

Development of a whole-of-community aged care placement model

The SHAPE Framework

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Clinical placements in aged care

- Growing demand for aged care workforce.
- Untapped capacity and reluctance in rural areas to provide clinical placements for students in aged care.
- Aged care placements traditionally take place in a nursing home.
- Need to expose students to the spectrum of services provided to older people through a whole-of-community approach.
- Important to create positive perceptions about aged care and healthy ageing through affirmative experiences for student nurses whilst in training - one way to affect career decisions to meet future workforce needs.

Planning and implementation

- Project Steering Committee established with key partners.
- Stakeholder survey (25% response rate) conducted to identify potential non-traditional aged care sites for student clinical placements.
- Pilot placement facilitated in two sites - a large regional city and small rural town:
 - 2 x 2 week placements in each site with nursing students - 10 students in total.
 - Timetable developed giving students time at different organisations during their 2 week placement.
 - Practice Placement Facilitator available to support students and organisations during placement.
- Evaluation: Focus groups with host organisations and students and completion of student diary.

Outcomes

14 different organisations were utilised in Wagga and 15 in Narrandera for student placements.

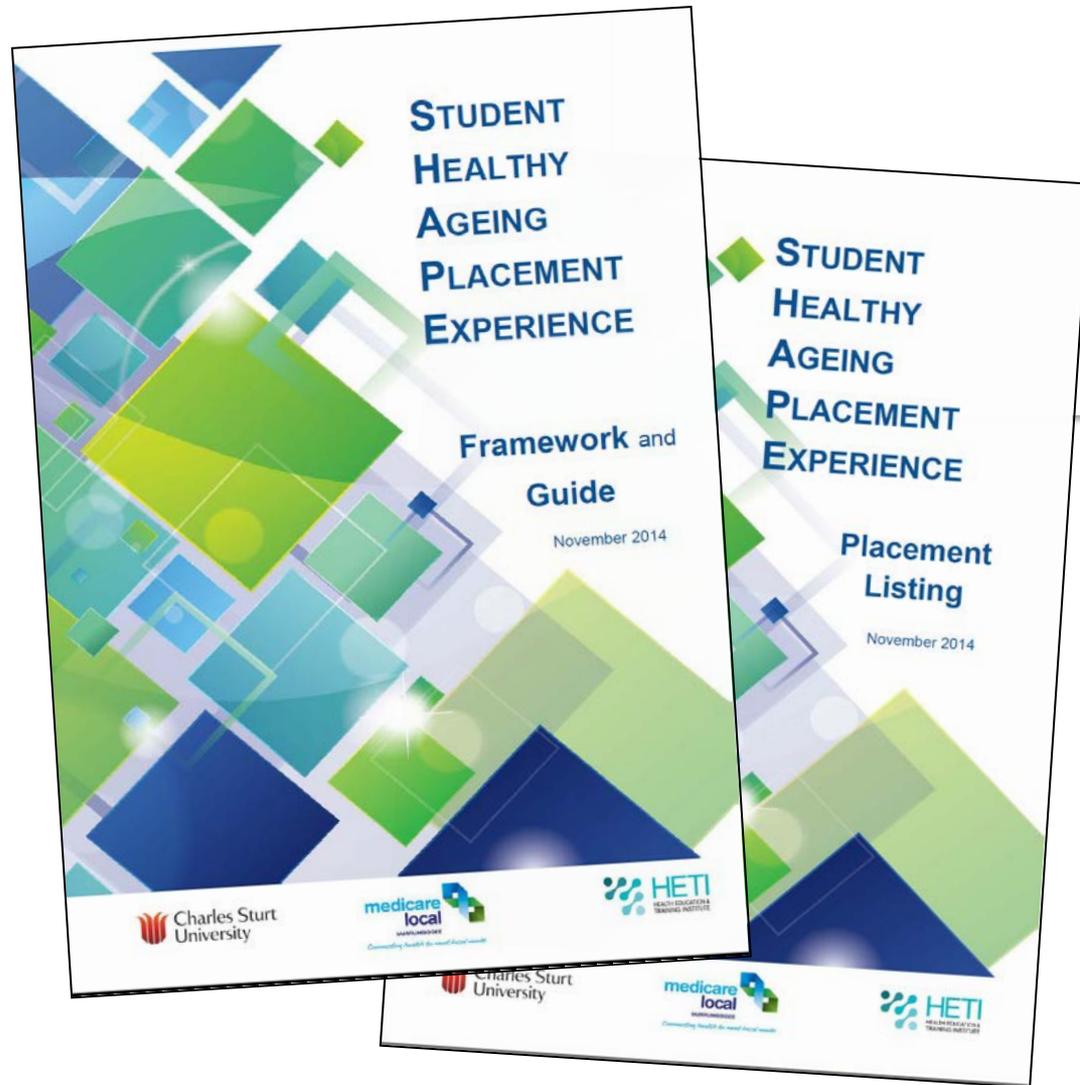


“A really interesting model, felt the students had opportunity to see how the system links...a really fabulous idea to see how agencies connect.” (host organisation)

“I enjoyed this placement more than the one facility nursing home placement. It was looking at the whole community- holistic care and how they link with each other. That is really interesting.” (Student)

Outcomes formed the development of the SHAPE Framework and resources to support changes to traditional aged care placements.

Student Healthy Ageing Placement Experience



SHAPE demonstrates what can be achieved locally through collaboration, communication and flexibility

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