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## **Nursing and midwifery graduates begin their careers**

More than 300 new nurses and midwives will join South Western Sydney Local Health District hospitals this year as part of their annual new graduate intake.

District Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Performance Sonia Marshall said the new graduates will work in all clinical areas.

"We offer our warmest welcome to the new nurses and midwives beginning their careers with us," Ms Marshall said.

"Here, they have a broad range of exciting opportunities across a range of services, including becoming involved in some of the District's cutting-edge treatments and research as they continue their careers.

"Our nurses and midwives have so much potential and we look forward to seeing how they are able to make a positive contribution to the lives of their patients."

Across the district, 255 registered nurses and 47 registered midwives will begin their careers.

Nursing graduate Josephine Assaf is about to start her career at Liverpool Hospital's Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre after studying at Western Sydney University in Parramatta

"As a first person of contact for my patients, I hold huge responsibility in ensuring that I provide the best care that is safe, holistic and of the highest quality," Ms Assaf said.

"I have the most amazing privilege of being my patients' main support."

NSW has boosted its nursing and midwifery graduate positions by 58 per cent since 2011, with about 2600 graduates to launch their careers at 130 public hospitals and health services this year.

The NSW Government has committed to the largest Australian healthcare workforce boost of an extra 5000 nurses and midwives across regional and metropolitan areas over four years.