



My name is Jodi Roberts, I am 46 years old this year, and I live in Nelson. I share a house with my fiancé Steve, and between us we have three boys ranging from 13 years of age through to twenty five.

I am currently employed as a community mental health nurse for the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board. I first graduated with my Bachelor Degree in nursing in Auckland, where I originate from, in 1999. I then went on to gain my Post Graduate Certificate and then Mental Health Diploma in Mental Health nursing through Auckland University. For most of the last 15 years I have worked primarily in the community, ranging from rehabilitation of young persons, to working on the Homeless Team in Auckland, and then spending the last 12 years here in Nelson, coordinating and managing care for those with enduring mental health concerns.

In this time I have reached expert level four practice through completing the PDRP process. I am on the quality of service committee and I am keen and proactive in facilitating positive changes within our service. I am also keen in encouraging members to keep up skilled in their own evidence based practice. Here in Nelson, I am a member of the local branch of the NZ College of Mental Health Nurses, and actively take part in our branch journal club. When my line manager is absent, I have chosen to take on a more senior role of second in charge, and I am certainly keen to take on more management training in the future as part of furthering my own career aspirations, but meantime I enjoy working each day alongside our tangata waiora. It is certainly challenging to maintain efficient client centred approaches to nursing care, and maintaining effective nursing roles within today's healthcare budget -a challenge I enjoy.

I think what I will bring to the board is simply representation and experience of someone who is working in the field of today's mental health nursing. As someone who has a passion for mentoring and encouraging more junior level nurses to maintain their critical thinking skills, and as someone who is keen to encourage and promote more nurses to take up a career in mental health nursing.