

I was born in Peru, South America and early work in Australia included some years as a nurse at Scarba House for Children in Sydney. This home was under the auspices of the Benevolent Society of NSW and provided homes for children at risk. After meeting my husband, we moved to Ireland where I became a full-time parent with the arrival of two children. Returning to Australia I undertook nursing studies at various levels, completing a Bachelor in Nursing at the Australian Catholic University, and afterwards a post-graduate program in Mental Health at the College of Nursing Sydney. Following my nursing preference, I pursued a career in mental health at Caritas Mental Health Unit, St. Vincent's Hospital where I currently work in acute mental health care.



I wanted to expand my knowledge and keep up with current trends and issues in this field and my research led me to the **Masters of Forensic Mental Health at UNSW**. I have now completed two semesters and find the courses equip me with additional skills, greater knowledge and judgment in my everyday work. I was particularly impressed by the commitment of teaching staff to their subject areas and really enjoyed and benefited from the courses covering 'Families, Children & Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry' and 'Violence' which relate closely to my everyday delivery of care and management of my patients.