Cultural Responses to Bushfires and risk
22\textsuperscript{nd} April 2009
Responding to Community needs

Commander Andrew Zammit
2009
Responding ~ Order or Chaos?
• What is our Authorising Environment?

  – MFB Act 1958

  – Emergency Management Act 1986

'emergency' is an emergency due to the actual or imminent occurrence of an event which:
• a fire
• an explosion
• an earthquake, flood, wind-storm or other natural event
• a road accident or any other accident
• a plague or an epidemic
• a warlike act, whether directed at Victoria or a part of Victoria or at any other State or Territory of the Commonwealth
• a hi-jack, siege or riot
• a disruption to an essential service.
Agency Designations

– Combating Agency

– Support Agency

– Co-ordinating Agency (Vic Police)
• MFB Act 1958
  - provides for response to ‘calls for assistance’
  
  - How do people call for assistance?

  - Types of responses: Fire, Accident, Hazardous Materials, Emergency Medical Response etc.
• **Metropolitan Fire District Profile**
  Population approx 2,293,844
  38% born overseas,
  30% speak language other than English
  11.3 % non-Christian
  51% women

• **MFB Profile ~ 2000 staff**
  11.5% born overseas
  10 % speak Language Other Than English
  1.8 % non-Christian
  12 % females, 3% of whom are firefighters
Incident survival

Reality – why has this happened

Depression, Anger, immobolisation

Reintegration and coping .. Resilience kicks in

.. RECOVERY Pathway
• What does engagement with community mean for the Emergency services sector?
  – Triple Zero – Education for everyone!
  – C.A.L.D. access to agencies - MAV
  – Case Study – E.M.R
Call 000 for cardiac arrest and get double the response

A big plus for the people of Melbourne
Emergency Services and Partnerships

- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Emergency Services Telecommunication
- Telstra 000 service
- Emergency Service Organisations
- Prevention, Preparedness, Response & Recovery
- Reconstruction
- You!
Thank You ~ Questions?