



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 27 April 2018

BEING THERE FOR FAMILIES

April 28 is marked every year as the International Day of Mourning to honour and remember people who lost their lives at work through a workplace incident or occupational disease. In Sydney, this Saturday, the annual memorial service will be held in Reflection Park, Darling Harbour for their family, friends and colleagues.

John Nagle, interim CEO of [icare](#) (NSW's insurance and care provider), who will attend the ceremony, said the impact of a death in the workplace never ends for the families and workplace communities of the deceased.

"Today we are joined by hundreds of people, some of whom have attended for many years, to remember a loved one or friend they lost. It is a day for [icare](#) to reaffirm our commitment to create workplaces with a culture of safety," Mr Nagle said.

"It is important that we remember the lives of those lost through a fatality at work, and learn from the experiences of the families who remain, so we can all return home safely from work every day.

"The latest statistics show there are 53 fatalities caused by workplace accidents in our state in the last year. Each death has a devastating flow-on effect on the community as well as a significant emotional, social and financial impact on loved ones and workplaces," he said.

"Even though the number of fatal incidents in NSW workplaces has reduced by 49 per cent over the last 10 years, there is still more we can do to make our workplaces safer. That is why we work closely with employers to develop practical improvement plans for safety awareness and injury prevention.

"When a catastrophic incident occurs icare's support staff are there immediately to provide specialist support, counselling and assistance to the family and workmates.

"Last year icare produced a *Grief Support & Information pack* to help families deal with grief and to guide them through the different agencies that are involved when a person dies at work, and the support services that are available to them," Mr Nagle said.

The *Grief Support Pack* is available on icare's [website](#). For more information on icare's grief and counselling support services for family members, please contact (02) 9216 3375.

Media contact: Phyllis Sakinofsky | media@icare.nsw.gov.au | (02) 8297 7570

About icare: icare (Insurance & Care NSW) is the insurance and care provider for NSW.

We insure 3.7 million workers, motorists and builders and 296,000 employers. For more information, visit: www.icare.nsw.gov.au

