet or computer," said Minister Wyatt.

"Organ and tissue donation is the ultimate gift, a gift we all have the potential to give, simply by registering and sharing our decision with loved ones."

To help ensure financial hardship is not a barrier to organ donation, the Turnbull Government committed \$4.1 million in the 2017 Budget to extend the Supporting Living Organ Donors Program for four years.

The program reimburses living donors for leave or out-of-pocket expenses, to encourage donation and help reduce waiting lists for patients needing organs.

This Sunday marks the start of DonateLife Week, dedicated to urging more Australians to register online to save lives at [www.donatelife.gov.au](http://www.donatelife.gov.au)

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