Looking Upwards

Program Description: Founded in 1978, Looking Upwards is a private, nonprofit agency offering a wide array of services to adults with developmental disabilities and children with diverse needs. Looking Upwards programs have one overall goal, to support people in leading rich and satisfying lives. The organization partners with the individual and family members to develop a personalized plan. With the resources of a caring team of professionals, they assist the person in realizing dreams such as success at school, gratifying work, enjoyment of relationships and participation in the wider community.

Contact Info:
Looking Upwards
2974 East Main Road
Portsmouth, RI 02871
www.lookingupwards.org
Phone: 401-293-5790

Director: Alexis Valory McHugh
Phone: x330

Internship Opportunities: Internships may be available at Looking Upwards for students studying human services, including Psychology, Human Development and Family Studies, and Social work. Students majoring in Early Childhood Education, Nutrition and Nursing would also be a good fit with this agency. Interns will have the opportunity to learn how Early Intervention Services are administered.

Depending on the goals and skill level of an individual EI intern, experiences and responsibilities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Adherence to all human resources requirements including reference checks, a criminal background check and any other required processes as needed.
- Learning EI eligibility criteria.
- Learning the role that a service coordinator serves within the agency.
- Shadowing of Looking Upwards EI staff on home visits to ensure that services are being provided appropriately and are still necessary. Students are encouraged to attend home visits with a variety of practitioners, including those outside of the student’s field of study.
- Providing appropriate play activities for children while meetings are held with parents during home visits.
- Assisting with evaluations, under the supervision of an EI practitioner.
- Providing office help including processing intake phone calls, clerical work, etc.
- Preparation of materials to use with families during home visits.
- Attendance at agency orientations as well as staff trainings and staff meetings.
- Learn about and demonstrate professional conduct, work etiquette, and respect for co-workers.
- Work with your internship supervisor to review internship contract, to ensure that required conditions are being met.