



## A Cherry Merry Start to Christmas at The Royal Children's Hospital

Members of the Victorian Cherry Association, the representative Victorian grower group wanted to sweeten the Christmas season for children at The Royal Children's Hospital with the gift of cherries delivered fresh from their farms.

On Thursday 30 November, the cherry growers joined by celebrity chef and self-confessed cherry lover Gabriel Gate presented more than 60 kilos of fresh cherries to the hospital community.

The Victorian Cherry Association also presented a cheque to the hospital. Despite grower setbacks with severe frosts this year, sweet summer cherries were in abundant supply and cherry growers wanted to share their harvest with the hospital.

Victorian Cherry Association Chairman, Steve Chapman said, "Everybody loves fresh cherries at this time of the year, so we're hoping to make a difference with our gift."

RCH Foundation Executive Director Brian Mallon said the cherries were a real boost for the hospital in the lead up to Christmas.

"We are continually amazed at how supportive and thoughtful people are towards the RCH, it's a great feeling to know organisations such as the Cherry Association are willing to put a smile on the faces of those working and staying at the hospital," Mr Mallon said.