

# MEDIA RELEASE

## For immediate release

From: Porter Novelli on behalf of Mercy Health

Date: Thursday 29 August 2024

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### **Mercy Health School Outreach Clinic recognised with Catholic Health Australia Award**

Mercy Health's Paediatric School Outreach Clinic (Working Together for Children) has been awarded the 2024 Catholic Health Australia Award for Outreach Health Care.

Announced at Catholic Health Australia's annual gala dinner on Tuesday 27 August, the award was presented to Mercy Health in recognition of the program's work providing specialist paediatric care to vulnerable children.

Currently servicing primary schools in Wyndham, the Working Together for Children program is a collaboration between Community Hubs Australia, the Smith Family, North West Primary Health Care, Anglicare and Werribee Mercy Hospital Paediatrics. Together, these services deliver collaborative, triaged, and culturally safe paediatric services to children aged between five and 12.

Mercy Health Group Chief Executive Officer, Angela Nolan, said the Working Together for Children program has enabled Mercy Health to expand the care available to the Wyndham community by removing barriers to healthcare for children and their parents in the region, enhancing the care available to the West's diverse community.

"Mercy Health has a long and proud history of delivering high quality healthcare in Melbourne's west. By collaborating with local health services and schools we are working to deliver accessible, culturally safe care to those who need it most," said Ms Nolan.

"We are proud that this collaborative program has been recognised by Catholic Health Australia for its innovative work supporting the most marginalised in the Wyndham community. This award would not be possible without our dedicated team of practitioners who work together to improve the physical and mental health of children experiencing social, economic or health disadvantage."

Situated in one of Melbourne's most diverse suburbs, the programs' cultural sensitivity has ensured it has successfully integrated into the Wyndham community with interpreters available to support families either in person or by telephone.

Mercy Health's Paediatric School Outreach Clinic is made possible thanks to philanthropic support from the Barr Family Foundation and the Ampol Foundation.

**ENDS**



## **ABOUT MERCY HEALTH:**

Mercy Health is a Catholic organisation grounded in a 2000-year tradition of the healing ministry of Jesus. 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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