MEDIA RELEASE

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Age no barrier to new friendships at Mercy Place Westcourt

Age is proving no barrier for the unlikely friendships blooming at Mercy Place Westcourt, thanks to a new partnership with local kindergarten, Cubby Care.

Since earlier this year, residents at the not-for-profit home have been striking up friendships with the youngsters as part of an intergenerational partnership between the two organisations aiming to encourage companionship and connections between young the old.

Angela Cox, Service Manager at Mercy Place Westcourt, said the benefits of the partnership extended both ways, with the children and residents involved genuinely enjoying their time together and forming strong bonds.

"We're delighted by how well our intergenerational partnership has been received, by both the residents and children alike," she said.

"Older people love having children around, it enables them to share stories about their own childhoods and to share their hobbies, talents, and life lessons.

"They have been doing craft together and using playdough and crayons while laughing and talking, and it's just so lovely to see."

Mercy Health is a Catholic community not for profit provider of care, founded by the Sisters of Mercy and grounded in a 2000 year history of caring for those in need. The organisation is a national service provider of health and aged care throughout Victoria, Southern New South Wales, Western Australia, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory.

In Queensland, the organisation cares for 160 people at two residential homes, while managing an additional 139 independent living units and apartments.

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