

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Kasey McCulloch, Media Officer, Mercy Health

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Maggie Beer brings joy to Mercy Place Rice Village

Popular Australian chef and food author Maggie Beer received a warm welcome during a visit to Mercy Place Rice Village in Marshall, Geelong on Friday 4 March.

Maggie met with residential aged care residents and staff to hear about the home's garden project. Plans are underway to create an on-site vegetable garden to supply fresh produce for residents thanks to a grant from the Maggie Beer Foundation. The garden area will also include a barbecue and tables and chairs for residents to relax and enjoy their surroundings.

Mercy Place Rice Village Service Manager Bernadette Bartok said residents and staff loved welcoming Maggie into their home.

"We're delighted Maggie took an interest in our home and we had the opportunity to get some food and gardening tips directly from her," Bernadette said.

"Our veggie garden will not only supply beautiful fresh produce for our residents but enable those with green thumbs to get back into gardening as well."

Geelong Program Property Services and Bunnings Waurn Ponds have generously donated their time and resources to make the garden a reality for its official unveiling on Saturday 12 May.

Students from Grovedale Primary School will also spend time each month in the garden with residents from Friday 18 March. In return, our residents will spend time in the school's garden.

- Ends -

For interviews and photo opportunities, please contact:

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