

Student Placement - Orientation Manual

Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Exercise Physiotherapy, Dietetics

Introduction

Who we are

Life Choice Wide Bay Burnett is an NDIS Provider operating on the Fraser Coast, with a clinic in both Hervey Bay and Maryborough. It includes Allied Health services, Supported Independent Living, Support Coordination, Community Access, In Home Supports and Group Programs. Life Choice is an advocate for community inclusion, respect and valuing people with a disability. We assist participants of all ages in the pursuit of their goals.

Township

Hervey Bay is located on the bay while Maryborough is located further inland along the Mary River. Hervey Bay has a Stockland's Shopping Centre which has clothing and food stores. Residents of Hervey Bay enjoy the outdoor life style of swimming, fishing, boating, whale watching, and scuba diving. There are several nice restaurants and cafes along the main Esplanade which runs along the beach. There is a ferry to Fraser Island from Hervey Bay and Hervey Bay airport has flights to Brisbane, Fraser Island and Lady Elliot Island.

Maryborough is a heritage town with many historic buildings. There is a large botanical gardens and various festivals are often happening on weekends. The main street hosts multiple take away and dine-in restaurants and cafes.

Services

Allied Health: Life Choice provides assessment, intervention, reports and Assistive Technology prescriptions to people of all ages. Services are provided in the clinic, home, school and community environment. The team uses a multidisciplinary approach to practice which includes information sharing across disciplines, and joint intervention and assessment sessions and reports.

Supported Independent Living: Life Choice has long and short-term accommodation options as well as respite for people with a disability. Supports are available throughout the day and night to participants. Supported include all levels of personal care, everyday living activities, medication and assistance to be housed safely.

Support Coordination: Life Choice offers Support Coordination across three levels depending on the individual goals, plan objectives and aspirations of the NDIS participant. Support Coordinators help manage a person's NDIS plan and link them into the right services for them.

Community Access: Community Access allows Participants to join groups, attend hobby groups, to go out for meals, see a movie, socialise and –in general– be an active part of their community.

In Home Supports: In-Home Support provides Participants with assistance for day-to-day living within their own home. It includes personal care, mealtime preparation and assistance, light domestic duties, administering medications, assistance to establish a routine and support to remain independently living in their own home.

Funding source

The majority of participants accessing allied health services at Life Choice receive their funds from the NDIA. To be eligible for an NDIS plan the person must have a disability that impacts their daily functioning. They will receive an NDIS plan that allows them to access services to help them achieve their individual goals. As an Allied Health Practitioner, it is important that our intervention and supports are aiming to help a participant achieve their NDIS goals. It is also important that our services are provided based on how much funds they have been given by the NDIS and what types of funds they have been given access to. NDIS plans can last 12 months or several years. At the end of a participant's plan you may write a review report outlining what goals you have worked towards on their plan, the progress you have made and any recommendations.

