

Wandi Nerida: Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Why are you fundraising for Wandi Nerida?

Wandi Nerida is built and ready to start providing essential treatment to people with an eating disorder, but in what has been a very challenging year, we have not been able to secure the necessary philanthropic support to be able to open our doors. Although we have had Federal government support we have not been able to secure any funding from the Queensland state government, and are \$2.5m short of being able to operate. We want Wandi Nerida to be open to anyone in Australia who is eligible, regardless of their ability to pay.

With YOUR help, our goal is to raise the funds to open this holistic recovery-oriented treatment facility for people with eating disorders, and pilot the Butterfly Foundation Residential Eating Disorders Treatment (B-FREEDT) Model of Care©.

What is different about Wandi Nerida?

Wandi Nerida is a safe, healing and nurturing environment, grounded in the name gifted by the local Kabi Kabi people which means 'Gather together to blossom.' The only eating disorder-specific residential treatment centre in Australia, it provides an evidence-based, holistic model of care that addresses not only symptoms and behaviours, but also the underlying socio-psychological factors that can underlie and prolong a person's illness.

The facility is purpose-built to create a home-like environment with an individualised and phased treatment plan so that participants can model recovery when they return home. Treatment will be tailored to each individual's needs and may be longer than the standard time usually covered by health funds. It is designed to provide the best chance of long term recovery, avoiding readmissions which are all too common.

The B-FREEDT Butterfly Model of Care(C) is modelled on Carolyn Costin's 8 Keys to Recovery and adapted to the Australian environment. Wandi Nerida will pilot this model so that it can be used across Australia.

2. What types of eating disorders do you treat?

Participants at Wandi Nerida will have a primary diagnosis of an eating disorder, such as anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, binge eating disorder and/or other specified feeding or eating disorder (OSFED).

3. Who is eligible to attend Wandi Nerida?

The exact admission criteria are still being finalised. Wandi Nerida will be open for all genders and referrals will be via your health professional, where it is agreed that residential treatment is the most appropriate form of treatment at the time. Otherwise, we can confirm applicants will need to be:

- Over 16 years of age
- Diagnosed with an Eating Disorder (AN, BN, BED and/or OSFED)
- Medically stable
- Able and willing to consent to treatment
- Free of an active substance dependency
- Able to manage mobility independently
- Have manageable dietary restrictions

If you aren't currently being treated by a health professional, please contact our Helpline [LINK] to get a referral to someone near you.

4. How much does it cost?

We are committed to delivering affordable and accessible treatment based on income levels and health insurance status. The donations and funding we are currently seeking will help make that a reality.

5. How long is treatment?

Your length of stay at Wandi Nerida depends on you, your needs and your progress, but may be longer than would normally be seen in a hospital setting.

6. How many people will be in treatment at once?

Wandi Nerida has 13 beds with shared accommodation.

7. How do I apply or refer my client?

Please complete the enquiry form [LINK] to express your interest and we'll be in touch with more information closer to intake. Final applications for treatment will be submitted by a referring health professional.

8. Is there a waiting list?

Yes, unfortunately there will be a waiting list to attend Wandi Nerida. While we want to be able to accommodate everyone, our operation is dependent on funding. Please complete the enquiry form {LINK} and we'll keep you informed. Once we raise the funds to open and begin assessments, we will be able to provide more information on waiting times.

9. Will there be locations opened in other parts of Australia?

Yes, the federal and state governments are planning to support other residential treatment centres, but none have begun construction. Wandi Nerida is pivotal, as it will serve as a pilot for facilities across Australia. The goal is that anyone who struggles with a difficult to treat eating disorder will receive the best model of care for long term recovery. Evaluation of the treatment at Wandi Nerida will help inform the model of care used by other facilities around the country.

WANDI NERIDA

gather together to blossom

