



### **About the project**

This project will look at the impacts of plant closures and mass retrenchment on workers and their families, and how they and their communities may best transition into the future. In particular, we want to know how retrenchment impacts people's working lives, retraining, education and health. Our study will investigate these issues and provide feedback to companies and governments across Australia on how services and supports can work better in the future.

The research we conduct and the reports we produce are only possible with the ongoing support of ex-autoworkers. Hearing from participants through our surveys is the most important aspect of our research that lets us understand how we might better help the future of work and the future of our communities in the event of industry restructuring. We assure you that your individual responses will not be identified nor will they be provided to any third party private company, government or social services.

### **What would happen if I took part in the research project?**

We will ask you questions about your employment history, retraining, education and current circumstances. These questions will form part of a five-year study with surveys run once a year. The surveys will take approximately 20 minutes.

### **Risks and benefits of the study**

Participation in the study will involve the collection of personal and sensitive information and may also involve psychological or emotional stress as a result of the sensitive nature of the topics discussed. It is not anticipated that the risks to participation in this study are beyond those encountered during everyday life. However, if you do experience psychological or emotional stress as a result of participation, we encourage you to contact one of the support services listed at the end of this information sheet.

Participation in this study may not directly benefit you. However, our research will have an impact on policy makers and the services provided in the event of future industry closures.

To thank you for your time you will receive a \$50 digital gift voucher via GiftPay.

### **Confidentiality and data retention**

Participation in this study is voluntary. By choosing to participate you consent to participate for the next three years but may withdraw from the study at any time. Consent for this study will be recorded over the phone.

If you choose to be involved in this research and then later change your mind that is okay. You can also change your mind about participating in the research at any time during the surveys and you can also choose not to answer any particular question or questions. Information collected from participants who choose to withdraw from the study will be included in the research project and its findings.

The information collected from this project will be published. Information provided may also be used to assess suitability for further participation in the broader project. Please be assured that any information provided by you for this research will be treated in the strictest confidence. No participant in this research will be individually identifiable in the reports or other publications resulting from this research.

A copy of this information sheet can be found at [fwfc.com.au/participation](http://fwfc.com.au/participation)

Our telephone surveys will be monitored for quality control purposes. If you do not want the call to be monitored or recorded, kindly inform our interviewers. All recordings will be overwritten after three months and protected from external access until that time.

Data will be collected by EY Sweeney, on behalf of the University of South Australia. De-identified electronic data will be stored on password protected computers and documents for up to seven years after the project on UniSA servers. Data will be coded for longitudinal study and only non-identifiable aggregate data will be distributed to project partners and in published journal articles.

This project has been approved by the University of South Australia's Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). If you have any ethical concerns about the project, questions about your rights as a participant or wish to lodge a complaint about either the study or the way it is being conducted please contact the Executive Officer of UniSA's Committee, Tel: +61 8 8302 3118; Email: [humanethics@unisa.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@unisa.edu.au).

The progress of the project and findings will be published on the project website [fwfc.com.au/](http://fwfc.com.au/)

Further information on the study can be obtained from:

Position	Name	Phone	Email
Project Leader	Prof Andrew Beer	08 8302 0711	<a href="mailto:andrew.beer@unisa.edu.au">andrew.beer@unisa.edu.au</a>
Linkage Research Coordinator	Josefina Atienza	08 8302 7787	<a href="mailto:josefina.atienza@unisa.edu.au">josefina.atienza@unisa.edu.au</a>

### Support services

Please contact the following support services if you experience or are experiencing any psychological or emotional stress:

Organisation	Phone and URL	About
Beyond Blue	1300 22 4636 <a href="https://www.beyondblue.org.au/">https://www.beyondblue.org.au/</a>	Beyond Blue provides information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live.
Lifeline	13 11 14 <a href="http://www.lifeline.org.au/">http://www.lifeline.org.au/</a>	Lifeline is a national charity providing all Australians experiencing a personal crisis with access to 24 hour crisis support and suicide prevention services.
MensLine Australia	1300 7899 78 <a href="http://www.mensline.org.au/">http://www.mensline.org.au/</a>	A telephone and online support, information and referral service, helping men to deal with relationship problems in a practical and effective way.
Carers Australia	1800 242 636 <a href="https://www.carersaustralia.com.au/">https://www.carersaustralia.com.au/</a>	Short-term counselling and emotional and psychological support services for carers and their families in each state and territory.

For more support services, Beyond Blue has listed several other providers on their webpage:  
<https://www.beyondblue.org.au>.

In an emergency, please call 000, the emergency help line.

A copy of this information sheet can be found at [fwfc.com.au/participation](http://fwfc.com.au/participation)