

P-10 **AN ARTS-BASED EVALUATION OF THE BUTTERFLY SERVICE AT THE PRINCE & PRINCESS OF WALES HOSPICE**

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The Butterfly Service supports children and young people (C/YP) up to 18 who face or have experienced bereavement due to a life-limiting illness. It acknowledges the need to identify and support each individual's grief primarily through group work and individual counselling/therapy. The benefit of using an arts-based qualitative process to identify personal needs and evaluate individual experiences was explored.

An art template was created, using the symbols of the heart (representing love and emotions) and the butterfly (service symbol). Two hearts made the wings of the 'heart butterfly, one to be completed about the C/YP special person and the other about the C/YP time at the Butterfly Service.

As part of the Butterfly Service's fifth birthday celebrations all of the C/YP who used the service had the opportunity to complete a 'Butterfly Heart' at an art workshop. They were interviewed on camera talking about their completed 'Heart Butterfly', if willing. A short film was created and shown at the birthday celebration event attended by many of the C/YP and families who were supported by the service over the last five years. A display of the original 'Heart Butterfly' artwork was shown at this event and a photographic record of each 'Heart Butterfly' was created.

The idea behind the 'Heart Butterfly' is that each C/YP can express and record their feelings about their special person, their experience of the Butterfly Service and the difference it made in their grief journey.

This art evaluation tool

- provided a developmentally accessible way for C/YP to tell their stories
- facilitated expression of thoughts and feelings that may be difficult to put into words
- acknowledged their grief and encouraged communication with their family
- is an effective method of assessing the needs of C/YP and gaining feedback on their experience of bereavement.

P-11 **EVALUATION OF ISLINGTON BEREAVEMENT SERVICE**

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Background Islington Bereavement Service started providing emotional, social and practical support to bereaved individuals living in Islington in July 2015. Based on the Compassionate Communities approach, the service is designed to empower community members to address their bereavement needs. In doing so, new peer support networks are formed which increases resilience to bereavement within the community.

Aim A service evaluation is being performed on the bereavement service. The main aim of the evaluation is to explore how the service impacts community members and volunteers.

Method Islington Bereavement Service trains bereavement support volunteers to deliver peer-support sessions to community members. In order to assess the impact of the peer-support

sessions on community members' wellbeing, attitude to grief and loneliness; questionnaires are being administered to community members before and after receiving peer-support sessions. The questionnaire consists of: the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale, the Adult Attitude to Grief Scale, the UCLA Three-item Loneliness Scale and cost-effectiveness questions. Community members' satisfaction with the service will also be assessed. The projected sample size is 10 to 15 community members.

Two focus groups are being held with four to six volunteers in each group. The focus groups will explore volunteers' experience of volunteering within the service, their motivation to volunteer and what they have gained from volunteering.

Time frame The evaluation will be completed on 31 August 2016.

Results Wilcoxon signed-rank test will be used to detect significant changes in community member outcomes from before to after receiving support. Recorded data from the focus groups will be transcribed and undergo inductive thematic analysis to detect emerging themes.

Conclusion Implications of predicted results may include: improvement in the quality of support provided, evidence for future funding, evidence for peer-to-peer bereavement support in the community and evidence of the benefits of volunteering.

P-12 **MORE THAN EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN: MEASURING THE IMPACT OF VOLUNTEER BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT**

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Introduction The wellbeing of the bereaved people supported by Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland (CBCS) is central to all aspects of our work. It was important to find an evidence-based evaluation tool that could provide an indication of the outcomes for clients of our volunteer face-to-face counselling support. The Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Score (WEMWBS) was chosen and initially piloted with clients in the West of Scotland.

Approach The questionnaire consists of a positively worded 14-item scale with five response categories. CBCS volunteers use this with clients at the beginning of the initial session and again during the last session. It is quick and easy for clients to complete and volunteers can provide help to do this if required.

The pilot data gave valuable information about progress made following the support given. Feedback from volunteers and clients was also overwhelmingly positive and the evaluation tool was subsequently rolled out across the organisation.

Findings Of the initial 83 clients evaluated 86% showed an improvement in wellbeing at the end of the face-to-face sessions. WEMWBS scores are grouped into three wellbeing categories Low, Moderate and High. There was significant change in the different wellbeing categories after intervention with the proportion of clients in the low wellbeing category reducing from 84% to 30%, the proportion of clients in the moderate wellbeing category increasing from 16% to 55% and the proportion of clients in the high wellbeing group from 0% to 14%.

Conclusion The introduction of WEMWBS has provided an evidence-based tool to measure the effect of our work on the mental wellbeing of clients. The overall findings suggest that CBCS volunteers have a positive impact in improving the wellbeing of the significant majority of clients.