Agency 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. At Looking Upwards we believe our Early Intervention team is laying a foundation for a lifetime of growth. Because the first years are vital to a child’s development we support, education and coach the families to meet the unique needs of their child within the context of their daily activities.

Contact Info:
Children’s Administrator - A. Valory McHugh
Clinical Director - Carolyn Souza, LICSW
Looking Upwards
2974 East Main Road
Portsmouth, RI 02871
Phone: 401-293-5790

Internship Opportunities: Internships in the following majors may be available at Looking Upwards for students studying Psychology, Human Development and Family Studies, Social work, Early Childhood Education, Nutrition, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech and Language Pathology. Students with a specific interest not listed here can contact the agency and we will assess if the needs of the class or major is a fit with the agency. Interns will have the opportunity to learn how Early Intervention Services are administered using the coaching and transdisciplinary model for intervention. The practice will be informed using a Routines Based Interview to inform outcomes and structure home visits.

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.
- Shadowing of Looking Upwards EI staff on home visits and participate as appropriate. Students are encouraged to attend home visits with a variety of practitioners, including those outside of the student’s field of study.
- Assisting with evaluations, under the supervision of an EI practitioner.
- Providing office help to assist in filing and documentation for EI Families.
- 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.