

# MEDIA RELEASE

## For immediate release

From: Kasey McCulloch, Media Officer, Mercy Health

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## Mercy Hospital for Women supports Little Blue Towels

Mercy Hospital for Women is proud to support the Little Blue Towels initiative by recycling single use hospital towels in Heidelberg.

It's estimated hundreds of thousands of blue cotton towels are used by hospital theatre staff throughout Australia each year to dry their hands after scrubbing up with disinfectant prior to surgery.

Little Blue Towels is an initiative of the Horizon Committee Inc., a not-for-profit organisation fundraising primarily for cancer support services. Little Blue Towels collects the towels from operating theatres across Victoria and has them professionally laundered, ironed and repackaged to sell to the public in near new condition.

Mercy Hospital for Women joined the Little Blue Towels project in August 2016 with the aim of reducing hospital waste and supporting people living with breast cancer.

"Every week we use on average 150 blue towels at our hospital alone," theatre Associate Nurse Unit Manager Natasha Sparrow explained.

"Before we were involved with Little Blue Towels these towels just went straight to landfill. It's nice to see them now being recycled and put to good use."

All proceeds from sales of the towels go to the OTIS Foundation, which provides no-cost retreat accommodation to people living with breast cancer.

To find out how you can purchase the towels visit [www.littlebluetowels.com.au](http://www.littlebluetowels.com.au)

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