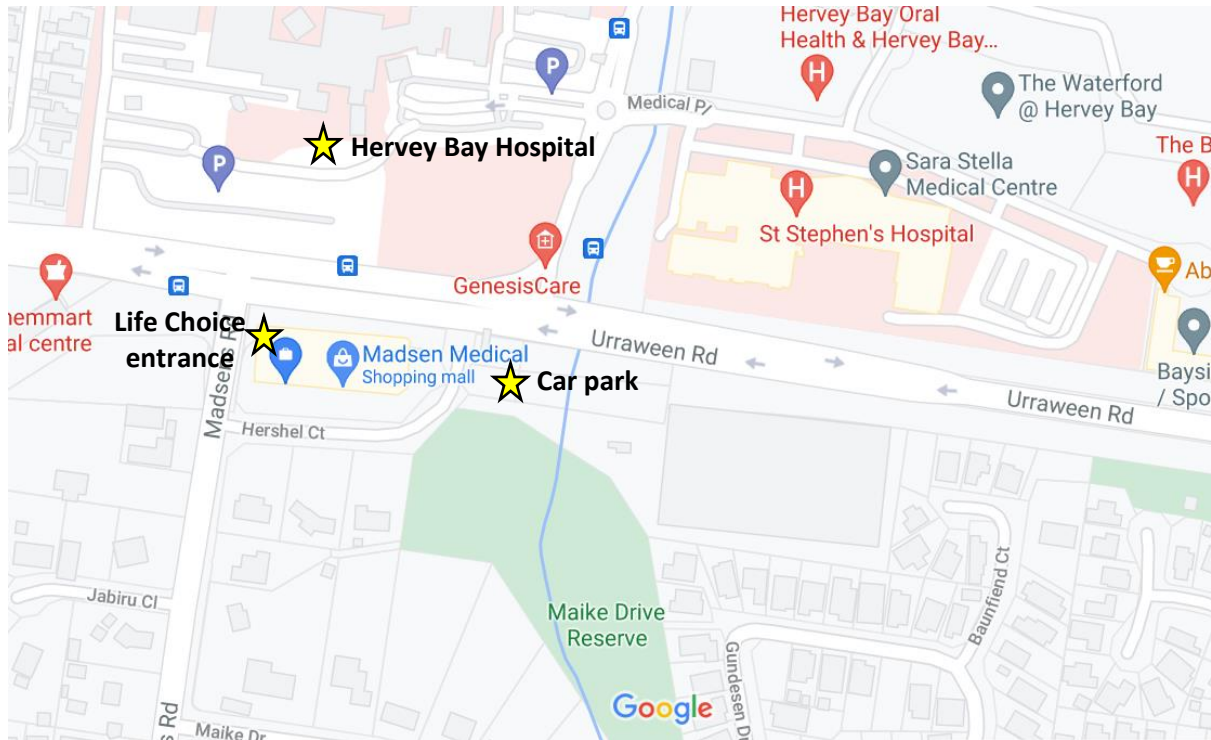
More information about the NDIS can be found at their website (<https://www.ndis.gov.au/>). You can also talk to your supervisor if you have any questions about NDIS plans.

As our services are funded by the NDIS it is important that we uphold both our professional standards of practice and the NDIS Practice Standards.

Centre details

Life Choice has two clinic spaces; one in Maryborough and one in Hervey Bay. While on your placement you will be expected to work across both these sites as well as conduct community visits (e.g. going to participant's schools, daycares, homes).

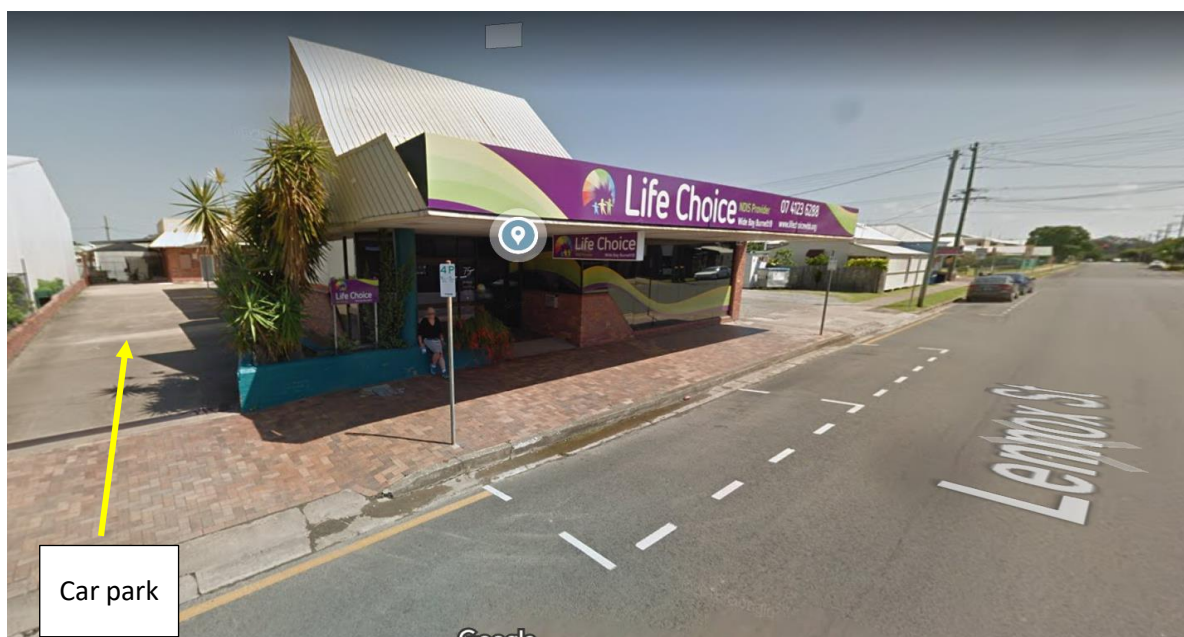
Hervey Bay Clinic Site:



