

MEDIA RELEASE

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Graduate nurses welcomed by DDHHS

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS) has welcomed 42 graduate nurses at an information day at Toowoomba Hospital.

The nurses will start in their new roles in the coming months at a range of locations throughout DDHHS including Toowoomba, the South Burnett, Dalby, Oakey, Miles, Goondiwindi and Texas.

Dr Robyn Henderson, DDHHS Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services, said this was an exciting time for new graduate nurses in Queensland.

“We are extremely pleased to welcome our new graduate nurses into our health service,” Dr Henderson said.

“As they move into the next phase of their careers they bring with them a level of enthusiasm and excitement which is wonderful to see.

“We wish them all the very best and look forward to supporting them in their transition to Registered Nurse/midwifery roles where they will provide care to our patients throughout the DDHHS.”

When considering a new career after a break from the workforce to raise her family, new graduate Kim Robertson looked for something that would be both stimulating and rewarding.

“I decided when it came time to go back to work I wanted something that would challenge me, something that I could grow in, and I wanted to help people,” Ms Robertson said.

“I studied while I was at home with the children, and now I’m getting ready to start at Mt Lofty Heights Nursing Home. Coming from a non-health background it’s a great start for me and very exciting.”

Kim’s colleague Esther Larsen had been in nursing for some time and in recent years decided to take her career to the next level.

“At 21 I became an Assistant in Nursing and did that for 12 years, and along the way I was encouraged to complete my Enrolled Nurse (EN) training,” Ms Larsen said.

“After five years as an EN I decided I needed to continue my training, so after spending most of that time at Kingaroy Hospital, which I absolutely loved, I left three years ago to study and now I’m here in Toowoomba.

“I’m starting in theatre here at Toowoomba Hospital on 21 March and I’m really looking forward to it.”

Additional information

The 42 new graduate nurses starting in 2016 will be working in a range of locations across DDHHS.

- Toowoomba Hospital – 19
- South Burnett – 7
- Acute Mental Health Unit (Toowoomba) – 4
- Warwick Hospital – 4
- Dalby Hospital – 2
- Goondiwindi Hospital – 1
- Millmerran Multipurpose Health Service – 1
- Miles Hospital – 1
- Mt Lofty Heights Nursing Home (Toowoomba) – 1
- Oakey Hospital – 1
- Texas Multipurpose Health Service – 1

The first intake will take place on 21 March, when 37 new graduate nurses will start in their new positions. The remaining five, who are from the Toowoomba cohort, will start mid-year.

Ends

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