

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Kasey McCulloch, Media Officer, Mercy Health

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More than 38,000 babies and counting

Werribee Mercy Hospital has been caring for the Wyndham community for the past 21 years and there are plenty of Mercy babies to show for it.

As at 31 December 2015, Werribee Mercy Hospital's maternity unit had welcomed 38,683 babies, including 399 sets of twins, into the world with open arms and caring hands.

The hospital's multimillion dollar Maternity and Neonatal Services Unit opened in 2012, offering a 24-bed Maternity Unit and refurbished birthing rooms. The service also includes a 16-bed Special Care Nursery (SCN) and accommodation for parents, which allows them to stay and learn how to care for their baby before going home from the SCN.

The number of births continues to rise at Werribee Mercy Hospital with 3857 mothers expected to deliver their babies there this financial year, a 73 per cent increase from 2012.

Werribee Mercy Hospital's Director of Maternity Services Jacqueline Van Dam said it had been exciting to watch the maternity service grow during her seven years at the hospital.

"We are proud to offer women in and around Wyndham a quality maternity service that is both flexible and family centred," Dr Van Dam said.

"The Maternity Unit may have grown but we pride ourselves on making sure the needs of each family are met and their pregnancy and birth are enjoyable experiences."

Any pregnant woman wanting to have their baby at Werribee Mercy Hospital is encouraged to see their GP for a referral or call 8754 3400 today.

- Ends -

For interviews and photo opportunities, please contact:

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