

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Neg Hamedani, Porter Novelli on behalf of Mercy Health

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NEW FAMILY HUB AT MERCY HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN BORN FROM GENEROSITY

Mercy Hospital for Women (MHW) will today unveil in partnership with donor, Oak Capital Chief Executive Officer and Founder Stephen Mitchell, the newly redeveloped MHW Family Hub thanks to a generous \$100,000 donation to the Mercy Health Foundation for its refurbishment.

Mr Mitchell will be joined by Mercy Health Group Chief Executive Officer Angela Nolan at a ceremony and opening of the new Family Hub.

With Mr Mitchell's donation, the Family Hub has transformed into a beautiful and nurturing haven. The four-bedroom space with a shared kitchen and loungeroom will provide parents and families with a place to stay close to their children while they are in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) or Special Care Nursery. It will help reduce undue stress and financial burden for families with babies receiving specialist care.

The redevelopment of the Family Hub has been entirely funded and supported by Mr Mitchell and Oak Capital. Mr Mitchell's ongoing contributions to the Mercy Health Foundation are inspired by the life-saving care his son Harvey received at Mercy Hospital for Women four years ago when he was born there three months premature.

Having spent 88 days across three different hospitals, part of this time spent by Harvey's side in MHW's NICU, Mr Mitchell witnessed firsthand how crucial Mercy Health's care is to families who have an unwell or premature baby.

A philanthropist, Mr Mitchell said his passion for contributing to the ongoing improvement of the Family Hub at MHW stems from his own lived experience as the father of a premature baby.

"Throughout my time at Mercy Hospital for Women, I saw firsthand the tireless work and support provided by the MHW team," Mr Mitchell said.

"It's hard to measure the impact their support had on me and my wife Belinda when we were going through one of the most challenging times of our lives. That's why Oak Capital is so committed to supporting not only the staff at Mercy Hospital for Women but the other families who come into their care."

Mr Mitchell has donated close to \$200,000 to Mercy Health Foundation over the past three years through Oak Capital. These philanthropic contributions have impacted countless families receiving care at Mercy Hospital for Women.

Mercy Health Foundation Chief Executive Officer Rebecca MacFarling said Mr Mitchell's generous contributions have profoundly impacted MHW staff and the families who will use the Family Hub for years to come.



“Donations like these have an immeasurable impact on our hospital and the many lives we touch. The generosity of our donors enables us to invest in improving our equipment and facilities, changing the lives of families and babies long into the future,” Ms MacFarling said.

Mercy Health Group Chief Executive Officer Angela Nolan thanked Mr Mitchell and Oak Capital for their continued support of Mercy Health.

“We can’t thank Stephen and Oak Capital enough for their unwavering generosity,” Ms Nolan said.

“Every day, and especially days like today, we celebrate and honour the impact that philanthropy, and the people who give so generously, have on Mercy Health. This support enables us to make leaps forward in the work and care that we deliver across our services”.

For more information on Mercy Health Foundation, visit www.mercyhealthfoundation.org.au/

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ABOUT MERCY HEALTH:

Mercy Health is a Catholic organisation grounded in a 2,000-year tradition of caring for others. Founded by the Sisters of Mercy, Mercy Health is made up of approximately 10,000 people who provide acute and subacute hospital care, aged care, mental health programs, maternity and specialist women’s health services, early parenting services, home care services and health worker training and development.

Mercy Health is proud to be recognised as an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality by the WGEA.

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