Address: Madsen Medical Centre, 1-17 Hershel Ct Urraween

Parking is available on site. When you enter the center park in the carpark to the right. Parking on the left is reserved for participant's and other businesses.

Maryborough Clinic Site:



Address: 74 Lennox Street, Maryborough

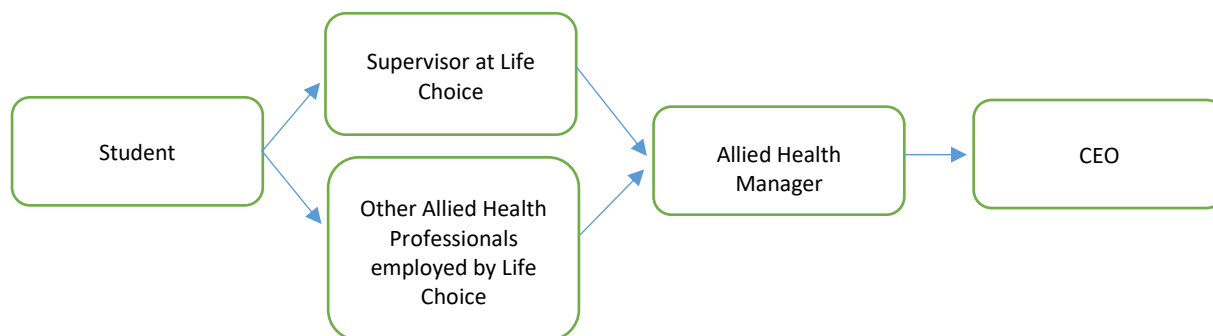
Parking is limited on site. Parking is located down the driveway to the side of the clinic center. Street parking is also available.

Facilities

Each center has a kitchen including fridge, microwave, and kettle that staff are free to use. Both sites are also close to food and coffee that can be purchased on lunch breaks.

Lines of communication

While on placement at Life Choice we want you to feel comfortable approaching any of the allied health professionals with your questions. However, for any specific questions or concerns about your placement or the participant it is important that the proper communication channels are followed.



Dress code

Students are required to present themselves as neat, clean and well-presented and wearing suitable footwear applicable to the workplace and job role. Students should ensure they take into consideration when deciding on the most appropriate clothing to wear for their day at their workplace.

- the nature of equipment they will be required to use,
- the type of care they will be providing and to who, and
- the potential for escalating behaviours that could affect them, their colleagues and others,

It is recommended that clothing is:

- Clean neat casual clothing including pants, jeans, skirts, blouses, tee shirts, jumpers, jackets etc

It is recommended that students do not wear:

- Ripped, dirty clothing in need of repair
- Clothing which has words terms or images likely to offend
- Clothing which reveals too much cleavage, back, chest, legs, stomach or underwear
- Thongs, high heels, Ugg boots, slip on shoes and slippers

Client Confidentiality and Ethics

It is important that client confidentiality is maintained at all times including after your student placement has finished. It is important to follow your professions Ethical Code for the duration of the placement at Life Choice. To ensure confidentiality do not discuss clients outside of the workplace or share the client's personal, therapeutic or funding details with people outside of Life Choice. You are free to discuss clients with the Allied Health staff at Life Choice. Check with your supervisor before using any de-identified client information as part of your University Placement Documents. Life Choice Staff will protect your confidentiality with relation to your academic and clinical performance or regarding any personal matters that are raised while on placement.

