

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Kasey McCulloch, Media Manager

Date: Thursday 5 July 2018

Mercy Health to recognise NAIDOC Week

Mercy Health will be celebrating NAIDOC Week between 8–15 July 2018 in recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements.

Werribee Mercy Hospital and Mercy Hospital for Women in Heidelberg will host ceremonial events, speeches and activities which reflect the focus of this year's NAIDOC Week theme, "Because of Her, We Can!"

Mercy Health Chief Executive – Health Services Adjunct Professor Linda Mellors said Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are pillars of society and play significant roles in the community.

"Mercy Health is committed to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by continuing to provide and improve services that benefit the community," Adj Prof Mellors said.

"The Nangnak Baban Murrup Clinic and Nangnak Wan Myeek Program are two of our great initiatives that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their families during and after the birth of their baby."

These specialised services help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families access services like breastfeeding support and paediatrics. They also help to advise families on healthy child development and support these families through difficult situations, by linking them with local Aboriginal organisations and additional supports.

"As part of NAIDOC Week, Mercy Health will host a series of accessible events and activities. We encourage patients and staff to participate in these celebrations," Adj Prof Mellors said.

NAIDOC Week celebrations for 2018 include:

Werribee Mercy Hospital

Wednesday 11 July, 10am

Learning Precinct

- Acknowledgement of Country
- Djirri Djirri Dance Group
- creation stories of dance performed
- morning tea

Mercy Hospital for Women

Thursday 12 July, 10 am

Level 1 Concourse and Level 4 Glassed Area

- Welcome to Country
- Smoking Ceremony
- activities
- morning tea

- Ends -

For interviews and photo opportunities, please contact:

Kasey McCulloch

Media Manager

Mercy Health

Phone: 03 8416 7521

Mobile: 0477 720 337

Email: KMcCulloch@mercy.com.au