



Mercy Ministry  
**Companions**

# Connections

*The Newsletter of Mercy Ministry Companions*

July 2023

## **Reflection: Continuing a legacy of Courage**

In late June, the Trustee Directors of Mercy Ministry Companions spent some time with Sr Monica Cavanagh RSJ, the Congregational Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph. The Trustee-Directors were meeting at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney, where St Mary of the Cross MacKillop is buried in the chapel.

Among the things we chatted about with Monica was Mary MacKillop's extraordinary life and faith, which led to her canonisation in 2010 as Australia's first saint. Monica told us stories about the different stages of Mary's life and the ongoing work of the Sisters. When asked what she hoped would live on as Mary's legacy, Monica said it was for people to approach life with the same courage and compassion Mary had shown throughout her lifetime.

[Continue reading](#)

---

Mercy Ministry Companions (MMC)



### **Trustee Directors visit Mary MacKillop Place**

Last month, MMC Trustee Directors enjoyed a trip to Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney. During their visit, the group spent time with staff from MacKillop Seasons, who shared generously about their work and how they continue to support the missions of the three founding congregations.

[READ MORE](#)



### **Mercy Health celebrates NAIDOC Week 2023**

The first week of July marked the national celebration of NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week, the theme for this year was Be A Voice For Generations.

On Bunurong Country at Werribee Mercy Hospital, and on Wurundjeri Country at Mercy Hospital for Women, staff attended a number of celebratory events. The celebrations also highlighted the work of the dedicated Aboriginal Programs Teams who provide support and advocacy to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and families, ensuring they feel safe when they come to our hospitals.

[READ MORE](#)

### **Mercy Community Services**

#### **McAuley Community Services for Women and Mackillop Family Services**

On 1 October 2023, McAuley Community Service for Women (McAuley) will become part of MacKillop Family Services forming a single entity under the MacKillop ABN. McAuley will retain its identity and the McAuley name, brand and existing programs will continue. Jocelyn Bignold will remain in the role of CEO, supported by the existing Executive Team.

[READ MORE](#)

### **Mercy Connect celebrates milestone events**

This month, Mercy Connect celebrated a number of milestone events, including the official breaking of ground for the new Community Inclusion Facility which will begin construction later this year, and the opening of its new transitional home, Basil House, in Albury.

[READ MORE](#)



Breaking ground at the Mercy Connect Community Inclusion Facility.



Watch the 7NEWS report on the opening of Basil House.

### Upcoming Seminars

**WED 18 OCT**  
12pm - 3pm (AEDT)

**Impact Measurement Tools for Mission Formation**  
presented by Jemima Welsh  
Via Zoom

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Please share this Mercy Ministry Companions Newsletter with your colleagues and [opt-in for further communications.](#)



*Mercy Ministry Companions acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the First Australians.*

*Our National Office is located on the lands of Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin nation, and our Ministries operate across the country and across a range of other indigenous lands and clans.*

*We acknowledge the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples across this land.*

*We respectfully recognise Elders both past and present.*

Copyright © 2023 Mercy Ministry Companions, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).