

myths about working as a private practitioner

Despite most practitioners being aware of headspace services, there are still some myths about what working with our headspace centres means.

private practitioner's play a vital role in supporting young people at a pivotal time in their life

This includes managing young people's mental wellbeing as well as general health issues including acute and chronic health presentations, sexual health, alcohol and other drug issues, and other lifestyle interventions.

myth: you have to travel to our regional centres to work in them

While most of our centres are located regionally, you don't need to be! We can provide all of our headspace services by phone and video consultations and are well equipped to support you to work from a location of your choosing.

myth: there's no financial benefits to working with headspace

We recognise that it might be difficult for some private practitioners to dedicate time to working with a charity. That's why we've adapted our model! In addition to the MBS income, stipend payments are available in many of our centres to account for any cancellations.

myth: there's no corporate support

It's quite the opposite! We will manage your billing and appointments – plus, you'll be supported by our lead agency, Marathon Health's, IT, finance, HR and administration teams. We want to make sure you have the time you need to focus on supporting young people, so leave the rest to us!

Marathon Health have built one of the largest non-government allied health teams in Western NSW which means you can access advice and support from a range of disciplines, as needed. They also have a robust Clinical Governance Framework that underpins everything we do, and provides clear direction for best practice care.

“I work with a headspace centre in the early-psychosis program which is a lot of case work. I wanted to develop my skills as a private practitioner so I started doing that as well – it's all online which is good as I'm able to do it from home and not rush between centres. It's a good opportunity to put your professional development into practice and take that to supervision – it really helps you build your skills.”

– Alex Catt, General Psychologist



Why become a private practitioner at headspace: in their own words

We spoke with Ruth Brown, private practitioner at headspace Orange, about her experience working with our team.

why did you choose to become a private practitioner with headspace?

Partly I thought it might be interesting to work with a different age group. After my third daughter though, I thought it would be a good option, as headspace and Marathon Health offer great flexibility – it allows me to drop my kids off and pick them up, and means less reliance on daycare.

what's a common misconception about working with headspace?

The misconceptions that you come across usually involve remuneration – but it's provided through Medicare funding and there is now a large opportunity for negotiability, and they can discuss their packages to suit the practitioner.

what are the benefits of being a private practitioner with headspace?

The flexibility in terms of hours and the admin support is always high quality. The staff make it so enjoyable being there. They're inclusive, supportive and always provide guidance to assist with my work. Overall, it's been so enjoyable and makes you appreciate your job.

what are some of the opportunities you can take advantage of working as a private practitioner?

The main benefits are being able to work at headspace and also other locations – the flexibility is unmatched.

The online learning available has also provided the opportunity for professional development and being available online allows for self-paced learning.

headspace and Marathon Health have always aimed to support me as a private practitioner – they provide clear communication to share information and resources to improve our services to young people. It's beneficial for my service delivery, but also makes working with both organisations enjoyable as I don't feel isolated.



interested in being a private practitioner, contact:

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about marathon health

We are a not-for-profit, registered charity with a vision of enabling communities to thrive through improved health and wellbeing. We deliver services from our hubs in Albury, Bathurst, Canberra, Dubbo, Orange, Queanbeyan and Wagga. We're one of the largest providers of headspace services in Australia and the largest non-government employer of allied health professionals in regional NSW. We're passionate advocates for equal access to quality health services for people wherever they choose to live.

marathonhealth.com.au/private-practitioner-opportunities

Our headspace services have been made possible by funding from the Primary Health Network (PHN) program, including the Nepean Blue Mountains PHN, South Eastern NSW PHN, and the Western NSW PHN