Placement Specifics

Expectations

While completing your placement at Life Choice it is expected that you will:

- Maintain professional behaviour
- Observe clients with various Allied Health Professionals from a range of disciplines
- Participate in progress reporting and drafting NDIS assessment and review reports
 - Observe or support clinicians to complete formal and informal assessments
 - Participant in multidisciplinary meetings

- Engage in reflective practice and self-learning
 - Actively engage in supervision sessions
 - Seek help when you are unsure
 - Contact your supervisor when you are unwell or if you are unable to attend any day of your placement
 - Conduct a Quality Improvement Project under the guidance of your supervisor

Work day

Work hours are from 8am – 4:30pm on Monday to Thursday and 8am – 2:30pm on Friday. You get a 30-minute lunch break each day (this is usually taken at 12pm but may change depending on your schedule).

Your day will consist of observation sessions or direct therapy/assessment sessions with participants, supervision, self-learning time and time to conduct your Quality Improvement Project. Sessions can take place in the clinic, home or school so you will need to have access to your own car. Allied Health Team meetings take place on average twice a month.

Discipline specific details

Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapists at Life Choice conduct both formal and informal assessments, therapy sessions, and equipment trials as part of a participant's NDIS plan. The caseload is a mix of both adults and paediatrics. All clients have a disability and this varies from Autism Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Disability, Cerebral Palsy, Down's Syndrome, Dementia and Progressive Neurological Conditions. Intervention is provided by sole clinician's or combined with other disciplines. Intervention may include sensory integration, fine/gross motor therapy, handwriting, feeding therapy, daily living skills.

Life Choice has the following Occupational Therapy specific resources available:

- Beery VMI
- Bruininks-Oseretsky Test of Motor Proficiency (BOT)
- Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scales
- Sensory Profile
- Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development – Motor Scale
- Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting
- Canadian Occupational Performance Measure
- The Zones of Regulation
- Social Thinkers Curriculum
- Sensory, Fine Motor and Gross Motor toys
- Feeding Therapy food and resources
- Gym equipment – rower, treadmill etc.
- Report templates for NDIS review reports and multidisciplinary assessment reports

Recommended Pre-Placement Reading

- NDIS Practice Standards - <https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2019-12/ndis-practice-standards-and-quality-indicators.pdf>
- Supports funded by the NDIS - <https://www.ndis.gov.au/understanding/supports-funded-ndis>
- NDIS and occupational therapy: Compatible in intention and purpose from the consumer perspective (attached)
- Occupational Therapy's Role in the Treatment of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (attached)
- Benefits of OT for ASD - <https://www.webmd.com/brain/autism/benefits-of-occupational-therapy-for-autism>
- Sensory Integration - <https://raisingchildren.net.au/autism/therapies-guide/sensory-integration>

- Reflecting on our effectiveness: Occupational therapy interventions with Indigenous clients (attached)
- 'Yarn with me': applying clinical yarning to improve clinician–patient communication in Aboriginal health care (attached)
- SOAP Notes (attached)
- Guidelines for Documentation of Occupational Therapy (attached)

Student Learning

Please take time to fill in the following information so that your supervisor can support your learning during the course of your placement.

- Student's preferred learning style:

- Student's preferred type, frequency and timing of feedback:

- Activities to support reflective learning:

<i>Learning Goal</i>	<i>Plan/opportunity to achieve goal</i>



Maryborough
75 Lennox Street
Maryborough Q 4650

Hervey Bay
1/1-17 Hershel Court
Urraween Q 4655

07 4123 6288
info@lifechoicewbb.org
www.lifechoicewbb.org



Maryborough
75 Lennox Street
Maryborough Q 4650

Hervey Bay
1/1-17 Hershel Court
Urraween Q 4655

07 4123 6288
info@lifechoicewbb.org
www.lifechoicewbb.org

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8am					
8:30am					
9am					
9:30am					
10am					
10:30am					
11am					
11:30am					
12pm					
12:30pm					
1pm					
1:30pm					
2pm					
2:30pm					
3pm					
3:30pm					
4pm					
4:30pm					



Maryborough
75 Lennox Street
Maryborough Q 4650

Hervey Bay
1/1-17 Hershel Court
Urraween Q 4655

07 4123 6288
info@lifechoicewbb.org
www.lifechoicewbb.org