

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Bill Lane, Media Manager, Mercy Health

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Mercy Health recognised for gender equality

For the 12th consecutive year, Mercy Health has been recognised for its commitment to gender equality, receiving the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) Employer of Choice for Gender Equality citation.

Mercy Health has been recognised each year of the citation's inception, however, this year's acknowledgement is particularly rewarding following the introduction of more stringent, revised requirements. The new measurements have led to fewer recipients of the citation, with Mercy Health just one of five recipients within the healthcare and social assistance industries acknowledged.

Group CEO of Mercy Health and Pay Equity Ambassador Adj Prof Stephen Cornelissen said the citation was an acknowledgement of a sustained endeavour and commitment to achieving gender equality in a diverse and large workplace.

"We are grateful for the recognition from WGEA, which rewards a long-term effort and commitment from our Mercy Health community to achieve an across-the-board gender fairness," Adj Prof Cornelissen said.

"Many of the criteria required are similar to Mercy Health's Christian beliefs, which include respect, equity and justice, especially for those facing discrimination or marginalisation.

WGEA Director Libby Lyons said the eligibility criteria now placed an even greater emphasis on accountability, outcomes, evidence and reporting processes.

"I would like to congratulate all 2019-20 citation holders for the extra effort and commitment it has taken to meet these rigorous requirements," Ms Lyons said

"These organisations are at the forefront of momentum for change towards gender equality in Australian workplaces. These industry leaders are showing other Australian businesses how to create a better and more equal future for both women and men."

The criteria for the citation covers leadership, gender remuneration gaps, flexible working and other initiatives to support family responsibilities, employee consultation, preventing sex-based harassment and discrimination, and targets for improving gender equality outcomes.

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