



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTED FOR NSW KIDS AND FAMILIES

The Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, today announced the appointment of Joanna Holt as the inaugural Chief Executive of NSW Kids and Families.

Mrs Skinner said the creation of NSW Kids and Families and now the appointment of Ms Holt demonstrated the government's commitment to the health and wellbeing of mothers, babies, children, young people and their families.

"NSW Kids and Families will develop a long term, state-wide strategy to guide the best possible health outcomes for mothers, babies, children, young people and their families across NSW," she said.

NSW Kids and Families will work with Local Health Districts, the Clinical Excellence Commission, the Agency for Clinical Innovation, primary health care providers, non-government organisations, clinicians and the community to:

- develop and support implementation of evidence based policy, guidelines, models of care and programs
- develop and monitor service standards and evaluate outcomes
- provide expert advice and information on the health, wellbeing and healthcare of mothers, babies, children, young people and families in NSW

The Hon Ron Phillips, Chair of NSW Kids and Families Board, welcomed Ms Holt's appointment and said he and his fellow board members looked forward to working with her.

"This is an important step that will champion improved health services and health outcomes for mothers, children and young people in NSW," he said.

Ms Holt brings to the position over 30 years' experience within the healthcare sector, both in Australia and the United Kingdom. As CEO of the not-for-profit organisation Women's and Children's Hospitals Australasia, she was influential in the development of national performance indicators, standards and clinical guidelines.

She has also worked on the executive team of a number of Australian teaching hospitals including the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children and as a planning consultant at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London.

“Ms Holt’s broad experience and expertise in managing and advising on the provision of women’s and children’s health services will be invaluable to this new organisation, to help lead continual improvement of the quality and safety of health care provided to children and their families,” Mrs Skinner said

Ms Holt said it was a great privilege and responsibility to be asked to lead NSW Kids and Families.

“NSW Kids and Families provides a unique opportunity to focus attention on the health and wellbeing of our children and families – bringing together evidence and best practice on what works to promote and protect their health and enable delivery of connected care throughout NSW,” Ms Holt said.

NSW Kids and Families is a board-governed statutory health corporation established on July 1, 2012.