



## Volunteer call centre keeps an eye on the elderly

MORE than 2500 South Australians have been helped by the Red Cross Volunteer Call Centre over the past few days.

The Red Cross Telecross Redi Service is funded by the State Government to make up to three calls a day to older people to to be sure they were coping with the extreme heat conditions.

Families and Communities Minister Jennifer Rankine said since opening on

Friday 312 situations had occurred with people referred to other health services, while four people were hospitalised.

"Sometimes older people are less inclined to take all the necessary precautions and this behaviour can become hazardous," she said.

Ms Rankine said older people who lived alone should register with the service.

By registering, people would receive up to three phone calls a day to check on their

welfare and assistance would be arranged if calls were not answered.

"More than 540 community organisations that help South Australians have been contacted to emphasise that they should be particularly aware of their clients' needs over the extreme heat days," Ms Rankine said.

- Details: To join the Red Cross Telecross Redi Service phone 1800 188 071.